

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES 12/09/2009



Solid Waste Advisory Commission
Minutes

Regular Meeting
12 December, 2009

The Solid Waste Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on 12 December, 2009 at 301 West 2nd 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, Faye Kazi, Brent Perdue, Bob Schafer, Maydelle Fason

Staff in Attendance:

Sam Angoori, Richard McHale, Vidal Maldonado, Tony Davee, Annette Moreno, Tammie Williamson, Jessica King, Sylba Loren

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

No citizen Communication

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – OCTOBER MINUTES

Minutes for the regular meeting of 10/14/09 were approved on a Commissioner J.D. Porter motion, Commissioner Maydelle Fason second on a 7-0 vote

3. NEW BUSINESS

a. Plastic Bag Initiative Update by Texas Retailers Association

Ronnie Volkening President of Texas Retailers Association Provided Report

b. Sub-Committee Updates:

Recycling Ordinance Reform Sub-Committee – Rick Cofer Committee Chair announced that the sub-committee has made a consensus on three main goals.

1. Require every building in Austin to have recycling within three years.
2. To expand the amount and number of materials that is required to be recycled.
3. To require the composting of food scraps by food service businesses by 2015.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 16th 2009.

Solid Waste Management District Sub Committee – JD Porter Committee Chair, announced that the sub-committee is continuing with fact finding and information gathering. They plan to conference with other Solid Waste Management Districts in Texas, Arkansas and California to compile information at their next meeting which is scheduled for January 21st 2009

Hauler License Fee Sub-Committee Members – Faye Kazi Committee Chair announced that the sub-committee met in November to discuss an alternate fee structure, 1.8% of reported gross revenues. Staff is currently trying to create a draft ordinance with legal to address issues of enforcement, consistency of enforcement, equity and fairness. The Sub-Committee will convene in Mid to Late January to hear from the Haulers.

- c. Review of 2009 Work Plan and Goals – Due back to City Management by the end January. Commissioner Acuna will meet with Tammie Williamson and Rick Cofer and bring revisions back to the Solid Waste Advisory Commission in January.
4. STAFF BRIEFINGS
- a. Greenstar RCA

A motion to approve amended contract with Greenstar, San Antonio, TX for the transport, processing, and sale of commingled (single-stream) recycling material. The amended contract also includes authorization to pay Greenstar for previous processing and transportation services in a total amount not to exceed \$2.1m and for future processing and transportation services. The motion, to explore options for terminating the existing contract and, following the installation of the new Solid Waste Services Director, begin the process of issuing an RFP seeking a new service provider to process and market the City's recyclables, by Commissioner JD Porter failed due to lack of a second. The motion, to explore options for terminating the existing contract and immediately begin the process of issuing an RFP seeking a new service provider to process and market the City's recyclables, by Commissioner JD Porter motion, seconded by Commissioner Brent Perdue was withdrawn. The motion to:

 - 1. Recommend Option Three.
 - 2. Require the contract be negotiated and executed separately, in two separate phases.
 - 3. Urge the City should utilize its audit procedure in the contract to ensure that the City is getting what it deserves.
 - 4. Specify the definition of Market Price.
 - 5. Obligate Greenstar to contractually recycle the materials.

was approved on Commissioner Rick Cofer motion, Commissioner Faye Kazi second on a 5-1-1 vote. Commissioner JD Porter opposed and Commissioner Gerry Acuna recused himself from the item due to a conflict of interest and left the dais.
 - b. Zilker Park Landfill RCA

A motion to authorize execution of a construction contract with J.R. SCHNEIDER CONSTRUCTION, INC., Austin, TX, for the Zilker Park Landfill Drainage Improvements project in the amount of \$371,597.58 plus an \$18,579.88 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$390,177.46, was denied pending this item going before the Environmental Board and pending the collection of more information that addresses:

 - 1. Why is this project a priority in terms of Landfills in this community?
 - 2. Why is it a priority for Zilker Park and the Parks Department?

on Commissioner Rick Cofer motion, Commissioner JD Porter second on a 5-2-0 vote. Commissioners Faye Kazi and Bob Schafer oppose.
 - c. Keep Austin Beautiful RCA

A motion to authorize negotiation and execution of a one year co-sponsorship agreement with Keep Austin Beautiful, Inc. for Educational, Clean-up, and Beautification Services in the amount of \$213,000 with optional annual renewals for up to ten years in the amount specified in the City's annual budget was approved on Commissioner Rick Cofer motion, Commissioner Faye Kazi second on a 6-0-1 vote. Commissioner Brent Perdue abstained.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Work Plan

Sub Committee Updates

Toilets Removed for Water Conservation, Options for Recycling

Resolution regarding Waste Management Landfill Expansion

Staff Briefing on Electronic Waste Recycling in Austin

- Where can you recycle e-waste?
- Is any one required to recycle e-waste?
- What is the Law regarding e-waste?

Pharr Andrews Presentation on Reinstating Environmental Awareness Award

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Gerry Acuna adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m. approved on a Commissioner J.D. Porter motion, Commissioner Maydelle Fason second on a 7-0 vote without objection.