



Zero Waste Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes September

September 13, 2023

The Meeting of the Zero Waste Advisory Commission (ZWAC) convened at City Hall and through Video Conference on Wednesday, September 13th, 2023. The following are the meeting highlights. For detailed information please visit: <https://austintx.new.swagit.com/videos/271542>. For backup documentation, please visit: [https://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards\\_commissions/meetings/2023\\_97\\_1.htm](https://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/2023_97_1.htm)

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Gerry Acuna called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:03 pm

**Board Members in Attendance:** Gerry Acuna, Ian Steyaert, Melissa Caudle, Craig Nazor, Amanda Masino, Melissa Rothrock, & Madeline Jasper

**Board Members not in Attendance:** Caitlin Griffith, Cathy E Gattuso

**Staff in attendance:** Richard McHale, Gena McKinley, Ron Romero, Amy Slagle, Donald Hardee, Jason McCombs, Brent Paige, Victoria Rieger, Marcus Gonzalez, Yahel Baranovicht and Gustavo Valle

#### **1. Approval of the August 02, 2023, Meeting Minutes (1:35)**

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

#### **2. Approval of the August 09, 2023, Meeting Minutes**

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

#### **3. Director's Report (2:55)**

Director Richard McHale presented the Director's Report that provided updates on the

following:

- Curbside Composting
- MoveOutATX
  - EPA Reuse Facility Grant
    - Intention of facility (furniture upcycling, material gathering for various groups)
    - Location and facility size
  - Expansion of schools involved in program
  - Season event takes place
- Circular Austin Showcase
- “Don’t Bag Your Recyclables” Campaign
- Reddit AMA
  - Encouraged to continue this type of community interaction
- Solicitations
- Performance Reports
- Statistical Reports

**4. Review and Approval of Zero Waste Advisory Commission Bylaws (16:23)**

- Commissioners, staff, and stakeholders reviewed and discussed the current committee’s bylaws to consolidate an efficient and productive schedule. The commission decided that the new bylaw edits required additional time. Review and approval were deferred to next meeting to vote on the matter once suggested edits were made. The following was addressed:
  - New revisions needed to accurately reflect the number of times the commission needed to meet along with selected meeting dates for 2024. Additionally, verbiage was suggested to be added to clarify intent.

**5. Review and Approval of the Landfill Gas Collection and Monitoring Contract (39:38)**

- Director Richard McHale presented the Landfill Gas Collection and Monitoring Contract. ARR was seeking approval regarding a five-year contract with Sterns, Conrad, and Schmidt Consulting (SCS) for their greenhouse gas monitoring services for FM 812. Chair Acuna entertained a motion for approval from Commissioner Nator, seconded by Commissioner Steyaert. The proposal was unanimously approved 6-0 by the Zero Waste Advisory Commission. The following was addressed:
  - Method and process behind data collecting for greenhouse gas emissions.
  - FM 812’s methane gas production and overall reduction
  - Length of time monitoring needs to take place

**Future Agenda Items (44:12)**

- Review Zero Waste Advisory Commission Bylaws.
- Review and Approval of ARR Comprehensive Plan.
- Approve new member to the Universal Recycling Ordinance Committee.
- Approve alternate representative to the Joint Sustainability Committee.
- Review Single Family Home Deconstruction Process.

**The minutes were approved at the OCTOBER 11, 2023 meeting on COMMISSIONER NAZOR'S motion, COMMISSIONER CAUDLE second on a 6-0 vote.**