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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
PLANNING COMMITTEE  
AND  
ALAMEDA COUNTY RECYCLING BOARD**

**Thursday, December 10, 2020**

**7:00 P.M.**

**TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Deborah Cox called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Wendy Sommer 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**

Bob Carling, ACWMA  
Lillian Carrell, Recycling Materials Processing Industry  
Deborah Cox, ACWMA  
Eric Havel, Environmental Educator  
Darby Hoover, Environmental Organization  
Dan Kalb, ACWMA  
Laura McKaughan, Source Reduction Specialist  
Tianna Nourot, Solid Waste Industry Representative  
Dave Sadoff, ACWMA  
Francisco Zermeño, ACWMA  
Vacant, Recycling Programs

**Staff Present:**

Wendy Sommer, Executive Director  
Timothy Burroughs, Deputy Director  
Pat Cabrera, Administrative Services Director  
Jeff Becerra, Communications Manager  
Justin Lehrer, Operations Manager  
Meghan Starkey, Senior Management Analyst  
Nisha Patel, Management Analyst  
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board  
Farand Kan, Deputy County Counsel

**Others Participating:**

Jason Schmelzer, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange  
Priscilla Quiroz, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT**

President Cox extended best wishes for the holidays and thanked the board and staff for their service throughout the year.

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### IV. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments on the remote call and there were no public comments received in the public comment email address.

### V. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **Approval of the Draft Joint WMA, EC & RB Minutes of November 18, 2020 (Jeff Becerra)**
2. **Board Attendance Record (Jeff Becerra)**
3. **Written Report of Ex Parte Communications (Jeff Becerra)**

There were no public comments for the consent calendar. Board member Sadoff made the motion to approve the consent calendar. Board member Carling seconded and the motion carried 10-0. The Clerk called the roll:

(Ayes: Carling, Carrell, Cox, Havel, Hoover, Kalb, McKaughan, Nourot, Sadoff, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Vacant: Recycling Programs)

### VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

#### 1. 2021 Meeting Schedule (Arliss Dunn)

It is recommended that the Planning Committee/Recycling Board adopt the regular meeting schedule for 2021.

Clerk Arliss Dunn presented the item. A link to the 2021 Meeting Schedule is available here: [2021-Meeting-Schedule.pdf](#)

There were no public comments for this item. Board member McKaughan made the motion to approve the 2021 Meeting Schedule. Board member Zermeño seconded and the motion carried 10-0. The Clerk called the roll:

(Ayes: Carling, Carrell, Cox, Havel, Hoover, Kalb, McKaughan, Nourot, Sadoff, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Vacant: Recycling Programs)

#### 2. Election of Officers for 2021 (Arliss Dunn)

Elect Officers for 2021.

Clerk Arliss Dunn presented the item. A link to the staff report is available here: [2021-Election-Officers.pdf](#). President Cox recommended that the board continue the tradition of moving the First and Second Vice Presidents forward and to nominate a Second Vice President. The Board accepted the recommendation. Board member Hoover nominated Board member McKaughan to serve as Second Vice President. There were no other nominations. There were no public comments on this item. Board member Sadoff made the motion to elect the slate of officers; Hoover, President; Zermeño, First Vice President; and McKaughan, Second Vice President. Board member Zermeño seconded and the motion carried 10-0. The Clerk called the roll.

(Ayes: Carling, Carrell, Cox, Havel, Hoover, Kalb, McKaughan, Nourot, Sadoff, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Vacant: Recycling Programs)

#### 3. Recycling Plan Recommendation for Approval (Meghan Starkey)

Staff recommends that the Recycling Board adopt the attached Plan, "Beyond Recycling: A Vision for Landfill Obsolescence."

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Meghan Starkey provided an overview of the staff report and presented a PowerPoint presentation. A link to the report and the presentation is available here: [Recycling-Plan-2020.pdf](#).

Board member Zermeño inquired about the proposed target date for landfill obsolescence. Ms. Starkey stated that the target date is 2045, which aligns with the state target date for carbon neutrality. Board member Nourot inquired about plans for materials. Ms. Starkey replied that landfill obsolescence is an aspirational goal that focuses on preventing the creation of materials that would need to end up in the landfill. Board member Havel stated his appreciation for the aspirational goal of landfill obsolescence as it is more forward thinking in terms of cradle-to-cradle. Board member Havel inquired about the metrics and tonnage rates with regard to the progress towards the diversion goal of 75%. Ms. Starkey stated that it is the State methodology for the diversion rate that has been modified over time. The state is attempting to capture materials that are recycled as well as landfilled. Ms. Sommer expressed her appreciation for Board member Havel's comments regarding focusing on cradle-to-cradle and commented that the methodology also illustrates that the fluctuation in waste correlates to the fluctuation in the economy. Board member McKaughan stated her support for the Recycling Plan and added the onus is not on the facilities but rather a need to focus on upstream and designing for recyclability, usability, and reducing disposability. Also, not maximizing diversion but minimizing discards. Board member Hoover concurred with Board member McKaughan's comments and stated her support for the aspirational goal of landfill obsolescence. Board member Hoover commented that there are more complex materials entering the waste stream and inquired about any actions or legislation that staff is pursuing regarding producer responsibility. Mr. Becerra stated that we are working with strong partners with regard to any legislative efforts and it will be covered in the legislative report.

There were no public comments on this item. Board member Zermeño made the motion to accept the staff recommendation. Board member Kalb seconded and the motion carried 10-0:  
(Ayes: Carling, Carrell, Cox, Havel, Hoover, Kalb, McKaughan, Nourot, Sadoff, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Vacant: Recycling Programs)

#### **4. 2021 Legislative Priorities (Jeff Becerra)**

Discuss legislative priorities for calendar year 2021 and provide a recommendation to the Waste Management Authority for adoption at its December 16 meeting. The staff recommendation is to join efforts with partners to introduce and support legislation seeking to modify SB 1383 implementation timelines.

Jeff Becerra provided an overview of the staff report. A link to the report is available here: [2021-Legislative-Priorities.pdf](#). The agency's lobbyists, Jason Schmelzer and Priscilla Quiroz, were present and available to answer any questions.

Ms. Sommer stated with regard to Board member Hoover's inquiry regarding the agency's efforts towards extended producer responsibility that the agency would continue to participate with the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC). Ms. Sommer added agency staff, Justin Lehrer, is a member of their board and the agency's lobbyist is their lobbyist as well. Board member Kalb inquired if there is a way to leverage our efforts to delay implementation of SB1383 with other stakeholders (haulers, processors) that have the same interest. Mr. Schmelzer stated that it is primarily local governments that are seeking this type of relief but we will continue to explore other options. Board member McKaughan expressed concern about StopWaste championing efforts to soften the SB 1383 legislation. Mr. Becerra stated that we are aligned with the goals of the legislation, however, in light of the COVID-19 impacts on jurisdictions, we are seeking specific information from CalRecycle on time relief with respect to implementation of enforcement dates. CalRecycle has shared that implementation dates could only be delayed through legislation. Board member Kalb inquired if there

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were safeguards in place in the event that there was a request to delay the timeline for an indefinite period. Mr. Becerra stated that if there were any discomfort or untenable situations StopWaste would simply withdraw from the group. However, it is to our advantage to be involved in helping to shape any legislative efforts.

There were no public comments on this item. Board member Zermeño made the motion to approve the staff recommendation. President Cox seconded. Board member McKaughan offered a friendly amendment to the motion to include language that safeguards against excessively prolonging the timeline for relief. The motion to amend the recommendation carried 10-0. The Clerk called the roll: (Ayes: Carling, Carrell, Cox, Havel, Hoover, Kalb, McKaughan, Nourot, Sadoff, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Vacant: Recycling Programs)

### **5. Landfill Tonnage and Associated Revenue (Pat Cabrera & Nisha Patel)**

This item is for information only.

Pat Cabrera provided an overview of the staff report. A link to the report is available here: [Tonnage-Revenue-Report.pdf](#)

Board member Sadoff inquired about the core budget. Ms. Cabrera stated that the core budget is \$10.9 million and budgeted core revenues are slightly under \$11.4 million.

There were no public comments on this item. President Cox thanked Ms. Cabrera for the report.

### **VII. MEMBER COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Ms. Sommer extended happy holidays to all.

### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.