

ZERO WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES 4/9/2014



Zero Waste Advisory Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2014

The Zero Waste Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on April 9, 2014, at 301 West 2nd Street, Council Chambers Room in Austin, Texas.

Chair Rick Cofer called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Rick Cofer, Cathy Gattuso, Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez, Jeff Paine, Dave Sullivan, Faye Kazi, and Rachel Hering.

Staff in attendance:

Bob Gedert, Vera Labriola, Phil Tindall, Jessica King, Aiden Cohen, Jocabed Gutierrez, Kayla Reed-Castro, Matthew Christianson, Marcus Elliot, Charlotte Huskey, Tammie Williamson, Donald Hardee, Richard Avila, Gena McKinley, and Natacha Delusca.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

No citizens signed up to speak during the opportunity for citizen communication.

2. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES

Minutes for the regular meeting of February 12, 2014, were approved on Commissioner Cathy Gattuso's motion, Commissioner Dave Sullivan's second on a 5-0-0 vote. Commissioner Jeff Paine abstained. Commissioner Faye Kazi was off dais.

Item 4. d. was moved and discussed before OLD BUSINESS.

4. d. Discussion and Action—Recommendation—Sanitary Requirements for Food Trucks

Chair Rick Cofer introduced his recommendation on Sanitary Requirements for Food Trucks.

- Mr. Eric Goff, Compost Peddlers, expressed his concerns about food truck operators not being able to sign up for composting services due to the restrictions in the current Health Code.

Mr. Marcel Elizondo, Health and Human Services Department, provided comments on the topic and concerns about trash/recycling/composting bins placed on the ground rather than attached to the body of the vehicle. Mr. Elizondo answered Commissioners' questions.

Mr. Greg Guernsey, Planning and Development Review Department, addressed the issue of food trucks, land use, and applicable codes and answered Commissioners' questions. The recommendation was approved on Commissioner Dave Sullivan's motion, Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez's second on a 6-0-0 vote. Commissioner Faye Kazi was off dais.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Discussion and Action—Private Hauler Program—Proposed Changes to Ordinance and Rules

Mr. Matthew Christianson, Code Compliance Department, presented the proposed changes to the current ordinance and introduced new rules for private haulers.

Ms. Robyn Schneider, Texas Commission for the Environment, was concerned about gender biased language of the ordinance and recommended that “he” or “his” be changed to “they/theirs”.

Two citizens signed up to speak about the agenda item.

- Mr. Eric Goff, Compost Peddlers, expressed his concerns about the language of the City Code (§15-6-41 and §15-6-11).
- Mr. Adam Gregory, Texas Disposal Systems, expressed his concern about the language suggested and agreed upon (§15-6-11 and §15-6-13) at the stakeholders meeting not being included.

Ms. Jessica King and Bob Gedert, Austin Resource Recovery, answered Commissioners’ questions.

Chair Rick Cofer suggested postponing action on the item and giving City staff and involved stakeholders more time to agree on and clarify the language. Commissioner Dave Sullivan made a motion to postpone the action on this item by one month and requested more specificity to allow private haulers to complement the services offered by the City.

Commissioner Dave Sullivan’s motion was approved on a Commissioner Rachel Herring’s second on a 6-0-0 vote. Commissioner Faye Kazi was off dais.

b. Discussion and Action—2014 ZWAC Committees and Workgroups

No citizens signed up to speak about the agenda item.

The proposal to approve the members of the 2014 ZWAC Committees and Workgroups was approved on Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez’s motion, Commissioner Cathy Gattuso’s second on a 6-0-0 vote. Commissioner Faye Kazi was off dais.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion and Action—Trash and Recycling Collection and Hauling Services Contract—Central Business District

No citizens signed up to speak about the agenda item.

Mr. Phil Tindall, Austin Resource Recovery, presented a proposal to authorize award and execution of a 36-month requirements service contract with Texas Disposal Systems, Inc., or another qualified bidder, to provide refuse and recycling collection and hauling services within the Downtown Central Business District of Austin in an amount not to exceed \$6,234,879, with three 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$2,078,293 per extension option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$12,469,758.

Mr. Jonathan Dalchau, Purchasing Office, and Phil Tindall, Austin Resource Recovery, answered Commissioners’ questions about the evaluator matrix. Phil Tindall and Bob Gedert, Austin Resource Recovery, addressed questions about the increase in price to customers.

The proposal was approved on Commissioner Dave Sullivan’s motion, Commissioner Cathy Gattuso’s second on a 5-0-0 vote. Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez abstained. Commissioner Faye Kazi was off dais.

b. Discussion and Action—Amendment No. 4 to Current Trash and Recycling Collection Services Contract—Central Business District

No citizens signed up to speak about the agenda item.

Mr. Phil Tindall, Austin Resource Recovery, presented a proposal to authorize award and execution of Amendment No. 4 to the current contract with Waste Management of Texas, Inc., for refuse and recycling collection and hauling services within the Downtown Central Business District of Austin, to increase the current contract period in an amount not to exceed \$250,000, for a revised total contract amount of \$2,475,380.

The proposal was approved on Commissioner Dave Sullivan's motion, Commissioner Cathy Gattuso's second on a 5-0-0 vote. Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez abstained. Commissioner Faye Kazi was off dais.

c. Discussion and Action—Electronics Recycling Services Contract

No citizens signed up to speak about the agenda item.

Mr. Phil Tindall, Austin Resource Recovery, presented a proposal to authorize award, negotiation, and execution of a 24-month revenue contract with ECS REFINING, LLC, or another qualified offeror, to provide electronic recycling services with estimated revenue of \$76,436, with four 12-month extension options with estimated revenue of \$38,218 per extension option, for total estimated revenue of \$229,308. Mr. Tindall and Donald Hardee, Austin Resource Recovery, answered questions about the contract requirements.

Ms. Robyn Schneider, Texas Campaign for the Environment, offered additional information on e-Steward certification.

The proposal was approved with the recommendation to add language specifying that the companies have to be e-Steward certified to standard, on Commissioner Cathy Gattuso's motion, Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez's second on a 6-0-0 vote. Commissioner Faye Kazi was off dais.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

a. Single Use Bag Ordinance Update

No citizens signed up to speak about the agenda item.

Ms. Charlotte Huskey, Austin Resource Recovery, provided an update on the Single Use Bag Ordinance implementation. Charlotte Huskey and Bob Gedert, Austin Resource Recovery, answered Commissioners' questions.

Ms. Robyn Schneider, Texas Campaign for the Environment, provided information on similar ordinances in different cities. Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez requested that in the future, campaigns in Spanish language are double-checked for ambiguity in meaning and mistakes in translations.

Commissioner Dave Sullivan left the meeting and Commissioner Faye Kazi arrived while this item was being discussed.

b. Universal Recycling Ordinance Update

No citizens signed up to speak about the agenda item.

Mr. Aiden Cohen, Austin Resource Recovery, provided an update on the Universal Recycling Ordinance implementation. Commissioners expressed concerns about the lack of enforcement of the Universal Recycling Ordinance. Mr. Cohen, Ms. Jessica King, and Mr. Gedert answered Commissioners' questions. Ms. Robyn Schneider, Texas Campaign for the Environment, and Adam Gregory, Texas Disposal Systems, offered comments on the topic.

b. Director's Report

No citizens signed up to speak about the agenda item.

Director Gedert, Austin Resource Recovery, presented his report on Zero Waste Definitions, Staff Hires and Promotions, Statistical Reports, and Performance Measures.

Director Gedert answered Commissioners' questions.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Composting Pilot Program—July

Office of Sustainability—Overview and Key Initiatives—May
Five Year Budget Forecast—May
Universal Recycling Ordinance Phase 2 Rules—May
Styrofoam Ban Recommendation—June
Green Fence Update—May
Economic Development Impact Study
Keep Austin Beautiful—June
Composting Voucher Program Update—June
Gas-to-Energy at FM812 Landfill—June
Boards and Commissions under the 10:1 System—May

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Rick Cofer adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m. without objection.