

APPROVED
Date 6-9-93

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

March 16, 1993

Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Roger Buchanan (Chair), Ruth McFarland (Vice Chair), Susan McLain, Ed Washington, Judy Wyers

Councilors Also Present: Mike Gates, Jon Kvistad, George Van Bergen, Terry Moore

Chair Buchanan called the regular meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

1. Consideration of January 19, 1993 Solid Waste Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion: Councilor Washington moved to approve the January 19, 1993 Solid Waste Committee Meeting Minutes as submitted.

Vote: Councilors McLain, Washington, Wyers, McFarland and Buchanan voted aye.

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

2. Solid Waste Updates

Chair Buchanan introduced Ray Phelps, Oregon Waste Systems, Inc., who extended an invitation to the Committee to visit the landfill in Arlington. He offered to make arrangements for travel, and indicated he would be happy to work with John Houser, Council Analyst, on the matter.

Chair Buchanan suggested Mr. Phelps provide several options for dates, and indicated he had spoken to Mr. Houser about following up on the invitation.

Bob Martin, Director of Solid Waste Department, noted Finley Buttes Landfill was nearby, and said a visit to both would be worthwhile.

o Waste Reduction Program

Debbie Gorham, Waste Reduction Manager, presented the staff report, and said a document entitled, "Year Four Waste Reduction Program Draft" dated March 16, 1993 had been distributed to the Councilors in their boxes prior to the meeting. She briefed the Committee on the highlights of the document such as compliance, continuing of current activities, previous activities, and new waste reduction programs proposed for FY 1993-94.

Councilor McLain and Ms. Gorham discussed \$11,000 remaining in Challenge Grant allocation funds, which Councilor McLain noted was based on

(Continued)

compliance. Councilor McFarland concurred with Councilor McLain, who felt the remaining funds should not be redistributed to include jurisdictions which had not complied with the plan originally.

In response to Councilor Wyers, John Houser, Council Analyst, noted Mr. Kraten had previously presented a briefing concerning commercial recycling to the Committee at which local governments testified. Mr. Houser said it was his understanding that Staff had followed up with the local governments and prepared a plan acceptable to all parties. Ms. Gorham indicated a four-year plan had been distributed to the Council for FY 1993-94. Councilor Wyers was interested in further discussion to resolve questions Councilors McLain and McFarland had raised.

o Solid Waste Updates

James Watkins, Solid Waste Engineering & Analysis Manager, presented the staff report, and said Trans Industries wished to establish a fiber-based fuel line at Metro Central.

Mr. Watkins advocated for removal of the commercial processing line at Metro Central. He said the commercial processing line had never been used at Metro Central, and felt it should be replaced with a pelletizer. He said high fiber loads would be used for fiber based fuel. Mr. Watkins noted costs of \$1.6 million with salvage value of approximately \$70,000, which he said Trans Industries would fund. He noted Smurfitts had a boiler licensed to burn this type of fuel.

Mr. Watkins said Metro would have first option to purchase the line from Trans Industries up until October, 1994.

Mr. Watkins said Metro should encourage the activity as it supported the statewide recycling hierarchy. He recommended going forward with a change order to the contract to accomplish the establishing of such a line.

Councilor McFarland said she understood the Department could go forward with the matter without Council approval, but said she believed the Council as a whole would like to better understand the matter. Councilor Wyers agreed and asked Councilor McFarland for a suggestion. Councilor McFarland suggested the Department bring forward a resolution for Council consideration.

Chair Buchanan noted a number of questions had been raised by the issue, and asked for further information to come before the Committee. Mr. Martin indicated he would do so.

Councilor McLain recognized timeliness could be an issue, and requested the matter come before the Committee at the next Solid Waste Committee meeting to be held March 20, 1993.

Councilor Gates requested information be in the report regarding the state hierarchies.

Councilor Wyers asked why a change order was being executed if the process were coming at no cost to Metro. She also requested language in the proposed resolution abjure Metro from responsibility to buy the system. Councilor Wyers expressed concern regarding potential environmental hazards from burning such fuel.

3. Resolution No. 93-1764, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Executive Officer to Execute a Contract with the Matrix Management Group to Complete Study Elements I and II of the Comprehensive Waste Stream Characterization Study

Terry Petersen, Senior Solid Waste Planner, introduced Bill Metzler, who presented the staff report. Mr. Metzler said both Resolution No. 93-1764 and Resolution No. 93-1765 dealt with Metro's Comprehensive Waste Stream Characterization Study. He said such studies determine the quantity of different materials present in the solid waste stream, and were typically conducted by manually sorting through solid waste samples and individually weighing the sub-components. Mr. Metzler said the information was crucial to solid waste management, and said the most requested document at Metro was the Waste Stream Characterization Study, and described the process to be used for the study. He noted the other most requested document was the Recycling Level report, which used waste characterization data to estimate current recycling levels for each waste material.

Mr. Metzler said a Request for Proposals (RFP) had been released with Council approval in November, 1992, and said three proposals submitted in December had been reviewed, evaluated and scored the proposals based on the evaluation criteria as set forth in the RFP, followed by interviews. He said the selection committee recommended the study be performed under two separate contracts, one of which had been conditionally awarded to the Matrix Management group, and a second contract awarded to the Environmental Careers organization, pending approval of the proposed resolutions. He said it was hoped the project could get underway March 29, and he said it was expected to last for one year.

In response to Councilor Wyers, Mr. Metzler said funding of under \$250,000 was anticipated, and he said no change orders were foreseen.

Mr. Petersen said previous waste characterization studies had been conducted by SCS Engineers, Seattle, and Wilsey and Hamm Pacific, Portland. In response to Councilor McFarland, Mr. Petersen said Metro had received good service from these companies. Mr. Metzler said the contract was awarded on the basis of criteria having been met.

Councilor McFarland and Councilor Washington expressed concerns regarding minorities' and women's businesses.

Mr. Metzler said the proposal from Cascade Pacific was not as good as the proposal from Matrix, and he noted lack of experience and level of detail were concerns. Mr. Petersen said Matrix had qualified members on their team to conduct field surveys, and said the members of the Cascade Pacific team did not have that experience.

Councilor McFarland indicated she would not favor the resolution.

Mr. Martin said the matter had come before the Committee several times resulting in established criteria for a review process, which had been the basis of evaluation and selection by the review committee. Mr. Martin noted Metro's MBE/WBE officer was a member of the review committee, and said Legal Counsel had been consulted throughout the process. Mr. Martin requested direction from the Committee.

Chair Buchanan opened a public hearing.

Bruce Broussard, American Contractors, testified before the Committee, and he commented on the difficulty of getting into the system.

In response to Councilor McLain, Mr. Broussard said the provision of workers was for the DEQ contract, not the Metro contract.

In response to Councilor McLain, Mr. Metzler said during interviews Matrix said they were paying between \$7 and \$8 per hour. He said Matrix planned to pay higher wages for this sort than previously paid for the DEQ sort.

Councilor Washington indicated he would not support the resolution.

In response to Chair Buchanan, Mr. Houser indicated the resolution, if not moved, would remain in Committee unmoved.

Chair Buchanan recessed the Committee at 5:35 p.m. in order that the Budget Committee could meet at its appointed time, 5:30 p.m. to review Phase I of the FY 1993-94 Solid Waste Department proposed budget process. He indicated the Solid Waste Committee would reconvene following the Budget Committee meeting.

Chair Buchanan reconvened the Solid Waste Committee at 8:32 p.m.

Motion: Councilor Washington moved to recommend Resolution No. 93-1764 to the full Council for adoption.

Councilor McLain indicated she would support the resolution, but said a problem had surfaced as a result of Committee discussion and asked that the process be revisited at a later date.

Councilor McFarland seconded the motion.

Vote: Councilors McLain, Washington, Wyers, McFarland and Buchanan voted aye.

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

4. Resolution No. 93-1765, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Executive Officer to Execute a Contract with the Environmental Careers Organization to Complete Study Element III of the Comprehensive Waste Stream Characterization Study

Mr. Metzler presented the staff report, and said the proposed resolution was companion to the previous resolution.

Motion: Councilor McLain moved to recommend Resolution No. 93-1765 to the full Council for adoption.

In response to Councilor Van Bergen, Mr. Metzler said the issue of illegal dumping violations was not a part of the proposal for the study. Councilor Van Bergen questioned the benefit of the study if that information was not gathered. Councilor McLain concurred.

Mr. Martin said an inspection program regarding waste acceptance was in place currently, and said it was not the intended purpose of the study.

Councilor McFarland asked if in the budgeting process the amount of specific contracts could be changed. Todd Sadlo, Legal Counsel, said an agreement would have been made and signed which should not be tampered with.

Vote: Councilors McLain, Washington, Wyers, McFarland and Buchanan voted aye.

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

5. Resolution No. 93-1776, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Executive Officer to Enter into a Contract with Tri-State Construction, Inc. for Work Associated with the Closure of Sub-Areas 2 & 3 of the St. Johns Landfill

Dennis O'Neil, Senior Solid Waste Planner, presented the staff report, and said a multi-component cover was being constructed over the landfill of which this contract was an element. He said the low bid was from Tri-State at \$8.44 million, and the company had met the requirements to

perform the work, as well as the requirements of the Metro Minority and Women Owned Business Program for good faith efforts. He noted their bid was \$900 thousand lower than the next lowest bidder. Mr. O'Neil said the work would begin in April, 1993 and continue through November, 1994.

In response to Councilor McFarland, Mr. O'Neil said a suggestion had been made to DEQ to eliminate the drainage net, which would effect a cost savings.

Councilor Washington requested a listing of the three firms with whom Metro would be doing business in the venture, and requested raw numbers rather than percentages related to the MBE and WBE.

Motion: Councilor McLain moved to recommend Resolution No. 93-1776 to the full Council for adoption.

Vote: Councilors McLain, Washington, Wyers, McFarland and Buchanan voted aye.

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

6. Ordinance No. 93-485, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Section 5.01.150 and Chapter 5.02, to Establish Solid Waste Disposal Fees, Including a System Management Fee

Mr. Martin referenced an "A" version of proposed Ordinance No. 93-485, which was distributed to the Committee. He said the changes included a definition of "Clean Fill" to clarify that facilities that accept only "Clean Fill" would not be required to collect and pay to Metro the System Management Fee.

Mr. Martin presented a graph illustrating alternative revenues with and without the System Management Fee. He referenced his memorandum dated March 15, 1993 to the Solid Waste Committee regarding Grimm's Fuel written testimony, and noted at \$3.50 per ton, Grimm's would have paid \$163,551 on 1992 tonnage, which he said was less than the \$383,000 figure that was included in Grimm's written comments. This document has been made part of the permanent meeting record.

Councilor McLain said she favored hearing public testimony prior to decision.

Chair Buchanan opened a public hearing.

Mark Hope, Waste Recovery, Inc., testified before the Committee. He urged the Council to consider funding operations and systems by implementing a general tax base.

Rob Guttridge, Chair, Oregon Association of Recyclers (AOR), submitted written testimony. This document has been made part of the permanent meeting record. He expressed concern regarding implementing a system management fee. He said the association was interested in working with Metro on find another solution.

In response to Councilor McFarland, Mr. Guttridge said his comments were resultant from concerns expressed at a meeting the previous week held by the association.

In response to Councilor Moore, Mr. Guttridge said he paid a garbage bill, but he received yard debris and curbside recycling services each week provided by the hauler in addition to the use of his 20 gallon garbage can. He said, although he was happier with the haulers in his area, he was also happy with efforts Metro was making. He said the costs of disposal should be reflected in the tipping fees, but he felt long range planning, getting to a "better place", and system management costs should be covered by other mechanisms by tipping fees.

In response to Councilor Moore's inquiry regarding whether Mr. Guttridge was referring to education when he spoke of a "better place", Mr. Guttridge said the "better place" he referred to was inclusive of land use issues, air quality issues, as well as education. He felt ways of encouraging good behavior and discouraging bad behavior should be utilized. Mr. Guttridge drew an example in which costs would be included at the time of purchase of tires rather than place a tax on people who recover tires.

Councilor McFarland emphasized the proposed system management fee was not a tax, and recycling what was in her garage was a kind of disposal.

Bruce Walker, Recycling Program Manager, City of Portland, and former chair of the Oregon Association of Recyclers, testified before the Committee, and said should tipping fees continue to increase, citizen's garbage rates would increase, services would be hampered and limitations in expanding recycling programs would result.

Dan Grimm and Jeff Grimm distributed written testimony to the Committee and referenced Mr. Martin's memorandum dated March 15. These documents have been made part of the permanent meeting record. He explained the methodology for his figure of \$383 thousand. He said he used tonnage/cubic yards with the staff report conversion chart to arrive at his figures. He said the difference in figures was due to a recent revision in the conversion chart, and he said instead of a 4 to 1 ratio on yard debris, an 8 to 1 ratio was used. He said the yard debris business was capital and labor intensive as well as volume sensitive.

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Mr. Grimm remarked that his company from 1982 to 1992 had lost \$202,000 processing yard debris and had invested just under \$2 million in the plant and equipment. He said \$5.92 revenue was derived from each cubic yard received, ground, processed and delivered back to the consumer. He did not believe enough tonnage was available to generate the goal of the Rate Review Committee of \$1.5 million in revenue, and said he hoped the Committee would see the proposal as a flawed attempt by the well meaning staff to solve a difficult problem.

Councilor Gates clarified Mr. Grimm's remarks, and said he understood Grimm's capital investment was \$1,995,000 and his net income was <\$202,000> over a nine year period. Mr. Grimm said the <\$202,000> was operating revenues minus operating expenses over a 10 year period.

Councilor Gates asked Mr. Grimm was the figures for operating revenues and operating expenses were. Mr. Grimm said he did not have the figures available, and he said the 1992 figures were not yet available.

Councilor Kvistad thanked Mr. Grimm for the letter he had received outlining his concerns.

Councilor Moore noted remarks in Mr. Grimm's letter concerning long term solutions to Metro's continuing budget problems. She asked for clarification that the remarks pertained to costs and fees associated only with the Solid Waste portion of Metro's budget, and not for funding other departmental positions or materials and services, such as for planning programs. She said she understood the intent in this issue was to produce revenue that funded Solid Waste programs only. Councilors affirmed she was correct.

Councilor Wyers raised questions concerning the use of the excise tax, which she noted could be raised to a potential 7%. Staff indicated she was correct that \$.23 excise tax would be collected as a portion of the proposed \$3.50 fee. She said she understood that \$.23 portion funded general government, which included planning programs.

Gregg Clemmons, Operations Engineer, Washington County, entered a letter dated March 10 to Chair Buchanan into the record. This document has been made part of the permanent meeting record. Mr. Clemmons and Delyn Kies, Solid Waste Manager, Washington County, indicated they opposed the system management fee, but indicated their support in working with Metro toward a long term solution.

Ken Leahy, operator of the Durham Pit, said although he supported the amendment which would abnegate dirt, concrete and asphalt from the fee, he believed the fee would discourage free market competition, and did not support the proposal overall.

Councilor McLain commented she appreciated the expression of support from Ms. Kies to work together with Metro on solutions.

Velma Zeek, 7060 S.W. Beveland Rd, Tigard, and owner of a trucking firm, testified before the Committee, and said she was concerned for contractors impacted who had already let bids.

In response to Councilor Moore, Ms. Zeek said if it was up to her, she would say put the fee on her garbage can, and said if she didn't like it there she would recycle more. She felt all citizens could recycle more and should.

Marvin Schneider, 1159 Main, Newberg, testified before the Committee, and read his testimony into the record. This document has been made part of the permanent meeting record. He indicated he was a hauler and a dedicated recycler, and felt the proposed fee would hinder recycling efforts.

Councilor Moore asked whether Mr. Schneider would agree with Ms. Zeek that Metro should do everything possible to hold costs, but should they rise that the fee should go on the garbage can in order to further encourage recycling at the source, rather than transfer part of the cost to the recycling processors. In response to Councilor Moore, Mr. Schneider said when garbage rates increase more people are willing to recycle. He noted New York's disposal fees were at \$200 per ton and said their recycling program was not working well due to negative markets. He said markets here in Oregon were still positive. In response to Councilor Moore, Mr. Schneider agreed it was not timely to impose such a fee, if ever.

Jay Bredl, Bredl Saw Service, testified before the Committee, and said his two and one half year old operation was small and was beginning now to break even. He said his business was volume driven and did not support the proposed system management fee. He said the pressure would cause his business to suffer, and asked that Metro look internally for potential savings.

In response to Councilor Moore, Mr. Bredl said if the fee were placed on his customers, the material could end up out of state, at other processors, or at a landfill. He said his experience was that in the waste disposal industry multi-billion dollar business was more concerned with image than savings in the area of recycling operations.

Lexus Johnson, Oregon Hydrocarbon, Inc., testified before the Committee, and said his company had about \$5 million invested in plant to treat petroleum contaminated soils (PCS), and said the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Metro had been encouraging about providing such a facility. He said the expense would be approximately \$.12 can at the curb, and said his company would be in negative

competition with the landfills. He said when user fees went to \$19, PCS processing became more competitive and an increase to the earnings to investment ratio was being realized. He said the ability to compete positively with the landfill had only been realized in the past couple of months. He said processors had been reassured by Staff at a Thursday meeting prior to the previous public meeting that soils coming into the Metro region from outside the region (30% of his business) would be exempt from this fee. He said he did not see that in his reading of the proposed ordinance. He said the attorney gave assurances at the Thursday meeting that such language would be in the document.

Mr. Martin said the disposal facility would also pay the \$3.50 fee.

Gene Lawhorn, Labor Coalition for Environmental Responsibility, said the proposed fee was a disincentive to recycling. Mr. Lawhorn said no facility existed to recycle drywall, and noted New York City had such a program. He felt a solution could be to charge more for construction dumpsters, which would make it hard for people to throw away drywall, etc.

Pamela Henker, H & H Wood Recyclers, Battleground, Washington, and also representing Washington State Recycling Association, testified before the Committee, and entered written testimony into the record. This document has been made part of the permanent meeting record. She said the association felt the extra fee on recyclables would represent a discouragement to recycling efforts in private industry.

Mark McGregor, 15073 S.W. 91st, Tigard, owner of a construction clean up company, said a fee \$3.50 per ton would divert waste out of the Metro system. He said another processor 20 minutes away from Grimm's would take materials at no fee. Mr. McGregor was opposed to the proposed fee.

Richard Matts, Yard Debris Exchange, read his testimony into the record. He said recycling levels would increase by raising dump fees.

Steve Jessup, Scotts Hyponex Corp., opposed the system management fee, and said it would discourage recycling.

Dennis Wade, owner of small recycling company manufacturing compost from food wastes, said his plant was currently losing money. He said it took time to get in to see the heads of the businesses from whom he could receive waste to compost, and permits had to be obtained for many areas of his business, such as county to county transport. He said he had to solicit businesses to buy special dumpsters in order for him to serve them. He said he had not yet achieved profitability, and he did not support the proposed fee.

Pete Griffin, Portland Sand & Gravel, supported Ordinance No. 93-485A as amended.

Loren Obrist, Obrist Excavating, opposed the proposed fee. He said he and his brother had the first concrete recycling plant on the west coast, and said he felt Metro should reduce wages to \$9 or \$10 per hour, rather than \$17 per hour. He said he could never pay such wages in his business. He commented that everything was over regulated, and said DEQ had more control than Metro, and said DEQ sent staff out to tell them how to operate that didn't know the facts. He was opposed to what he termed over control by the government. He said costs should be better controlled, and said Metro should redesign internally. He said an example was the St. Johns landfill, and proposed the dirt from building the tunnel project could cover the landfill with all the dirt needed. He said currently fees were being charged to dump the dirt, and fees were being charged to buy the dirt. He said it should be rolled over and put in our own landfill.

In response to Councilor Moore, Mr. Obrist said a number of contractors in Portland would haul dirt to the St. Johns landfill for free.

Patricia Vernon, DEQ, credited Mr. Martin and the Department for bringing the issue to the table. She felt there was agreement that solid waste revenues must come from other than just tip fees. She said recycling was fragile, and said the opportunity to recycle warranted further risk analysis and economic analysis to provide data for examination. She said it had been heard there was a desire, willingness and commitment to help Metro to come to a solution. She entered a letter from the Oregon DEQ dated March 16, 1993 to Chair Roger Buchanan from her supervisor, Stephanie Hallock, into the record.

Mr. Rod Grimm, Grimm's Fuel, said introduction of the proposed fee into the system would result in a 20% to 30% reduction in volume. He said DEQ and Metro encouraged processors such as his company to provide facilities to handle yard debris waste, and that the yard debris processing business grew out of a need to improve air quality, not reduce garbage disposal. Mr. Grimm said DEQ wanted to ban back yard burning, but, he said, the state of Oregon said the ban could not be put in place until alternative methods of handling yard debris waste were in place. Mr. Grimm said his division had been losing money and had been subsidized by other divisions of his company, and said whereas he used to make money, used to have a positive cash flow. He said Metro needed to examine internal costs, and said he looked forward reestablishing a rapport with Metro that he once had. He said he liked to quote, "Like the tree says, 'I am not garbage, I was meant to lie down with those brothers before me, so that I may be the strength of the seeds that I have sown.'"

Estl Harlan, Tri-County Consultants, and member of AOR, noted twenty witnesses had appeared thus far. She said the haulers she represented serviced over 340,000 households in the region. Ms. Harlan said the garbage bill paid for all recycling including Metro's waste reduction

program, as well as Metro's disposal fee for landfill operations. She said customers were not made aware of how their one garbage bill was broken down between the can and recycling. Ms. Harlan said customers wanted their bills kept down. She referenced a sketch of figures showing a \$2 disposal fee increase would produce a \$.13 per can increase per month per customer, whereas a \$3.50 system management fee would impact as related to a yard debris can out once a month would increase the customer \$.05 per can per customer per month. Ms. Harlan said either way the haulers paid whether it was on disposal or processors. She said it was expected processors would pass their costs onto the haulers, and said the impact on their customers was important to the haulers.

Neil Holden, 7907 42nd St. W., Tacoma, Washington, Washington Organic Recycling Council (WORC), testified and distributed a letter to the Committee. This document has been made part of the permanent meeting record. He said the organization represented a group of 90 private and public entities had joined together to promote composting and wood waste processing and the markets of these new products. He said WORC was opposed to the proposed fee. Mr. Holden said WORC felt the fee would cause citizens to consider whether the trouble involved in source separating would be worth the bother. He suggested it could lead to more illegal dumping, illegal burning, and would place Metro in an adversarial role relation to the recycling public and affected companies. Mr. Holden pointed out additional staff would be required to administer the fee, and he felt inefficiencies would result. Mr. Holden said WORC's recommendation was to continue to seek the revenue from the waste stream headed for the land fill as the system was already in place to do so. He said as a garbage hauler himself operating a curbside collection program, he did not like to increase costs but he felt \$.13 was not a lot to ask if the result promoted recycling. He said in his area, Pierce County, a \$1 per can per month fee was placed as a rate incentive to those who did not recycle so that the non-recycler paid more dollars than those who did. He said the result was that 85% of the customers were recycling customers, and said that revenue helped offset those who did recycle. He said he understood the intergovernmental barriers here to such a possibility, but he recommended, if those barriers could be overcome, that a similar program be implemented here. Mr. Holden referenced a letter from the Department of Trade and Economic Development in the State of Washington. He pointed out the letter stated Washington companies would be benefitted by the proposed Metro "tax."

Councilor McLain said she was not ready to support the ordinance, and she recommended the ordinance go back to the Rate Review committee.

Councilor McFarland said she would not move or vote on the ordinance, and indicated in her estimation the ordinance could die in Committee.

She said the question was whether or not an increase in the tipping fee was the answer, and felt another discussion was in order.

Councilor Wyers said the proposed ordinance would prove to be a disincentive to recycling, would penalize new and existing recycling businesses, would cause waste to be diverted from the system, and said she would not vote for it. She said matter should go to the Budget Committee for discussion. Councilor Wyers indicated she would not support an increase in tipping fees. She said the reserve of \$4.2 million was available to draw down on, and noted no decision was made yet on the Washington County transfer station. Councilor Wyers felt it was imprudent to add a system management fee or \$2 to the tipping fee at this time.

Councilor Washington said he would not vote in favor of the proposed ordinance. He commented the Metro Council was a responsible Council that listened to what the citizens had to say, and was dedicated to supporting the best interests of the citizens in the region.

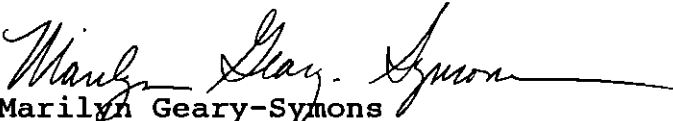
Councilor McLain said the issue of buying down on Metro's reserve as well as whether or not to raise the tipping fee above \$75 per ton at this time would require much discussion.

Councilor Wyers said she was not referring to the contingency fund, and said she wanted Metro to give the right message while other governments were cutting budgets.

Councilor McLain felt Metro understood it was important at all times to be cognizant concerning possible cost reductions, and said the issue of service and how much service was wanted impacted costs as well.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Marilyn Geary-Symons
Committee Recorder