

MINUTES
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
Monday, November 20, 2000, 7:00 P.M
Solid Waste Management Center, 1201 Second Street

Chair Kristine Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Rachel Balsley, Rod Becker, Kristine Johnson, Dick Lerner (arrive 7:15),
Judith Maguire, Sylvia Schild, Carrie Sprague

Absent: None

Members of the Public: Kathy Hutton, Garth Schultz

2. Public Comment

Kathy Hutton, Ecology Center recycling program manager announced that she has taken another job and will be leaving on December 8. She thanked the Commission for their support of the Ecology Center. Dave Williamson will fill in until the Ecology Center hires a replacement.

3. Approval of the October 23 minutes.

It was M/S/C Becker/Johnson to approve the minutes with change that Chair Kristine Johnson called the meeting to order. The vote was 5/0 with Balsley abstaining.

4. Provision of neighborhood cleanup services to multi-family households.

Staff distributed information on the amount of recyclables and trash collected in each area, and pictures of the larger and more difficult set-outs. 15% of the tons set out were collected separately for reuse, recycling or composting. Commissioners and staff discussed goals and possible improvements. Goals are to help people get rid of items that can't fit into the trash can, maximize reuse and recycling, and prevent illegal dumping. Options discussed were an appointment system for multi family buildings or for everyone, reducing the amount from 4 yards to 3 yards as other cities do, limiting collection to bulky items, not regular refuse; and making it more convenient to dispose of extra refuse year-round, such as by making pre-paid bags and tags more easily available. Rod Becker and Rachel Balsley will provide information about programs in other cities. Staff will attempt to schedule a citywide garage sale in early May, to get more items reused. Staff will provide an updated comparison to other Alameda County cities, and cost of an appointment system. Ms. Balsley noted the difficulty of getting reusables picked up with an appointment system, and is concerned that apartment dwellers are not getting equal service. Staff will report whether East Bay Depot could take more materials, possibly by partnering with other entities, as they did in Contra Costa County.

5. Market demand for 20 gallon carts

Staff distributed information on the mini-carts used by other cities in Alameda County. Carts compatible with the City's collection system are available.

6. Plant debris expansion grant and Council item

Council approved accepting the \$750,000 grant from ACWMA. Plans and specifications are nearly ready, and the project is expected to be completed by July 1, 2001.

7. Budget update

The Public Works Director has asked staff to prepare a project – based budget, and provide justification for new items and changes, rather than simply continuing previous years' allocations. Budget instructions will be available in early December. New requests from the Division include \$100,000 for public education, additional transfer station staff for load checking and wood diversion, new long haul trailer and driver to haul the increased tons and improve hauling efficiency, and an additional roll-off box driver and truck to respond to increased demand for service. The remodel of the Airco building is included in this year's budget. The Commission will review the budget proposal at its January meeting.

8. Staff updates.

The City Manager's office is exploring creating an Environmental Department to consolidate environmental services. It could include parts of Public Works and the Solid Waste Management Division. The Reuse Guide is being revised.

9. Future Agenda Items

Public Education Program

Budget update

Neighborhood Clean-up/multi family participation

Adjournment: It was MSC Lerner/Sprague to adjourn the meeting at 9:25. Motion unanimous.