

## SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

01/13/2010



Solid Waste Advisory Commission  
Minutes

Regular Meeting  
13 January, 2010

The Solid Waste Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on 13 January, 2010 at 301 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Council Chambers Room in Austin, Texas.

Chair Gerry Acuna called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Gerry Acuna, Rick Cofer, J.D. Porter, Brent Perdue, Bob Schafer, Maydelle Fason

Staff in Attendance:

Sam Angoori, Richard McHale, Melissa Martinez, Vidal Maldonado, Tony Davee, Tammie Williamson, Jessica King, Sylba Loren

### 1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Robin Schneider with Texas Campaign for the Environment (TCE), was aggrieved by the fact that the climate change expo did not have a strong focus on the topic of Zero Waste. She urged SWAC to consider including waste issues in the future and to partner with TCE and the Zero Waste Alliance to rectify this issue.

Paul Robbins- Activist/consumer, urged SWAC to consider a once a month pickup of waste. He understands that once a week pick up is a state mandate. He offered up an accommodation which would be: 1. to offer a smaller cart size or inset and/or 2. allow citizens to sign a waiver from the TCEQ to forego weekly pickup.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER MINUTES

Minutes for the regular meeting of 12/09/09 were approved on a Commissioner Rick Cofer motion, Commissioner Bob Schafer second on a 6-0-0 vote.

### 3. OLD BUSINESS

#### a. Sub-Committee Updates

**1. Recycling Ordinance Reform Sub-Committee** - Rick Cofer Committee Chair, announced that the sub-committee will be bringing preliminary recommendations for SWAC action to the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**2. Solid Waste Management District Sub Committee** - J.D Porter Committee Chair, announced that the next meeting will have a quorum. Staff is lining up representatives from Solid Waste Management districts from all over the U.S. (i.e. California, Missouri, and Arkansas). They will be doing a series of 15 minute conference calls getting feedback on everything from how they are funded, to how they were initiated, to enabling legislation and what they would do differently. The sub-committee is tying to have a final report available by the March SWAC meeting. The recommendation will be a resolution for Commissions' approval.

**3. Hauler License Fee Sub-Committee Members** – No update was available.

- b. Resolution Regarding Waste Management Landfill Expansion** - A motion to recommend that the Austin City Council enter into no further contracts, contract extensions, or any other forms of contractual obligation with Waste Management Inc. was approved on Commissioner J.D. Porter motion, Commissioner Rick Cofer second on a 6-0-0 vote.

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Set and Approve Meeting Schedule for the 2010 Year** - A motion to authorize the 2010 meeting schedule, to continue having the meetings on the second Wednesday of each month, was approved on Commissioner J.D. Porter motion, Commissioner Brent Perdue second on a 6-0-0 vote.
- b. Review of 2009 Work Plan and Goals** - Commission reviewed the 2009 work plan and goals and made modifications as necessary to set the 2010 work plan and goals (see attached). A motion to accept the updated 2010 work plan and goals was approved on Commissioner Rick Cofer motion, J.D. Porter second on a 6-0-0 vote.
- c. Toilet Rebate Program and Recycling Options** - Toilet Rebate Program and Recycling Options presentation by Austin Water Utility Drema Gross, Acting Division Manager for Water Conservation at Austin Water Utility presented and fielded Commissions questions.

#### **5. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

- a. Carts RCA** - A motion to authorize award and execution of a contract through the State of Texas, Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA) with TOTER INCORPORATED, Statesville, NC for the purchase of residential garbage carts and single-stream recycling carts in an amount not to exceed \$899,763.84 was approved on Commissioner J.D. Porter motion, Commissioner Maydelle Fason second on a 6-0-1 vote. Commissioner Faye Kazi abstained because he was absent.
- b. SCS Field Services RCA**  
A motion to authorize award and execution of a 36-month requirements service contract with SCS Field Services, Austin, TX for leachate and methane gas collection and control system operation maintenance for the Solid Waste Services Department in an estimated amount not to exceed \$315,000, with three 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$105,000 per extension option, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed \$630,000 was approved on Commissioner Maydelle Fason motion, Commissioner Rick Cofer second on a 5-0-2 vote. Commissioner Bob Schafer recused himself from the item and remained on the dais. Commissioner Faye Kazi abstained because he was absent.
- c. Greenstar Update** - Acting Director of Solid Waste Services, Tammie Williamson explained that the Greenstar contract would be presented at Council on January 28, 2010 for approval. Negotiations had not yet begun between the City of Austin and Greenstar so Mrs. Williamson could not present the Advisory Commission with a draft of the contract. Mrs. Williamson offered up two options instead keeping in mind that Bob Gedert, the Director of Solid Waste Services as of February 1, 2010, will be and has been participating in the entire process:
  - 1. The first option is to submit the Contract to SWAC via email for consideration.

2. The second option is to conduct a special called meeting

The motion to have a special called meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee on either Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Greenstar contract on Commissioner Bob Schafer motion failed due to lack of a second.

The motion to postpone this item to the regularly scheduled SWAC meeting on February 10, 2010 was approved on Commissioner Maydelle Fason motion, Commissioner J.D. Porter second on a 4-0-2 vote. Commissioner Bob Schafer abstained and Commissioner Gerry Acuna recused himself from the item and left the dais.

**d. Reinstating Environmental Awareness Award Presentation** - Reinstating Environmental Awareness Award Presentation by Austin Energy Pharr Andrews with the Austin Climate Protection Program presented.

**e. Electronic Waste Recycling Presentation by Solid Waste Services**

Melissa Martinez, Division Manager of Solid Waste Services gave a power point presentation on electronic waste recycling.

## **6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Climate Change/Zero Waste Issue Draft Resolution (J.D. Porter)

Monthly pickup, smaller insert option or 4<sup>th</sup> bin size option

Specs for recycled content for SWS purchasing

Continue discussion on the toilet resolution and rebate program data (March meeting)

Greenstar update

Commercial/multifamily recycling ordinance for discussion and action

Solid Waste Management District Update

Subcommittees (include Hauler License Fee subcommittee)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Gerry Acuna adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m. without objection.

### **Solid Waste Advisory Commission 2009-2010 Work Plan**

Monitor the following ongoing programs/projects and make recommendations to City Council as needed:

- A. SWS Master Plan
- B. Zero Waste Strategic Plan Implementation
- C. Composting Program
- D. Commercial/Multi Family Reform/Recycling Ordinance
- E. COA Material Recovery Facility/Single Stream Recycling
- F. Northeast Landfills
- G. Revised Hauler Fee Ordinance
- H. Green Building/C & D Recycling
- I. Solid Waste Management Districts
- J. Conversion Technologies
- K. Landfill Development Options
- L. Electronic Waste and Recycling