

APPROVED

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

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

3:00 P.M.

**StopWaste Offices
1537 Webster Street
Oakland, CA 94612
510-891-6500**

Teleconference

**Tim Rood
San Jose City Hall
3rd Floor Tower
200 East Santa Clara St
San Jose CA 95113
(408) 535-8122**

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Mike Hannon, WMA, called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

WMA & EC:

City of Alameda	Jim Oddie, WMA, EC
City of Albany	Peter Maass, WMA, EC
Castro Valley Sanitary District	Dave Sadoff, WMA
City of Dublin	Don Biddle, WMA, EC
City of Emeryville	Dianne Martinez, WMA, EC
City of Hayward	Francisco Zermeno, WMA, EC
City of Livermore	Bob Carling, WMA, EC
City of Oakland	Dan Kalb, WMA, EC
Oro Loma Sanitary District	Shelia Young, WMA
City of Piedmont	Tim Rood, WMA, EC (teleconference)
City of Pleasanton	Jerry Pentin, WMA, EC
City of San Leandro	Deborah Cox, WMA, EC
City of Newark	Mike Hannon, WMA, EC

ABSENT:

County of Alameda	Keith Carson, WMA, EC
City of Berkeley	Jesse Arreguin, WMA, EC
City of Fremont	Vinnie Bacon, WMA, EC
City of Union City	Lorin Ellis, WMA, EC

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Staff Participating:

Wendy Sommer, Executive Director
Tom Padia, Deputy Executive Director
Angelina Vergara, Program Manager
Richard Taylor, WMA Legal Counsel
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board

Others Participating:

Michael Peltz, Waste Management Recycling America and Recycling Board Member
Evan Edgar, Edgar & Associates
Students from Castro Valley High School's SMART Environmental Club
Dr. Deborah Yager, Advisor of the Smart Environmental Club
Arthur Boone

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDENTS

There were none.

IV. OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

An opportunity is provided for any member of the public wishing to speak on any matter within the jurisdiction of the boards or council, but not listed on the agenda. Total time limit of 30 minutes with each speaker limited to three minutes.

Arthur Boone provided public comment. Mr. Boone commented regarding his concerns with mixed-waste processing of materials and with the possible safety concerns of processing 1,000 tons of organics at the Davis Street OMRF and the potential for methane explosions. Evan Edgar provided public comment in support of the Davis Street OMRF and anaerobic digestion in general, stating that it is a proven technology with a proven safety record.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of the Draft Minutes of September 27, 2017 (Wendy Sommer)

2. Alameda County Operational Area Emergency Management Organization (Meghan Starkey)

That the WMA Board adopt the attached Resolution to Join the Alameda County Operational Area Agreement.

There was no public comment for the consent calendar. Board member Biddle made the motion to approve the consent calendar. Board member Pentin seconded and the motion carried 15-0: (Ayes: Biddle, Carling, Cox, Hannon, Kalb, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Rood, Sadoff, Young, Zermeno. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arreguin, Bacon, Carson, Ellis).

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. Executive Director Contract Amendment (President Michael Hannon)

That the Waste Management Authority Board amend the Executive Director Employment Agreement with an increase of five percent effective the pay period starting September 24, 2017.

President Hannon thanked Board members Kalb, Rood, and Sadoff for their assistance in conducting the performance evaluation of the Executive Director and invited the Board to review the confidential memos provided to them at the meeting. President Hannon stated that one of the items is a memo from the evaluation team thanking the Executive Director for doing a tremendous job this year and commending her

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for an outstanding performance. President Hannon stated the evaluation team was pleased with the willingness of Ms. Sommer to provide a 360 type evaluation, including input regarding her performance from current and former employees, whose comments were glowing. President Hannon added that staff comments indicated that they recognized the hard work by Ms. Sommer and appreciate the direction that this Board is heading. President Hannon stated that the packet also includes a memo from Ms. Sommer that outline her priorities for the coming year.

There were no public comments on this item. Board member Young thanked the evaluation team for their work and stated that contacting former employees was a good idea and was pleased to hear that they provided a glowing account of her performance. Ms. Sommer thanked the evaluation team for a meaningful process and thanked the Board for their continued trust and confidence in leading the agency and having the Boards' unanimous support for the important work that the agency is doing.

Board member Young made the motion to amend the Executive Director Employment Agreement with an increase of five percent effective the pay period starting September 24, 2017. Board member Biddle seconded and the motion carried 15-0: (Ayes: Biddle, Carling, Cox, Hannon, Kalb, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Rood, Sadoff, Young, Zermeno. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arreguin, Bacon, Carson, Ellis).

2. Rules of Procedure: Changes from Programs & Administration Committee (Wendy Sommer)

That the Board decide whether to replace Robert's Rules of Order with Rosenberg's as the Board parliamentary rules and adopt the revisions to the WMA Board Rules of Procedure.

Wendy Sommer provided an overview of the staff report. The report is available here: [WMA-Rules-of-Procedure-10-25-17.pdf](#)

Ms. Sommer thanked Board members Sadoff and Young for their assistance in finalizing the report. Board member Kalb asked about the differences between Robert's Rules of Order and Rosenberg's Rules of Order. Board member Young stated that Rosenberg's was developed by a California Superior Court Judge to simplify the rules for the public and for larger agencies to follow. WMA Counsel Richard Taylor stated that there are no substantial changes to the rules. Rosenberg distilled all the principles of Robert's Rules into a simple document.

Board member Young made the motion to approve the staff recommendation. Board member Cox seconded and the motion carried 15-0: (Ayes: Biddle, Carling, Cox, Hannon, Kalb, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Rood, Sadoff, Young, Zermeno. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arreguin, Bacon, Carson, Ellis).

3. Recycling Markets Update (Tom Padia)

This item is for information only.

Tom Padia provided an overview of the staff report and introduced Michael Peltz, Waste Management Recycling America and Recycling Board Member and Evan Edgar, Edgar & Associates. Board member Peltz and Mr. Edgar discussed current dynamics, trends and impacts of China's National Sword scrap import policies, and what, if anything, local governments and haulers can do to help their recycling programs survive and thrive in the times ahead. Board member Peltz presented a PowerPoint presentation. A link to the combined staff report and presentation is available here: [Recycling-Markets-Presentation-10-25-17.pdf](#)

Board member Sadoff inquired about what happens to the waste stream that is refused by certain MRFs. Board member Peltz stated that some MRFs are more willing to take contaminated waste streams and some of those materials are going into the landfill. Board member Cox inquired if waste from the west coast has a market in other parts of the country. Board member Peltz stated that there are more developed paper mills in other parts of the country and historically California has not been a center of paper production. However, the Pacific Northwest, with the wood processing industry, has a more significant

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paper production industry but they have their own local market. Board member Peltz added it is not supported economically to ship to the East Coast. Board member Maass inquired if there are plastics or paper that if they were eliminated from the system would greatly cutback on the contamination of the different waste streams, i.e. legislate that certain types of plastic that were objectionable were disallowed from the waste stream. Board member Peltz responded probably no with regard to paper because recycling paper is pretty clear cut. The challenges encountered are in producing a quality pack regardless of the grade of waste paper. Plastic is a problem with respect to packaging and incorporating resins that have to be sorted and end users of resins want them to be very clean. Board member Maass inquired if the manufacturers in China that are now being told to shut down or refuse these materials are making any efforts to offshore their production plans to other parts of Asia or in the United States. Board member Peltz stated yes, due to the current regulatory environment and the shift in priorities in China, many Chinese manufacturers are taking a hard look at expanding their production outside of mainland China.

Evan Edgar provided a brief presentation describing the declining recycling rate in California over the past few years, the negative impact of a sharp decline in recycling exports, and the need for higher landfill tip fees and more funding for the state to invest in diversion infrastructure.

President Hannon suspended the presentation to accommodate the schedule of the student participants. The presentation was continued after item VI. 4

Board member Kalb expressed concern and inquired as to any actions that the agency could take. Mr. Edgar state that he is working with Justin Malan, StopWaste lobbyist, to introduce a tip fee bill that would increase the tip fee to reinvest in recycling capacity statewide, provide upgrades to equipment, implement optical technology, etc. Board member Kalb stated that he considers that the US can adhere to China's new stricter standards but with respect to reduced quotas inquired about the other possible markets around the world. Board member Peltz stated that while there are other markets in Asia, they are not growing fast enough to offset what we speculate might be the reduction in Chinese demand. Board member Carling if National Sword is surprising to the industry. Mr. Edgar stated no, in 2013 the green fence went up and since 2013 the amount of export material has declined from 27 million tons to 15 million tons last year. We have been trying to keep up with demand but the landfills are filling up with mixed paper, and some smaller recyclers may go out of business. Board member Young inquired about AB 1288. Mr. Edgar stated that AB 1288 (Eggman) was introduced in 2017 as a spot bill for tip fee reform but became a two year bill. Californians Against Waste is a sponsor and the Compost Coalition is a strong supporter of the bill and we hope to set hearings to get the fee increase. Board member Young inquired if the bill passed would it be statewide. MR. Edgar stated yes, the money would go into the Integrated Waste Management Fund and CalRecycle would distribute the funds back into the recycling infrastructure. President Hannon thanked Board member Peltz and Mr. Edgar for their presentation and added he appreciates the comments made with respect to what we can do in our own communities to increase the amount of good recyclables to ensure that the products that we are shipping abroad or recycling at home are better products.

4. Schools Program Overview (Angelina Vergara)

This item is for information only.

Angelina Vergara provided an overview of the staff report and presented a PowerPoint presentation. The combined report and presentation is available here: [Schools-Presentation-10-25-17.pdf](#)

Ms. Vergara introduced the StopWaste Schools program staff: Arielle Conway, Audrey Lin, Hugo Gregoire, Dylan Thompson, Cristian Aguilar, Ben Schleifer, Nora Dennehy, and Jamie Andrade. Ms. Vergara also introduced students from the Castro Valley High School SMART Environmental Club and their advisor, Dr. Deborah Yager. The StopWaste Schools staff provided an overview of the schools program and the students

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provided an overview of how they have applied learnings from the StopWaste Schools Program into their sustainability efforts.

Board member Zermeno inquired if there is funding to help support the program. Ms. Sommer stated that we have grant programs and other programs that we can discuss at a later time. Board member Sadoff stated that the Castro Valley Sanitary District is very proud of the students' efforts. The high school is now a green ribbon and green hearts school and the district has funding to award those programs. Board member Sadoff added the district will be presenting awards to the Castro Valley Unified School District tomorrow night for recycling activities over the past year. President Hannon thanked the students for their presentation and commended them on being the future environmental leaders and encouraged them to pass on the important lessons that they have learned to other students as well as the community. Ms. Vergara recognized the StopWaste Food Waste program staff Cassie Bartholomew, Anna Lisa Bellis, and Maricelle Cardenas.

5. Interim appointment(s) to the Recycling Board for WMA appointee unable to attend future Board Meeting(s) (Wendy Sommer)

(Planning Committee and Recycling Board meeting, November 9, 2017 at 7:00 pm, Hayward City Hall, 777 B Street, Hayward, CA 94541)

Mr. Padia reported to the Board that staff raised the possibility of changing the Board meeting time from 4 p.m. to 3 p.m. with the Recycling Board. However, due to the current members' schedules and strict attendance requirements, the meeting time cannot be adjusted.

Board members Rood and Pentin requested interim appointments for the November 9, 2017 meeting. Board members Biddle and Young volunteered to attend as the interim appointments. Board member Cox made the motion to accept the interim appointments. Board member Sadoff seconded and the motion carried 14-0: (Ayes: Biddle, Carling, Cox, Hannon, Kalb, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Rood, Sadoff, Young, Zermeno. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arreguin, Bacon, Carson, Ellis, Pentin).

VII. COMMUNICATION/MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Sommer announced that the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting minutes will now appear in the back of the agenda packet because the TAG is not a committee under the Brown Act and the minutes are provided for information only.

Ms. Sommer announced that staff will be presenting one-page topic briefs from this point forward to keep the Board informed of current issues in our field. The topic brief presented today profiles mattress recycling. Ms. Sommer asked the Board to inform staff if this is a useful tool. President Hannon thanked staff for the topic brief and stated that it is important to keep the Board informed about current issues in our field. Board member Oddie thanked staff for the one-page topic brief and announced that the city of Alameda had recently passed an on-demand straw ban and also increased their requirements for compostable materials in restaurants. Board member Oddie recognized Maria DiMeglio, city of Alameda staff, to answer any questions. Ms. Sommer added that in response to a request by a Board member, staff will be bringing an item to the Board on straws in December.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:29 p.m.