

NEW ADDRESS: 527 SW Hall, Portland, Oregon 97201 222-3671

MSD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 1975 MEETING

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Robert Schumacher, Chairman  
Miller Duris  
Burton Wilson  
Connie McCreedy  
Charles Becker  
Mel Gordon

ADVISORS IN ATTENDANCE

Herb Hardy, Attorney  
Dean Gisvold, Attorney

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Web Ruble, Oregonian  
Kulani Mahikoa, Community Press  
Fred Leeson, Oregon Journal

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Charles Kemper  
Merle Irvine  
Jean Woodman

APPROVED METROPOLITAN  
SERVICE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ACTION NO. 75-317

DATE 3-14-75

BY Jean Woodman  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

The Metropolitan Service District Board convened in an emergency session to consider the Board's position on the MSD Solid Waste Program. The meeting was called by the Chairman of the Board pursuant to Commissioner Gordon's statement that he would not be able to support MSD's request for construction funds from the State 1975 Legislative Session. As the Department of Environmental Quality's formal budget request was being considered at this time by the Legislature and as Commissioner Gordon intended to be absent from the area for several weeks, an emergency was deemed to exist and the emergency session held.

The Board considered staff's report "Risk Evaluation of the MSD Solid Waste Program". Mr. Kemper reviewed in detail the risks involved in continuing with the solid waste recycling program, the advantages in continuing, and the following six options open to the Board:

1. Proceed with the Solid Waste Program as it is presently developing with MSD and private industry bound by a long-term contract.
2. Proceed with the Solid Waste Program, however, prior to approving long-term contracts, require that material byproduct contracts for ferrous and fuel fraction be developed with users.
3. Develop an alternate approach that would finance the system through state pollution control bonds and by financing by MSD revenue bonds after a special ballot measure.
4. Proceed with the Solid Waste Program with the stipulation for construction of two transfer/processing station and no commitment for the others.
5. Change direction and develop a landfill system only to satisfy the areawide needs.
6. Stop and develop a landfill system using the presently operating "wet" garbage landfills.

Commissioner Gordon stated that he was not convinced that the new system was economically feasible and questioned DEQ's mandate for 90% reuse of wastes by the year 1982. He was in favor of option Number 5, continued landfilling, until assurances of the byproduct markets were available. If these assurances were met, in the form of signed contracts with byproduct markets, Commissioner Gordon stated he would be behind the Solid Waste Recycling Plan 100%. Without the signed contracts, it was Commissioner Gordon's suggestion that DEQ be informed that the Metropolitan Service District wished to continue with landfilling.

Commissioner McCreedy stated that the MSD Board had made a commitment to the shredding and recycling system for solid waste in the area, and that Commissioner Gordon's suggestion to continue landfilling was a local answer to a regional problem. She also stated that if this was the answer the MSD would be forced to deal with, the City of Portland would be placed in a position of having to conserve its resources and refuse access of the St. John's Landfill to outside collectors. Commissioner

Gordon proposed turning the St. Johns Landfill over to MSD thereby solving the regional problem.

Mr. Kemper reviewed the possible alternative landfill sites located in the three-county area and the Santosh and Rainier sites located outside of the MSD area. The Board also reviewed an energy comparison breakdown (attached) on the existing and proposed system and Mr. Kemper explained the formula used to arrive at the figures. There was a general consensus that the energy savings figures that would be derived from the transfer/processing system were impressive and should be considered. There was also a feeling by the Board that the recovered materials markets would be available to back up the transfer/processing system.

Commissioner Schumacher stated that the money spent thus far by MSD was to do a study based on the DEQ's goals for recycling and eliminating landfilling, and that the Legislature directed MSD to undertake this endeavor. He also stated that if the new system cost an additional 27% to operate, with no markets available for the byproducts, the savings in energy alone would result in money wisely spent.

The staff was requesting that the Board support one of the six options listed which would provide staff with needed direction.

Mayor Duris moved to adopt Option Number 1 reworded as follows: "Proceed with the Solid Waste Program as it is presently developing with MSD and private industry." Commissioner McCready seconded the motion. The motion carried with Commissioner Gordon voting against.

The Emergency Meeting of the MSD Board of Directors adjourned at 4:30 P.M. A written letter of support from Mayor Robnett is attached. Mayor Robnett was unable to attend the meeting.