



Zero Waste Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes January

January 11, 2023

The Monthly Meeting of the Zero Waste Advisory Commission (ZWAC) convened at City Hall and through Video Conference on Wednesday, January 11, 2023. The following are the meeting highlights. For detailed information please visit: <https://austintx.new.swagit.com/videos/196616>

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Gerry Acuna called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:05 pm

**Board Members in Attendance:** Gerry Acuna, Cathy Gattuso, Melissa Caudle, Amanda Masino, Kaiba White, Albert Swatner, Melissa Rothrock, Ian Steyaert (arrived after meeting called to order)

**Board Members not in Attendance:** Jonathan Barona, Ethan Myers, Ingrid Powell

**Staff in attendance:** Ken Snipes, Richard McHale, Amy Slagle, Gena McKinley, Andy Dawson, Donald Hardee, Ron Romero, Chad Presley Jason McCombs, Brent Paige, Wendy Riggins, Victoria Rieger, Amy Schillerstrom, Shana Riviello, William Purcell, Marcus Gonzalez, Selene Castillo and Yahel Baranovicht

### **1. Approval of the November 9, 2022. Meeting Minutes**

Chair Acuna entertained a motion for approval from Commissioner Gattuso, seconded by Commissioner Caudle. Minutes were approved unanimously 6–0 by the Zero Waste Advisory Commission.

### **2. Discussion: Budget Overview with Timeline Expectations – Victoria Rieger** ([Video Hyperlink](#))

Austin Resource Recovery's Victoria Rieger briefed the commission following the presentation found in the [backup documents](#). After the presentation, the following questions were asked:

- **Are items such as transfer stations, the Northeast Service Center and electrification of fleet addressed in this budget?** The Northeast Service Center is anticipated to be in the 5-year plan. There is money going towards this service center. The electrification of the fleet has already started with an eye towards climate equity.
- **Statement that increased wages should be considered.**
- **Is composting in the budget?** Yes.

**3. Discussion and Action: URO Update and Proposed Implementation – Selene Castillo** ([Video Hyperlink](#)) Austin Resource Recovery’s Selene Castillo, briefed the commission following the presentation found in the [backup documents](#). After the presentation, no questions were asked and no action was taken.

Speaker Jeff Payne discussed multifamily composting and that he discouraged using dumpsters for compost. He also stated that a locked cart beside a dumpster would sufficient for volume and that the lock discourages contamination.

**4. Review and Presentation of ZWAC Multi-Family Composting Resolution – Vice Chair Cathy Gattuso and Commissioner Kaiba White** ([Video Hyperlink](#)) ZWAC Vice Chair Cathy Gattuso and Commissioner Kaiba White presented the Commission’s resolution found in the [backup documents](#). The Commission than discussed the issues related to dumpsters and enforcement. Two friendly amendments were approved 7 – 0.

**Director’s Report** ([Video Hyperlink](#))  
[Report](#) provided updates on:

- Single Use Plastics Resolution
- Staff Recommendation on Requiring Organic Waste Collection at Additional Properties
- Brush Collection
- Solicitations Update
- Performance Reports
- Statistical Reports

### **Future Agenda Items**

The minutes were approved at the FEBRUARY 8, 2023 meeting on Vice Chair Gattuso’s motion, Commissioner Caudle seconds on a (6-0) vote.

