

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY WASTE  
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY MEETING  
OF THE  
PROGRAMS AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, June 11, 2020**

**9:00 A.M.**

**TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

**Members Present:**

City of Albany	Nick Pilch
City of Berkeley	Susan Wengraf
City of Emeryville	Dianne Martinez
City of Fremont	Jenny Kassan
City of Newark	Mike Hannon
City of Oakland	Dan Kalb
Oro Loma Sanitary District	Shelia Young
City of Pleasanton	Jerry Pentin, Chair
City of Union City	Emily Duncan

**Absent:**

County of Alameda	Keith Carson
City of Dublin	Melissa Hernandez
City of Piedmont	Tim Rood

**Staff Present:**

Pat Cabrera, Administrative Services Director  
Jeff Becerra, Communications Manager  
Meghan Starkey, Senior Management Analyst  
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board

**Others Participating:**

Judy Erlandson, City of Livermore  
Bernie Camara, Livermore Sanitation  
Lavonne Scroggs, Livermore Sanitation  
Kathy Cote, City of Fremont  
Peter Slote, City of Oakland  
Chris Jackson, Livermore Sanitation

**1. Convene Meeting**

Chair Jerry Pentin called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. and reordered the agenda to hear item #5 after item #3. Pat Cabrera explained the process that would be utilized during the meeting. A link to the process is available here: [Virtual-Meetings-Instructions](#)

**2. Public Comments**

There were no public comments on the remote call and no public comments were received via the public comments email portal.

## DRAFT

### **3. Approval of the Draft Minutes of March 12, 2020 (Pat Cabrera)**

There were no public comments on this item. Board member Hannon made the motion to approve the draft minutes of March 12, 2020. Board member Wengraf seconded and the motion carried 9-0. The Clerk called the role:

(Ayes: Duncan, Hannon, Kalb, Kassan, Martinez, Pentin, Pilch, Wengraf, Young. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Carson, Hernandez, Rood).

### **4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair (Arless Dunn)**

Staff recommends that the Programs and Administration Committee elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the period July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021.

The Clerk of the Board introduced the item and thanked Chair Pentin for his impeccable service while serving as Chair of the committee. Chair Pentin nominated Vice Chair Duncan to serve as Chair of the P&A Committee. Board member Wengraf seconded. Board member Young nominated Board member Martinez to serve as Vice Chair. Board member Kalb seconded. There were no other nominations.

There were no public comments on this item. The motion carried 9-0. The Clerk called the role:

(Ayes: Duncan, Hannon, Kalb, Kassan, Martinez, Pentin, Pilch, Wengraf, Young. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Carson, Hernandez, Rood).

### **5. Final Report: Grant Report on Compost Contamination Reduction Pilot (Meghan Starkey)**

This item is for information only.

Meghan Starkey provided an overview of the staff report and presented a PowerPoint presentation, available here: [BAAQMD-Final-Report-06-11-20](#). Ms. Starkey acknowledged agency staff, Rachel Balsley and Kelly Schoonmaker, and introduced representatives from the external entities that participated in the Climate Protection Grants Program: Judy Erlandson, City of Livermore; Bernie Camara, Livermore Sanitation; and Lavonne Scroggs, Livermore Sanitation.

Board member Hannon thanked staff for an impressive presentation and inquired about the number of businesses that received fines and inquired if staff considered the fines substantial enough to disincentivize the businesses from remaining noncompliant. Ms. Scroggs stated that she does not have information on the number of customers that received fines but she can provide that information at a later date. Ms. Scroggs stated that the fines were based on the size of the container but were usually sufficient. The larger businesses would pay more if the contents of the container were considered trash. However, the larger businesses would also weigh the cost of paying the fine against paying someone to remove the items that were considered contamination. Board member Hannon stated that it would be good to consider the level of the fine to ensure continued compliance. Board member Hannon inquired if a cost benefit analysis has been conducted to determine if there were any cost savings with using the new technology in comparison to using more traditional methods. Ms. Starkey stated that the facilities started accepting the materials again but they charged a flat higher rate because it was from the commercial sector. Ms. Starkey added they had hoped that the demonstrated results of lower contamination would eliminate the surcharge but the cleaner stream did not attain those results. Board member Pilch inquired if loads are customarily rejected due to contamination and how common is it that the facilities that accept the materials charge higher fees for contaminated loads or incentivize clean loads with lower fees. Ms. Starkey stated that the City of Oakland and a few other jurisdictions have started to implement those tools but there is reluctance to penalize their customer base and currently every city has a discounted rate for simply using the service, but not necessarily an incentive for using it properly. The jurisdictions are exploring not only having them use it but how to use it

## DRAFT

properly. Board member Young inquired if the bags that the facilities are using for organics are disposable or recyclable. Ms. Starkey stated the city never promoted the use of compostable compost bags to customers, they simply started to use them. The clear plastic bags are of a thicker gauge and easier to remove during processing. Board member Young commented that this pilot will help to inform the residential pilot. Ms. Starkey stated that with the implementation of SB 1383 there will be contamination studies in all three streams. There were no public comments on this item. Chair Pentin thanked Ms. Starkey for her presentation.

### **6. Municipal Panel: COVID-19 Impacts on Member Agencies (Meghan Starkey)**

This item is for information only.

Meghan Starkey provided an overview of the staff report and introduced the panelists: Kathy Cote, City of Fremont; Judy Erlandson, City of Livermore; and Peter Slote, City of Oakland. The panelists shared the impacts that COVID-19 and the associated health orders have had on their cities, specifically on solid waste and recycling, as well as on environmental programs generally. A link to the staff report is available here: [Covid-Impacts-Municipal-Panel.pdf](#). A link to the discussion is available here: [Municipal-Panel-COVID-19-Impacts](#)

Chair Pentin thanked the panelists for their participation.

### **7. Member Comments**

Chair Pentin commented that he enjoyed his tenure as Chair and thanked the committee for their cooperation. Board member Hannon commended Chair Pentin on his tenure as Chair.

### **8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.