



Zero Waste Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes October

October 11, 2023

The Meeting of the Zero Waste Advisory Commission (ZWAC) convened at City Hall and through Video Conference on Wednesday, October 11th, 2023. The following are the meeting highlights. For detailed information please visit: <https://austintx.new.swagit.com/videos/274315>. For backup documentation, please visit: 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 6:00 pm

Board Members in Attendance: Gerry Acuna, Melissa Caudle, Craig Nazor, Amanda Masino, Melissa Rothrock, Cathy Gattuso, & Madeline Jasper (joined after meeting commenced)

Board Members not in Attendance: Ian Steyaert & Caitlin Griffith

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

1. Approval of the September 13th, 2023, Meeting Minutes (00:46)

Chair Acuna entertained a motion for approval from Commissioner Nazor, seconded by Commissioner Caudle. Unanimous approval with a 6-0 vote.

2. Review and approval of ARR Comprehensive Plan (1:59)

Jason McCombs with Austin Resource Recovery (ARR) and Scott Pasternak with Burns & McDonnell presented the 2023 Austin Resource Recovery Comprehensive Plan. Their findings provided an updated overview of the original 2011 Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan. It was concluded that while ARR is working on acquiring additional infrastructure and equipment to address challenges, ARR is still committed towards meeting their 2040 diversion goal. The following was addressed:

- i. Commissioners, staff, and stakeholders reviewed and discussed updates to the Comprehensive Plan. Questions were raised pertaining to the composting and recycling rate along with how Austin fares to other comparable cities. In addition, staff answered questions regarding bulk collection and HHW collection. Community engagement was also noted.
- ii. Commissioner Masino moved to accept 2023 Austin Resource Recovery Comprehensive Plan and Commissioner Caudle second. It was unanimously accepted with a 7-0 vote.

3. Director's Report (1:00:17)

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

- EPA Reuse Facility Grant
- ZWAC Bylaws
- Solicitations Update
- Performance Reports
- Statistical Reports
- Additional questions around used cooking oil disposal and location, recycling film plastic, and expanding of existing reuse programs were addressed.

4. Action to approve new member to the Universal Recycling Ordinance Committee (1:15:12)

- A. Chairman Acuna moved a motion to find additional members for the Universal Ordinance Committee. The committee unanimously voted for Commissioner Madeline Jasper and Commissioner Kathy Gattuso to join the URO Committee.

5. Action to approve alternate representative to the Joint Sustainability Committee (1:16:58)

- A. Chairman Acuna moved a motion to find and approve an alternate representative for the Joint Sustainability Committee. The committee unanimously voted for Commissioner Craig Nazor as an alternate representative for the Joint Sustainability Committee.

Future Agenda Items

- Review Zero Waste Advisory Commission Bylaws.
- Review Single Family Home Deconstruction Process.

The minutes were approved at the November 8, 2023 meeting on Commissioner Jasper's motion, Commissioner Nazor second on a 8-0 vote.

