



**Zero Waste Advisory Commission  
Water and Wastewater Commission**

**Joint Meeting Minutes  
September 14, 2016**

The Zero Waste Advisory Commission (ZWAC) and the Water and Wastewater Commission (WWW) convened in a joint meeting on September 14, 2016, at Waller Creek Center, Room 104 in Austin, Texas.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Water and Wastewater Commission Chair Moriarty called the WWW Commission portion of the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

Zero Waste Advisory Commission Chair Acuna called the Zero Waste Advisory Commission portion of the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

**1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

The first ten speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

Four citizens signed up to speak on this item.

Bob Gregory, Texas Disposal Systems. Mr. Gregory noted that he would discuss background of issues that led to the joint meeting on the issues involved, handed out documents for reference and recommended not to take action tonight but to get a restart on the matters which would involve new requests for proposals be issued.

Pam Racey, Synagro, noted she was here to answer any questions and described background on the services her company provides.

Cindy Rellin, Compost Art, spoke on zero waste efforts with school children and invited meeting participants to the an upcoming festival of compost activities.

Andrew Dobbs, Texas Campaign for the Environment, noted that he believed the groups involved were making progress, expressed concerns with contract redactions which could be minor or open an avenue for misuse. Mr. Dobbs asked that public see it ahead of its execution. Mr. Dobbs asked that the groups involved define compost and Dillo Dirt, discussed regulation, Permit modifications and issues for screening, curing, odor control, and basis for termination. Mr. Dobbs asked that goals, timelines, and reporting methods be structured, as well as emergency use reports and charitable donations issues, and handed out a document from his organization that he had emailed to participants previously.

**2. OLD BUSINESS**

Both items below were taken up together.

- a. Staff Briefing – Austin Water Utility Biosolids Management
- b. Discussion and Possible action: Recommendation on Zero Waste policy considerations to be included in biosolids management planning

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Judy Musgrove, Austin Water, presented a slideshow on background information on the issues and history of biosolids management. Danielle Lord, City of Austin Purchasing, answered questions from the commission members. The commission members discussed ratepayer, land application and Dillo Dirt concerns as well as contract variables involved.

Daryl Slusher and Jane Burazer, Austin Water addressed questions from the Commissioners.

Water and Wastewater Commission Chair Moriarty made a motion to create a joint working group to study the matter of biosolids management in contact with other City departments and programs and meet over the next 6 weeks to bring back recommendations to the respective commissions at their regular October 12, 2016 meetings. The Zero Waste Advisory Commission Chair Acuna seconded the motion.

ZWAC Commissioner Hoffman made an amendment to the motion to a maximum period of 4 weeks and the amendment was noted as accepted with no objection.

WWW Commissioner Turrieta was appointed as Chair of the working group and ZWAC Commissioner Amanda Masino was appointed Co-chair. ZWAC Commissioners White, Guidry, and Hoffman, and WWW Commissioners Blanding, Ho, and Lee made up the rest of the members of the joint working group.

The motion as amended was approved unanimously. Commissioners Jiampietro and Guidry from ZWAC and Commissioners Parker & Kellough from WWW were absent.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Both Commission Chairs adjourned the joint meeting at 6:55 p.m. to no objection.