

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE
OF THE METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

April 6, 1988

Council Chamber

Committee Members Present:

Gary Hansen (Chair),
Sharron Kelley (V. Chair),
Tom DeJardin, Jim Gardner,
Corky Kirkpatrick, George
Van Bergen

Committee Members Absent:

Larry Cooper

Chair Hansen called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

1. Review of the FY 1988-89 Solid Waste Budget Request

Mr. Rich Owings, Director of Solid Waste, highlighted the organization of the Solid Waste Department as proposed in the budget. Mr. Owings said the original seven programs had been reduced to four programs. Mr. Owings highlighted the proposed projects and indicated staff would propose a "ramping of rates." The proposed budget would result in a rate of \$30 per ton. Staff recommended a three-step increase to \$57 per ton and proposed \$7.3 million be allocated for the closure of the St. Johns landfill.

Mr. Owings said staff could not estimate exactly what closure costs would be for the St. Johns landfill. He said a work program had been planned to finalize closure costs. He said the current rate per ton for waste disposal was \$19.90 at the Clackamas Transfer and Recycling Center (CTRC) and \$16.90 per ton at the St. Johns landfill.

Chair Hansen said he would like the Council Solid Waste Committee to meet with the Rate Review Committee to discuss rate policies. Chair Hansen said the important issues were the St. Johns landfill closure fund and what to do with the remaining principle, if any.

Councilor Kelley asked, in reference to the rate increase of 1986, if that increase had been for actual increases, or to levelize costs when Metro built a new landfill.

Councilor Kirkpatrick asked what percentage of the budget was contractual compared to last year's fiscal budget and what percentage, applied in the same context, was for personnel.

Mr. Owings said the St. Johns Rehabilitation Enhancement fund was growing. He said it tended to distort the Solid Waste budget as a whole. Mr. Owings said \$40,000 was to be spent in the coming year on projects. Mr. Owings proposed an expenditure of \$23,000 for a project management system.

Councilor Kirkpatrick liked the concept of the Personnel Exchange Program, but said the length of time required was not ideal. She asked if any conflict of interest would result as a result of the program. She noted Chair Hansen worked with companies Metro might do business with.

Mr. Owings said the Killingsworth Landfill (special purpose) would close at the end of 1988 which would divert more waste to the St. Johns landfill. He said the Solid Waste budget had provisions included for that contingency which he considered a conservative approach to such a possibility.

The Committee asked Mr. Owings why budget and finance functions were under the heading of Operations. Mr. Owings said staff operated with franchises and contracts. He said knowledge of rate setting and franchising were needed. Mr. Owings said financial and related skills were in the same functional area.

Mr. Owings then briefly reviewed the six franchises. He said the 1.5 FTE positions would administer those franchises. Chair Hansen suggested that the Accounting Department do an audit of the franchises.

Mr. Owings proposed 1 FTE position for RFP/RFB Development. Councilors discussed the need for the project and if it should be staffed by an employee or by contract.

Mr. Owings discussed System Planning and Engineering. He said such a project would involve investigation and review of closure plans for the St. Johns landfill. He discussed Solid Waste Management Planning and Development. Mr. Owings said Metro might be at risk for costs due to new legislative rules.

Councilors discussed policy issues and the use of consultants versus in-house staff throughout the budget process. The Committee had not yet determined policy.

Mr. Owings said the Solid Waste Management Plan Facilities Chapter needed to be done to cover mass composting and other facilities. He said a 1.5 FTE position was allocated under disposal system development.

Councilors discussed the St. Johns closure and the need to investigate the impact of the landfill on ground and surface water. Councilor Kirkpatrick suggested hiring a consultant because there would be only one landfill to close and staff would not be needed for similar work on a long-term basis.

COUNCIL SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE
April 6, 1988
Page 3

Mr. Owings said contractual services for the St. Johns closure were partially included in the current budget and also in the proposed budget for 1988-89. Councilors asked what the contractual services total was in last year's budget.

Councilor Kirkpatrick recommended a fixed Metro standard for travel and conferences. She suggested the Budget Committee review those proposed expenditures.

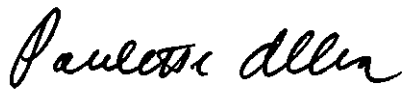
After discussion on alternative technology, the Committee asked staff what contracts should be in the capital fund.

Mr. Owings discussed Hazardous Waste Reduction. He said two regional hazardous waste round-ups would be scheduled. He said solid waste collection fees would pay for the program. Chair Hansen recommended the Solid Waste Committee analyze long-term funding mechanisms for the future. Councilor DeJardin said the hazardous waste round-up would be a "winner," and Metro would reap benefits from it.

Mr. Owings described the Waste Reduction Marketing program. The Committee and staff discussed whether Metro should help industry to market compost. Also discussed was the Innovative Technologies Grant. One percent of the budget has been allocated to waste reduction.

The Committee concluded the meeting by discussing agenda items for the next scheduled meeting. All business on the agenda having been attended to, Chair Hansen adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Paulette Allen, Clerk
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