

ZERO WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES 8/14/2013



Zero Waste Advisory Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2013

The Zero Waste Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on August 14, 2013, at 301 West 2nd Street, Council Chambers Room in Austin, Texas.

Chair Rick Cofer called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Rick Cofer, Cathy Gattuso, Brent Perdue, Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez, Jeff Paine, and Fayez Kazi.

Staff in Attendance:

Bob Gedert, Phil Tindall, Ron Romero, Jimmy Miller, Donald Hardee, Gena McKinley, Emlea Chanslor, Jessica King, Gordon Derr, Nancy Chan, Gerry Calk, Aiden Cohen, Chad Pressley, Cherilyn Wadley, Jessica Edwards, Elizabeth Corey, Charlotte Huskey, Lauren Hammond, Vidal Maldonado, Tammie Williamson, Vera Labriola, and Ourana Cacho.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

1 citizen spoke during the opportunity for citizen communication.

- Mr. Andrew Dobbs, Texas Campaign for the Environment, expressed his concerns about the Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO) not being enforced. According to Mr. Dobbs, most apartment complexes do not follow the ordinance. Mr. Dobbs requested that the URO be enforced.

Commissioner Ochoa Gonzalez asked that the presentation on URO enforcement planned for September include information on the Clean Community Fee.

2. APPROVAL OF JUNE MINUTES

Minutes for the regular meeting of June 12, 2013, were approved on a Commissioner Brent Perdue motion, Commissioner Cathy Gattuso second on a 6-0-0 vote. Commissioner Dave Sullivan was absent.

3. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion and Action—Special Events Ordinance

Mr. Gordon Derr, Austin Transportation Department Assistant Director, introduced the draft of the Special Events Ordinance and discussed the issues related to waste disposal and recycling. Director Gedert, Mr. Derr, and Ms. Jessica King from Austin Resource Recovery answered Commissioners' questions.

3 citizens spoke about the agenda item.

- Mr. Adam Gregory, Texas Disposal Systems, expressed his concerns about stakeholders not having input on the development of the ordinance. Mr. Gregory requested that there be an opportunity for stakeholders' input.
- Mr. Scott Johnson expressed his concerns about the enforcement of the environmental part of the Special Events Ordinance. Mr. Johnson commented on the

lack of outreach related to the Climate Protection Program from the Office of Sustainability.

- Mr. Andrew Dobbs, Texas Campaign for the Environment, Austin Zero Alliance, asked the Commissioners to make a recommendation that the ordinance be more specific about the rules.

Commissioner Brent Perdue moved to approve the draft of the Special Events Ordinance with two conditions:

- 1) The elements of the Special Events Ordinance related to waste diversion be handled through the Austin Resource Recovery shareholder process, and
- 2) the rules created through the stakeholder process be approved by the Boards and Commissions and by the City Council.

The proposal to support the adoption of this ordinance with the conditions listed above was approved on a Commissioner Brent Perdue motion, Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez second on a 5-1-0 vote. Commissioner Faye Kazi opposed. Commissioner Dave Sullivan was absent.

b. Discussion and Action—Trillium Contract

No citizens spoke about the agenda item.

Mr. Gerry Calk, Fleet Department Director, presented the proposal to authorize approval of purchase and installation of 28 additional time-fill fuel dispensers for the Compressed Natural Gas station. Austin Resource Recovery is providing funding in the amount of \$190,000. Mr. Calk answered Commissioners' questions.

The proposal was approved on a Commissioner Faye Kazi motion, Commissioner Jeff Paine second on a 6-0-0 vote. Commissioner Dave Sullivan was absent.

c. Discussion and Action—Heavy Duty Equipment Purchase

No citizens spoke about the agenda item.

Mr. Jimmy Miller, Austin Resource Recovery, made a presentation on heavy duty equipment purchase with the purpose to obtain a favorable ZWAC recommendation for the City Council to take action resulting in the authorization to purchase four (4) High Dump Street Sweepers, fifteen (15) 25-Yard Semi-Automated Trucks, two (2) 11-Yard Semi-Automated Trucks, one (1) agricultural tractor and one (1) 20-foot shredder by way of a contract through the Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (Buy Board) in an amount not to exceed \$7,210,800. Mr. Miller and Mr. Gedert answered Commissioners' questions.

The proposal was approved on a Commissioner Cathy Gattuso motion, Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez second on a 6-0-0 vote. Commissioner Dave Sullivan was absent.

d. Discussion and Action—URO Data Collection and Reporting Contract

Ms. Elizabeth Corey, Austin Resource Recovery, presented the proposal to authorize award and execution of a 24-month requirements service agreement with Emerge Knowledge Design Inc. to design, develop, and maintain a secure web-based data collection and reporting system in an amount not to exceed \$200,000, with four (4) 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$100,000 per extension option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$600,000. Ms. Corey, Mr. Cohen, and Mr. Tindall of Austin Resource Recovery answered Commissioners' questions.

1 citizen spoke about the agenda item.

- Mr. Ryan Hobbs, Texas Disposal Systems, encouraged the Commissioners to only authorize award and negotiation, but not execution of this agreement and he requested that the public gets an opportunity for input on drafting the actual contract. Mr. Hobbs also requested that staff bring the final draft of the contract for ZWAC approval.

Commissioners proposed authorization and negotiation of the agreement but requested that the final draft of the contract be submitted to the Commission for final approval.

The proposal was approved on a Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez motion, Commissioner Cathy Gattuso second, on a 6-0-0 vote. Commissioner Dave Sullivan was absent.

4. c. SUBO Outreach Update (item was moved by the consent of the Commission)

Ms. Gwen Williams, Sherry Matthews Advocacy Marketing, provided an update on Single Use Bag Ordinance outreach efforts and return on investment.

Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez presented her opinion on the Spanish version of the campaign—Agarra Bolsa. Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez was concerned about the possibility that the Spanish speaking groups may consider the slogan offensive; especially the fact that the article “la” was dropped.

Mr. Jose Marrero, Sherry Matthews Advocacy Marketing, explained how the slogan for the campaign was selected and tested and explained that dropping the article was intentional and strictly for advertising purposes.

Commissioner Ochoa Gonzalez suggested that in the future, Commissioners have input on the Spanish translations. Chair Cofer suggested focusing outreach on Austinites speaking Asian languages as well in the future.

- Mr. Andrew Dobbs, Texas Campaign for the Environment, Austin Zero Waste Alliance, expressed that he was insulted at the comments made by Mr. Marrero.

3. e. Discussion and Action—Budget Presentation

No citizens spoke about the agenda item.

Bob Gedert, Austin Resource Recovery, delivered a presentation on the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget. Bob Gedert answered Commissioners’ questions.

Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez expressed her concern about URO 2 enforcement and requested that funds for enforcement staffing be included.

Commissioner Brent Perdue asked that in the future, Commissioners receive budgetary information prior to the meeting.

Chair Rick Cofer suggested that funding for URO enforcement be included in the FY 2013-2014 budget. The FY 2013-2014 budget was approved with the addition of the URO enforcement funding on a Commissioner Faye Kazi motion, Commissioner Daniela Ochoa Gonzalez second, on a 6-0-0 vote. Commissioner Dave Sullivan was absent.

4. STAFF BRIEFINGS

a. Collection Services Division

Presentation was rescheduled for September 2013.

b. Diversion Facilities Division

Presentation was rescheduled for September 2013.

d. Director's Report

Director Bob Gedert presented a report on the following items: Materials Management, China's Green Fence, Staff Hires and Promotions, Current and Upcoming Job Postings, Statistical Reports, and Performance Measures.

Commissioner Faye Kazi requested that upcoming council items be added back to the Director's Report.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Hornsby Bend Operation—September

Organics Collection Pilot—September

URO Enforcement—September

[Re]Manufacturing Hub—October

Landfill Gas to Energy—October

Reuse Austin

HHW North Location

Solar Farm

Mobile Food Vendor

Customer service

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Rick Cofer adjourned the meeting at 9:33 p.m. without objection.