

**MINUTES**  
**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**  
**Monday, March 26, 2001, 7:00 P.M**  
**Solid Waste Management Center, 1201 Second Street**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairman Rod Becker.

1. Roll Call: Present: Balsley, Becker, Johnson, Lerner, Maguire, Sprague.  
Absent: Schultz. Staff present: Farrell: Levy. Members of the Public: Dwight Davis, President, SEIU Local 790.
2. Public Comment: Commissioner Carrie Sprague spoke as a member of the public, commenting on the popularity of the Compost Demonstration and City compost giveaway at the Farmers' Market on Saturday, March 24, and the quality of the compost.
3. Approval of Minutes of the February 26 Meeting: It was M/S/C, Lerner/Johnson, to accept the minutes as amended to delete Carrie Sprague's name as attending the Budget Workshop in item 9 and to attach the Commission subcommittee's recommendations for Neighborhood Cleanup. The vote was 5/1/1 with Maguire abstaining.
4. Budget Update: Staff reported that the budget process is on schedule. Fee increases will be discussed at the April Commission meeting.
5. Report on University of California Recycling: Lisa Bauer, UCB recycling and refuse manager, presented UC's improved program. The Chancellor's Recycling Summit mandated access to recycling containers indoors and out, hiring a half time recycling education coordinator and a materials exchange coordinator, central purchase of recycled content materials, and sale for reuse of items valued under \$1500. Custodians are collecting 5-7 tons per day of mixed paper, which is delivered to CCC and high-graded. A private vendor collects beverage containers from 40 buildings. Berkeley Worms receives the food waste from resident halls. Landscape waste is brought to the Transfer Station, and Refuse to West Contra Costa Sanitary Landfill. The University had a 41% diversion rate in 2000. A recycling education campaign is planned for fall, 2001.
6. Recycling in Berkeley Schools: Staff reported an annual diversion percentage of 29% for most elementary and middle schools. There is potential to reduce waste service at some schools. The BUSD adopted a recycling and buy-recycled policy, and submitted a reuse-grant application for dishwashers to the California Solid Waste Management Board. The recycling support position is successful; Berkeley High School is diverting seven cubic yards/week of paper and cardboard.
7. Customer Service Unit Changes The Customer Service function will move to the Finance Department at 2000 Center Street at the end of April. Three of the five SWMD staff will relocate and two will remain for the front desk and staff support. Flow charts and desk manuals are being prepared. Commissioners requested regular status and performance reports.

8. City Environmental Policy: The environmental policy approved by the Commission is now Public Works Department policy. The Energy, and Public Works Commissions also endorsed it. It was M/S/C Balsley/Lerner to present the environmental policy to Council at the earliest possible date, subject to staff discretion for coordination with other environmental initiatives. The vote was unanimous.
9. Proposal from Peace and Justice Commission: Commissioners discussed the Commission Advocate proposal. No action was taken.
10. Commission Business: Commissioners Sprague, Johnson, Becker and Lerner attended the Commissioner's Workshop on March 6. Rod Becker noted that subcommittee meetings have to be noticed, and held in a public place.
11. Neighborhood Cleanup: Staff described the proposed program, as transition from last year's to Commission recommendations. Commissioners repeated their request for multi-family participation to 9 units, subsidizing reuse, simplifying instructions and enforcing a three-yard limit.
12. Staff Updates: The Citywide Garage Sale is April 28. Two firms offer electronics recycling. Interviews will be held in April for Recycling Program Manager. An employee was arrested for theft of scrap metal from the transfer station.
13. Future Agenda Items: Commission Advocate, Neighborhood Cleanup, customer service update, budget update, and refuse rate resolution. A tour of the transfer station is scheduled for commissioners at the May meeting.
14. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. M/S/C Lerner/Balsley; 6/0/0.