

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

01/11/2012



Solid Waste Advisory Commission
Minutes

Regular Meeting
11 January, 2012

The Solid Waste Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on 11 January, 2012 at 301 West 2nd Street, Council Chambers Room in Austin, Texas.

Chair Gerry Acuna called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Gerry Acuna, Rick Cofer, Maydelle Fason, Faye Kazi, Bob Schafer, Brent Perdue and Jeff Paine

Staff in Attendance:

Bob Gedert, Tammie Williamson, Sam Angoori, Roshanda Smiley, Jessica King, Donald Hardee, Richard McHale, Blanche Quarterman, Phil Tindall, Ron Romero, Cherilyn Wadley, Amy Slagle, Andy Dawson, Ourana Cacho and Gretchen Kingham

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Andrew Garrison, Citizen, showcased a 3 minute video of "The Trash Dance" film showcasing Austin Resource Recovery employees.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for the regular meeting of 12/14/11 were approved on a Commissioner Bob Schafer motion, Commissioner Maydelle Fason second on a 6-0-1 vote, Commissioner Brent Perdue abstained.

3. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion and Action - Food Waste Collection Options

Discussion and Action were deferred until the February 8, 2012 SWAC meeting on a Commissioner Bob Schafer motion, Commissioner Rick Cofer second on a 7-0-0 vote.

b. Discussion and Action - Toter Contract (Cart Purchase)

SWAC authorized award and execution of a contract through Texas Procurement and Support Services Cooperative Purchasing Program (TPASS) administered by 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 \$1,678,960.60 and Authorize award and execution of a contract with TOTER INCORPORATED, Statesville, NC, for the purchase of 21-gallon residential garbage carts in an amount not to exceed \$127,944 on a Commissioner Bob Schafer motion, Commissioner Rick Cofer second on a 7-0-0 vote.

4. OLD BUSINESS

a. Discussion and Action - Single Use Bags Ordinance

Director Bob Gedert gave a presentation on the draft Single Use Bag Ordinance. Fourteen (14) Citizens were allowed to speak on this item.

- Leslie Sweet, HEB, spoke about concerns the company has with making the changes within the short implementation timeline that draft 2 of the ordinance proposed.
- Ronnie Volkening, Texas Retailers Association, spoke about concerns the Association has about the recycle content of the reusable bags, lack of metrics, and lack of language concerning recycling.

- Vince Wilkinson, Walgreens, spoke about concerns the company has with the proposed ban due to negative survey responses the company received during a pilot they initiated prior to the ordinance.
- Gerald Stone, Austin Restaurant Association, spoke about concerns his company has with restaurants not being exempt as draft 2 of the ordinance proposed.
- Lance Lively, Texas Package Stores Association, spoke about concerns the Association has with the proposed ban effecting sales when the percentage of the waste stream that is single-use-bags is so minuscule.
- Cis Myers, What-A-Burger, spoke about concerns her company has with restaurants not being exempt as draft 2 of the ordinance proposed. She also spoke on behalf of Duke Dozer, Taco Bell and Yum Brands, about his concerns with the ordinance.
- Eddie Harrison, Taco-Bell, spoke about concerns his company has with restaurants not being exempt as draft 2 of the ordinance proposed.
- Mark Tedder, Sonic, spoke about concerns his company has with restaurants not being exempt as draft 2 of the ordinance proposed.
- Allen Benton, McDonalds, spoke about concerns his company has with restaurants not being exempt as draft 2 of the ordinance proposed.
- Jimmy Fergusson, McDonalds, spoke about concerns his company has with restaurants not being exempt as draft 2 of the ordinance proposed.
- Stacy Guidry, Austin Zero Waste Alliance, spoke in favor of the ordinance but would like it to be stronger and the implementation timeline shorter.
- Dave Rhodell, Citizen, spoke about concerns he has with the proposed ban and gave a demonstration.
- Tucker Royall, Citizen, spoke about concerns he has with the proposed ban.
- Mike Sullivan, Hilex Poly Co LLC, spoke against the ordinance in favor of a better recycle program.

The Commission and Director Bob Gedert engaged in discussion in response to Citizen comment. The vote to recommend a draft ordinance amending City Code Chapter 15-6 to prohibit single-use carryout bags within the city limits; providing 3 exemptions; and establishing a limited duration surcharge, was deferred until the February 8, 2012 Solid Waste Advisory Commission (SWAC) meeting with a condition that a public meeting will be held prior to the SWAC date on Commissioner Bob Schafer motion, Commissioner Jeff Paine second on a 7-0-0 vote.

b. Discussion - Haulers Ordinance Update

Discussion was deferred until the February 8, 2012 SWAC meeting.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

a. Discussion - Director's Report

Director Bob Gedert presented a report on the following items: Master Plan Update, Single-Use Bag Ordinance Update, Upcoming Austin Conferences, Future Council Items, New Staff, Upcoming Position Postings, and Performance Measures.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Single Use Bags Ordinance - Discussion/Action, Hauler Ordinance Update, Brownsfield Presentation - June

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Gerry Acuna adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m. without objection.