



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Solid Waste Management Division

MINUTES
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
Monday, November 22, 2004
Solid Waste Management Center, 1201 Second Street

Vice Chairperson Peter Schultze-Allen called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

Commissioners present: Susan Blachman (7:40), Genevieve Dreyfus, Steen Jensen, Jay Miyazaki, Peter Schultze-Allen, Carrie Sprague

Commissioners absent: Howard Chong, Jonathan Wafer

Staff: Kathy Jones, Tania Levy

Members of the Public: Jeff Belchamber, Sara MacKusick, and Dave Williamson

2. Comments from the Public: None

3. Announcements: Levy introduced Kathy Jones, Senior Management Analyst who is filling in part time for the Recycling Program Manager.

4. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from October 25, 2004: M/S Sprague/Miyazaki to approve the minutes of October 25, 2004 as written. Approved 5/0/0.

5. Approval of Agenda: M/S Dreyfus/Sprague to approve the agenda as written. Approved 5/0/0.

6. New Business

a. **FY 2006 and 2007 Biennial Budget Recommendation:** Miyazaki reviewed the Budget Subcommittee's recommendations to Council: Approve using Refuse Fund moneys to 1) add 3 FTE to implement the 75% waste diversion program, 2) complete deferred maintenance, and 3) replace or remove deteriorating portable buildings used for solid waste activities. The recommended Field Representative position should be funded by the share of the refuse fund currently used for Code Enforcement in the City Manager's office. Staff will clarify the nature of the 75% Measure D recycling goal. MacKusick asked the Commission to address the funding of equipment needs of the recycling contractors. The Budget Subcommittee agreed to meet with City and contractor staff to clarify equipment ownership and replacement policies. Commissioners complimented Miyazaki and Sprague on their work. It was M/S Miyazaki/Sprague to request staff to forward the memorandum to City Council with minor corrections. Approved 5/0/0.

Commissioner Blachman arrived at 7:40.

b. **Quarterly Report from Community Conservation Centers:** Belchamber & MacKusick distributed and presented the quarterly report. Buyback and donation tons increased 14% over the same quarter in 2004. More customers are selling their bottles and cans due to the increased redemption value. CCC projects record payments to the public of \$1.3 million in CY 2004. More customers are dropping off their scrap metal and recyclables at CCC before entering the transfer station. Market prices for metal, HDPE and paper are high, and the budget is in the black. EC reimbursed CCC for underpayment of processing fees in 2001-2003. The Dwight King site will close but the property owner has not given CCC a date to leave. It receives on average 60 tons per month.

- c. **Quarterly Report from Ecology Center (EC):** Williamson stated that Ecology Center collected fewer tons than the previous year due to increased material value and poaching. EC is testing collection of material in carts instead of tubs at 5-9 unit multi-family buildings. Nine of their 12 trucks can lift carts. EC submitted a grant to the ACWMA to supply paper bags with a paper-recycling message to grocers and residents. A similar program in 1998 resulted in a large increase in mixed paper tons.
 - d. **Quarterly Report from Solid Waste Management Division:** Levy reported that overall recycling collection dropped slightly, but food waste tons increased by 20% or 60 tons per month over the same quarter 2003, with an additional 40 participants. Total refuse received dropped 6 percent. Commissioners asked staff to add a percentage change column to the report.
7. Old Business: Levy distributed Howard Chong's notes on Poaching and the Work Plan.
- a. **Poaching:** Williamson reported that poaching occurs in all neighborhoods, although heaviest in the South flats due to proximity to purchasers in Oakland. Dreyfus will ask the Berkeley Safe Neighborhoods Committee to put poaching on their agenda and inform the Commission. Williamson and staff will assemble facts and quantify losses before the meeting. City staff will seek an exploratory meeting with Police about what they can realistically do to stop reported vehicles, under the new enforcement procedures of infraction and local administration.
 - b. **Commission Work Plan:** Commissioners reviewed and corrected their assignments.
 - c. **Municipal Code Review:** Commissioners agreed to postpone this item until Tom Farrell can be present.
8. Staff Updates: **Capital Improvements:** The expanded organics area is awaiting final approval. Preparations are being made for transfer station repair. **SWMD Staffing:** The Division is recruiting for Recycling Program Manager and is backfilling vacancies from retirement and long-lasting injuries. The **Precautionary Principle** is currently expected to go to Council in January. The State **Electronics Recycling Act** is still scheduled to begin January 1, 2005. City participation requires offering free recycling to the public, and staff anticipates net revenue from State payments. Commissioners commented on the **Solid Waste Management Plan** Draft Program and Policy Options. This is an early draft and the consultants are requesting comments. The section on the site plan is incomplete. Commissioners requested more cost data for the collection options and will review it again in January.
9. Future Agenda Items and Meeting Days: The next meeting will be January 24, 2005; the Chair will call an early January meeting if necessary. Agenda items will include poaching, the budget process and the Solid Waste Management Plan.
10. Adjourn: It was M/S Dreyfus/Blachman to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm. Approved 6/0/0.