

SOLID WASTE PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Minutes

March 10, 1989

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 a.m. by Chair Gary Hansen. The following were present:

Members and Alternates

Gary Hansen, Metro, Chair
Sharron Kelly, Metro
Steve Larrance, Washington County
John Lang, (for Earl Blumenhauer) City of Portland
Bill Stark, Wilsonville
Clifford Clark, Forest Grove
Ramsey Weit, Multnomah County
Dale Harlan, Clackamas County

The following members were not present:

Rena Cusma, Metro
Carol Powell, Oregon City
Barbara Rutherford, Wood Village
Shirley Huffman, Washington County
Fred Hansen, DEQ
Brian Campbell, Port of Portland

Metro Staff

Debbie Gorham
Robert Newman
Marilyn Matteson
Rich Carson
Robert Newman
Becky Crockett
Leigh Zimmerman
Beverly Nason
Sandy Gurkewitz

Guests

Beth Erlendson, City of Beaverton
Don Robertson, City of Milwaukie
Michael Sievers, Oregon Waste Systems
Jan Nelson, City of Tualatin
Estle Harlan, OSSI
Bill Martin, Washington County
Rod Grimm, Grimm's Fuel
Karen Grimm, Grimm's Fuel
Bill Bree, DEQ

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 a.m. by Chair Gary Hansen. He summarized the recent activities on yard debris for the group. He stated that Council had agreed to the regional yard debris planning process, and that they had approved two new positions for the project.

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of January 13, 1989 be approved; motion carried.

Bob Martin discussed the landfill transport contract. He stated that five bids were received in early January. The low bid was from Jack Ray Transport, a trucking firm from Gary, Indiana. The firm will use a triple axle truck and will operate out of Arlington. It is estimated that trucks will make two trips per day, and employ over 50 people. The firm will begin transporting in 1990 from the Metro South Station, and in 1991 from the new East Transfer Station.

Bob Martin continued that Metro had hired the consulting firm of R.W. Beck to look at public options for the Metro East Transfer Station, and to evaluate those options against the criteria in the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan. Commissioner Harlan asked how the transfer station options would deal with the issue of appropriate zoning. Bob Martin responded that both public or private proposals would be required to have zoning which permitted transfer stations. He also pointed out that the proposals are for the east waste shed and not for Washington County.

Bob Martin also discussed waste reduction activities. Council has agreed to add five new staff positions in Solid Waste and two and one-half in Planning to implement the 1986 Waste Reduction Program. He pointed out that DEQ and Metro are currently negotiating a Stipulated Order to identify the activities and time lines for implementing the Program. The major change from the 1986 Program is greater emphasis on intergovernmental cooperation in implementing the plan, particularly in those areas affecting collection.

Clifford Clark asked about time lines for these programs. Bob stated that there are 49 separate deadlines incorporated in the Stipulated Order. DEQ and Metro hope to complete negotiations on the Order by the end of March.

Ramsey Weit stated that he had never seen the Stipulated Order. Rich Carson suggested that this item be placed on the next agenda for review with the Committee.

Becky Crockett reviewed the proposed process for developing the Regional Yard Debris Plan. She stated that the Waste Reduction Subcommittee will work with Metro staff to conduct the technical analysis. All local governments and yard debris processors in the region will be notified of the Waste Reduction Subcommittee meetings.

She pointed out that the Technical and Policy Committees and the Metro Council will review the Regional Yard Debris Plan before it is submitted to DEQ for approval.

Ramsey Weit asked about the role of the Policy Committee in this process and the schedule for plan development. Becky Crockett responded that the Policy Committee approves the planning process for yard debris and the final plan prior to forwarding it to the Metro Council. The Committee will be updated periodically as the plan is developed. The scheduled completion date is July, 1990.

Gary Hansen emphasized the importance of including people with special yard debris expertise, such as landscape contractors and processors, in the planning process. Becky indicated that yard debris processors would serve as ex-officio members of the Waste Reduction Subcommittee during plan development.

Motion and Vote

Dale Harlan moved and Steve Larrance seconded the motion to approve the regional yard debris planning process. Clifford Clark requested that ex-officio members on the Waste Reduction Subcommittee include representatives from the landscape industry and from Oregon State University. The motion carried unanimously with this clarification.

Steve Larrance reviewed the status of Washington County's yard debris plan. He stated that the County fully intended to coordinate with Metro as the regional plan is developed. He indicated that a staff person has been hired to begin work on the county yard debris plan.

Following Commissioner Lawrence's update, a panel of yard debris experts (Estle Harlan, OSSI; Bill Bree, DEQ; Sandy Gurkewitz, Metro; and Rod Grimm, Grimm's Fuel) made a presentation to the group on key issues in this area. These include 1) how to collect yard debris in a safe and efficient manner; 2) determining yard debris generation for the region; 3) determining marketing capacity; and 4) determining program costs.

Estle Harlan described existing yard debris recycling programs in the region. Bill Bree discussed methods for processing yard debris. Sandy Gurkewitz addressed marketing, and Rod Grimm discussed the issue from a processor's perspective.

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The next meeting will be held May 12, 1989.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.