

ZERO WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES 1/8/2014



Zero Waste Advisory Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2014

The Zero Waste Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on January 8, 2014, at 301 West 2nd Street, Council Chambers Room in Austin, Texas.

Chair Rick Cofer called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Rick Cofer, Cathy Gattuso, Dave Sullivan, Jeff Paine, and Fayez Kazi.

Staff in attendance:

Bob Gedert, Vera Labriola, Elizabeth Corey, Julie Rhodes, Phil Tindall, Richard McHale, Donald Hardee, Richard Avila, Ron Romero, Austin Talley, and Natacha Delusca.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

3 citizens signed up to speak during the opportunity for citizen communication.

- Mr. Adam Gregory, Texas Disposal Systems, offered a reaction to an article published in the Austin Statesman in November. Mr. Gregory argued that Austin Resource Recovery costs of recycling increased. He was also concerned about the possibility of Austin Resource Recovery providing dumpster service to multi-unit properties and commercial customers in the future. Mr. Gregory also expressed his concerns about the Hornsby Bend bidding process.
- Mr. Dennis Hobs and Mr. Ryan Hobbs, Texas Disposal Systems, donated their time to Mr. Gregory. (Only one time donation was allowed.)
- Mr. Andrew Dobbs, Texas Campaign for the Environment, expressed his concern about the enforcement of the Universal Recycling Ordinance. He asked for a briefing from the City of Austin Sustainability Office. Mr. Dobbs also asked for some performance measures or metrics related to the implementation of the Single Use Bag Ordinance.

2. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES

Minutes for the regular meeting of November 13, 2013, were approved on Commissioner Cathy Gattuso motion, Commissioner Dave Sullivan second, on 4-0-0 vote. Commissioner Jeff Paine abstained, Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez was absent.

3. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion and Action—Toter Cart Master Agreement

No citizens spoke about the agenda item.

Ms. Elizabeth Corey, Austin Resource Recovery, presented a proposal to authorize execution of an award and execution of a contract with Toter, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$6,693,602 for the purchase of 49,872 residential garbage carts, 20,000 recycling carts, and 2,248 organics carts, including lid graphics and ultra-high frequency RFID tags. Mr. Richard McHale, Austin Resource Recovery, answered Commissioners' questions.

The proposal was approved on a Commissioner Cathy Gattuso motion, Commissioner Dave Sullivan second, on a 5-0-0 vote. Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez was absent.

Item 3.f was moved to follow item 3.a.

f. Discussion and Action—Materials Exchange Contract

No citizens spoke about the agenda item.

Ms. Elizabeth Corey, Austin Resource Recovery, presented a proposal to authorize award and execution of a contract with the U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Development to develop and administer the City of Austin Materials Exchange Program with an initial term of 24 months in an amount not to exceed \$415,899 and with four 12-month extension options not to exceed \$156,577 per option. The total potential contract amount, including extension options, was not to exceed \$1,042,207. Director Gedert answered Commissioners' questions.

The proposal was approved on a Commissioner Cathy Gattuso motion, Commissioner Dave Sullivan second, on a 5-0-0 vote. Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez was absent.

b. Discussion—Construction and Demolition Ordinance Committee Annual Report

No citizens spoke about the agenda item.

Commissioner Dave Sullivan presented an Annual Review of the Construction and Demolition Ordinance Committee. There will be a series of stakeholder meetings and the Committee plans to present their proposal for the Construction and Demolition Ordinance by September 2014.

c. Discussion—Universal Recycling Ordinance Phase 2 Committee Annual Report

No citizens spoke about the agenda item.

Commissioner Cathy Gattuso presented an Annual Review of the Universal Recycling Ordinance Phase 2 Committee. Commissioner Cathy Gattuso commented on a stakeholder input and stakeholder process. In 2013 the Committee also established their administrative rules. The Committee expects to bring their recommendations to the full Commission by May or June 2014.

d. Discussion and Action—ZWAC Internal Annual Review

No citizens spoke about the agenda item.

Chair Rick Cofer presented a draft of the Annual Review of the Zero Waste Advisory Commission.

The Zero Waste Advisory Commission Annual Review was tabled and scheduled for action at the regular meeting in February 2014 on a Commissioner Dave Sullivan motion, Commissioner Cathy Gattuso second, on a 5-0-0 vote. Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez was absent.

e. Discussion and Action—Committees and Workgroups

No citizens spoke about the agenda item.

Chair Rick Cofer suggested keeping the existing committees and workgroups and establishing a North Service Center Workgroup. Commissioner Dave Sullivan suggested establishing Austin Resource Recovery Facilities Workgroup instead, which would allow for broader responsibilities.

The proposal to keep the existing committees and workgroups and add Austin Resource Recovery Facilities Workgroup was approved on a Commissioner Faye Kazi motion, Commissioner Cathy Gattuso second on, a 5-0-0 vote. Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez was absent.

4. STAFF BRIEFINGS

Director's Report

1 citizen spoke about the agenda item.

- Mr. Andrew Dobbs, Texas Commission for the Environment, made comments on the Austin Resource Recovery Audit and expressed his concern about the way Austin was compared to similar cities.

Director Gedert, Austin Resource Recovery, presented his report on the Zero Waste Audit, North Service Center Update, Ecology Action Update, Waste Composition Study and Citywide Diversion Assessment, Staff Hires and Promotions, Current and Upcoming Job Postings, Statistical Reports, and Performance Measures. Director Gedert answered Commissioners' questions.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Solar Farm at FM812 Landfill

Onion Creek Flood Relief Briefing—February

Keep Austin Beautiful Update

Composting Voucher Program Update

Annual Budget Process—February

Single Use Bag Ordinance Metrics

ARR & CCD Interdepartmental Agreement

Hauler Rules—February

URO Enforcement

Committee and Workgroup Membership—February

ZWAC Annual Report Approval—February

Briefing from the City of Austin Sustainability Officer

Boards and Commissions under the 10-1 System

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Rick Cofer adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m. without objection.