

MINUTES
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
Monday, May 21, 7:00 P.M

Vice-Chair Carrie Sprague called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call: Present: Balsley, Johnson, Lerner, Maguire, Schultz, Sprague
Absent: Becker. Staff: Farrell, Levy. Members of the Public: Jeff Belchamber and Sara MacKusick of Community Conservation Centers; Dave Williams of the Ecology Center Recycling Program; Howard Chong of 2240 Blake Street.

2. Announcements: The Falck-Fountain Family won \$2700 in the Cash for Trash contest. They live in South West Berkeley and practice waste reduction, reuse and recycling.

3. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

4. Approval of the April 23 minutes. It was M/S/C Lerner/Balsley to approve the minutes. The vote was 6/0/0.

5. Tour of the Transfer Station and Recycling Area: The tour was led by Tom Farrell, Tania Levy, Jeff Belchamber and Dave Williams, and took one hour. Tom Farrell left at 8:00 p.m.

6. First quarter reports from the Ecology Center, Community Conservation Center, and transfer station: Community Conservation Centers' tonnage increased 34% over Jan-March 2000. Markets prices are dropping but are sufficient. Employees voted for the IWW to represent them, and a contract was negotiated in three months that CCC feels is reasonable for workers and management. CCC will pay the City's living wage of \$9.75/hour plus benefits. They also extended medical coverage to families after one year of work. CCC reported that the average entry-level wage in recycling processing plants is \$8 to \$9.40.

The Ecology Center is awaiting delivery of two new trucks to replace three old. Bin requests are up from 100 to 150-200/month and tonnage is up 3% despite heavy poaching. Cash for Trash winners received good local press coverage. BOSS workers are taking the message door to door. Ecology Center and the City's Plant Debris trucks have been running on bio-diesel since March 24 with no problems.

7. Budget Update: None of the new positions or capital improvements requested by the Division were approved by the City Manager. \$100,000 of the Refuse Fund was earmarked to purchase litter/recycling containers for downtown. The Division will attempt to fund the most critical needs from existing budget. For example, the Division will limit temporary debris-box service and transfer one of the two drivers to long haul trucking to the landfill. Customers will be referred to other companies who

offer debris box service. .

8. Electronics Recycling: The SWMD has arranged for HMR, Inc. to pick up televisions at the transfer station for recycling for a fee. The Alameda County Computer Resource Center will pick up monitors and other computer parts at no charge to refurbish or recycle.

9. Commission Business: There was no Commission business to discuss. .

10. Staff Updates: The Customer Service unit is now scheduled to move on May 25. Staff distributed brochures for bulky cleanup. The CNG station is built but not yet open for business.

11. Future Agenda Items and Meeting Days Since many commissioners are on vacation in July, it was M/S/C Maguire/Lerner to cancel the July meeting. The vote was 6/0/0. The next meeting will be August 27th.

12. It was M/S/C Lerner/Schultz to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. The vote was 6/0/0.