

APPROVED

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
ALAMEDA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (WMA) BOARD,
THE ENERGY COUNCIL (EC)**

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

3:00 P.M.

TELECONFERENCE MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Rood called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and explained the process that would be utilized during the meeting. A link to the process is available here: [Virtual-Meetings-Instructions](#)

II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

City of Alameda	Jim Oddie, WMA, EC
County of Alameda	Keith Carson, WMA, EC
City of Albany	Nick Pilch, WMA, EC
City of Berkeley	Susan Wengraf, WMA, EC
Castro Valley Sanitary District	Dave Sadoff, WMA
City of Dublin	Melissa Hernandez, WMA, EC
City of Emeryville	Dianne Martinez, WMA, EC
City of Fremont	Jenny Kassin, WMA, EC
City of Livermore	Bob Carling, WMA, EC
City of Hayward	Francisco Zermeño, WMA, EC
City of Newark	Mike Hannon, WMA, EC
City of Oakland	Dan Kalb, WMA, EC
Oro Loma Sanitary District	Shelia Young, WMA
City of Piedmont	Tim Rood, WMA, EC, WMA President
City of Pleasanton	Jerry Pentin, WMA, EC
City of San Leandro	Deborah Cox, WMA, EC President
City of Union City	Emily Duncan, WMA, EC

Staff Participating:

Wendy Sommer, Executive Director
Jeff Becerra, Communications Manager
Justin Lehrer, Senior Management Analyst
Meghan Starkey, Senior Management Analyst
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board
Richard Taylor, WMA Legal Counsel

Others Participating:

Jason Schmelzer, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange
Priscilla Quiroz, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange
Miriam Gordon, UPSTREAM

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDENTS

There were no announcements by the Presidents. President Rood thanked staff for arranging the meeting via teleconference and thanked Board members for attending the meeting.

IV. OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

There were no public comments on the remote call and no public comments were received via the email provided: publiccomment@stopwaste.org

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of the Draft Minutes of February , 2020 (Wendy Sommer)

2. Funded Status Policy (Pat Cabrera)

That the WMA approve the following:

1. As part of the FY 20-21 budget include an additional lump sum payment to CalPERS of approximately \$1.4M to pay towards the Agency's unfunded accrued liability (UAL).
2. Adopt an unfunded pension status goal of at least 95%.
3. Include additional annual payments towards the Agency's UAL, depending on funding availability, to achieve 100% pension funded status by the beginning of FY 25-26.

There were no public comments for the Consent Calendar. Board member Wengraf made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Board member Pentin seconded and the motion carried 18-0. The Clerk called the roll:

(Ayes: Carling, Cox, Duncan, Hannon, Hernandez, Kalb, Kassin, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Pilch, Rood, Sadoff, Wengraf, Young, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstained: Carson. Absent: None).

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

**1. First Reading and Public Hearing for Ordinance 2020-01:
Repeal Existing Countywide Element and Adopt New Countywide Element of the Alameda County Integrated Waste Management Plan. (Meghan Starkey)**

The Planning Committee/Recycling Board (in its role as Local Task Force) and the Programs and Administration Committee recommend that the WMA Board hold a public hearing at the March 25, 2020, meeting and introduce and waive the first reading of an ordinance to (1) repeal the existing Summary Plan and Siting Element of the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CoIWMP) referred to collectively as the "Countywide Element," (2) adopt a new Countywide Element that would update and replace the existing Countywide Element, and (3) provide that future amendments to the Countywide Element may be adopted by resolution, and also recommend that the WMA Board direct staff to place the ordinance on the consent calendar for adoption at the April 22, 2020, meeting.

Meghan Starkey provided an overview of the staff report. A link to the report is available here: [First-Reading-Countywide-Element-03-25-20.pdf](#)

Board member Cox thanked staff for a complete and comprehensive document especially in light of the current COVID-19 crisis. Board member Cox added that she is concerned that the pounds per person for garbage is so high for San Leandro in comparison to the other jurisdictions.

There were no public comments on this item. Board member Hannon made the motion to approve the staff recommendation. Board member Hernandez seconded and the motion carried 20-0. The Clerk called the roll:

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(Ayes: Carling, Carson, Cox, Duncan, Hannon, Hernandez, Kalb, Kassan, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Pilch, Rood, Sadoff, Wengraf, Young, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None).

2. Reusable Food Ware Pilot Projects (Justin Lehrer)

Authorize staff to transfer \$400,000 from existing fund balance to Project 3280: Reusable Food Ware for use in implementing reusable food ware pilot projects.

Justin Lehrer provided an overview of the staff report. A link to the report is available here: [Reusable-FoodWare-Pilots-Update-03-25-20.pdf](#)

Board member Zermeño inquired about the number of cities that could possibly participate in the pilot once it is up and running. Mr. Lehrer stated that it will depend on the opportunities that present themselves. For example, there may be a fast food franchise that has multiple locations throughout the county and we would be interested in such a scenario as it would present an opportunity to extend the impact of the program. Mr. Lehrer added that other scenarios, such as reusables for a tightly concentrated business district, make sense to pilot in one location and assess if they are transferrable to other similar districts. Board member Zermeño stated that the proposed \$400,000 may not be enough. Mr. Lehrer stated that for the pilot projects it would be difficult to cover all jurisdictions so our goal is to learn more about what services are needed around the county and then possibly scale up. Board member Zermeño stated that he agrees with the proposed goal to postpone a full countywide approach while gathering data. Board member Hannon inquired about the criteria that will be used to select which projects to pursue and will staff come back to the Board with a more fully defined method for implementation. Mr. Lehrer stated that it will be a matchmaking process and when we start receiving responses from the RFQs we will continue to work with a sub-committee of the TAC and the members that have expressed interest in participating and identifying pilot opportunities in their cities. Board member Hannon inquired about the types of financial assistance that the agency is seeking from the cities. Mr. Lehrer stated that it can be staff assistance and funds for hard costs as well. Projects can be capital intensive; the City of Berkeley's pilot with VesselWorks included capital investment from the Ecology Center, the University of California, and a grant from StopWaste to fund reusable containers, collection kiosks and other program costs. So some financial input from the cities would be helpful. Board member Martinez inquired if staff would give preference to the respondents from the RFQs that propose projects that would divert waste from the landfill. Mr. Lehrer stated that staff had not fully devised the criteria for selection but he would make note of the suggestions. Board member Carling inquired how long would a project need to last in order to collect meaningful data. Mr. Lehrer stated that a timeline of six to eight months from launch is sufficient. A pilot with NextGen Cup lasted only two weeks and he is anxious to hear about what they were able to learn. Board member Kalb inquired if staff has had contact with staff from Meals on Wheels in Alameda County. Mr. Lehrer stated we have not had direct contact with them and would welcome any connections. Mr. Lehrer added that he has heard that there are supply chain challenges with them especially if they are receiving pre-packaged foods from multiple suppliers it could be a larger logistical effort to change their model to reusables, but we are still interested in reaching out to them. Board member Kalb stated that he can provide the contact information for the Executive Director of the Oakland and San Leandro chapters.

President Rood opened the floor for public comment. Miriam Gordon, UPSTREAM, commended staff on the broad swath of scenarios for reusables and encouraged the Board to move forward with the proposal.

Board member Martinez thanked staff for the presentation and was pleased to hear that the focus has shifted to research and planning and encouraged staff to be flexible in light of the challenges the

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jurisdictions as well as StopWaste will be facing due to COVID-19 and the possible fiscal impacts. Ms. Sommer stated that any fiscal impacts will be addressed during the budget presentation in April.

There were no public comments on this item. Board member Pentin made the motion to approve the staff recommendation. Board member Hannon seconded and the motion carried 20-0. The Clerk called the roll:

(Ayes: Carling, Carson, Cox, Duncan, Hannon, Hernandez, Kalb, Kassan, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Pilch, Rood, Sadoff, Wengraf, Young, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None).

3. Legislative Positions for 2020 (Jeff Becerra)

That the WMA Board adopt the recommended positions for the 2020 session of the California Legislature.

Jeff Becerra provided an overview of the staff report. A link to the report is available here: [Legislative-Positions-2020.pdf](#). Priscilla Quiroz and Jason Schmelzer, Agency Lobbyists, were available to answer any questions.

Board member Pilch inquired that because the legislature will be focused on relief bills for wildfires and bills related to COVID-19 that bills such as AB 1080/SB 54: could be placed on the back burner and introduced in the next legislative session. Mr. Becerra stated yes, because the state budget projections have completely changed and the state will be focused on relief bills related to COVID-19, wildfires, and homelessness, any bills that have a fiscal component are not likely to go forward. However, there is strong momentum for legislation related to single use plastics and we expect bills such as AB 1080/SB 54 to go forward next year. Board member Young stated that she would like for us to continue to focus on AB 1672 as the bill is a mandate and requires no funding from the state. Mr. Becerra stated that the agency is in full support of this bill.

There were no public comments on this item. Board member Sadoff made the motion to approve the staff recommendation. Board member Carson seconded and the motion carried 20-0. The Clerk called the roll:

(Ayes: Carling, Carson, Cox, Duncan, Hannon, Hernandez, Kalb, Kassan, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Pilch, Rood, Sadoff, Wengraf, Young, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None).

4. Interim appointment(s) to the Recycling Board for WMA appointee unable to attend future Board Meeting(s) (Arliss Dunn)

(The April 9, 2020 Planning Committee and Recycling Board meeting will not be held in lieu of a joint meeting of the WMA Board, Energy Council, and Recycling Board on Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.)

There were no requests for an interim appointment.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. Sommer thanked the Board for their attendance and patience during this time. Ms. Sommer announced that the April 9 Programs & Administration Committee meeting would be cancelled and the next meeting will be the joint meeting of the WMA Board, Energy Council, and Recycling Board on Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. President Rood thanked the Board for their cooperation as well.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.