

**APPROVED**  
**Date** 7-6-93

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

April 20, 1993  
Metro Center  
Council Chamber

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

Committee Members Absent: none

Other Councilors Present: Jim Gardner, Jon Kvistad, George Van Bergen

Chair Buchanan called the regular meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

1. Solid Waste Updates - General Staff Reports, Waste Reduction Program Activities

Sam Chandler, Solid Waste Facilities Manager, presented a report on the April 17, 1993 clean-up event in Forest Grove. He noted Sunday, April 25, 1993, the event will be continued in Gresham.

Bob Martin, Solid Waste Director, distributed and summarized his April 15, 1993 memorandum to Rena Cusma, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. He discussed concerns regarding proposed budget cuts to the Solid Waste Department.

Chair Buchanan read into the record a memorandum from John Houser, Council Analyst dated April 20, 1993, related to an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Motion: Councilor Wyers moved the budget note contained in the memorandum.

Councilor McLain noted she would support the motion provided it would not prohibit the program from moving forward.

Councilor McFarland noted she was absent for the previous discussion of the item. She said she was opposed to using gun bearing officers to police waste disposal. She expressed a desire to continue those measure that were effective in the past.

Councilor McLain requested full discussion at the Budget Committee hearing related to the issue.

Vote: Councilors Wyers, McLain and Buchanan voted aye. Councilor McFarland voted nay. Councilor Washington was absent. The vote was 3/1 and the motion passed.

2. Informational Presentation by Representatives of Sanifill, Inc., Relating to the Riverbend Landfill

Bob Emerick, former Riverbend Landfill owner, presented a brief history of the operations at Riverbend Landfill.

Bruce McIntosh, Sanifill Northwest District Manager, introduced himself as an environmentalist. He noted he managed three landfills in Oregon. He stated Metro was the single largest customer at all three sites. He presented a slide show of the landfill and surrounding area. He discussed the landfill operations. He noted the landfill was using three layers on new cells and poplar trees were planted to use the leachate.

In response to a question from Councilor McLain, Duane Woods, Counsel for Heller, Ehrman Attorneys at Law, discussed closure funding for the facility. He also spoke to a trust for self-insurance at the facility.

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Councilor Wyers asked if Metro would be responsible for any closure costs. Mr. Woods said Metro would not be responsible for any closure costs.

Councilor McFarland noted the landfill was sited twenty (20) years ago. She said the existing cells did not include three layers of liner. She expressed concerns with the landfill's vicinity to the South Yamhill River. She said she had a problem with continuing business based on proposed plans for changes.

Gil DePuy, 13780 SW Masonville Road, McMinnville, appeared to testify. He testified in opposition to the landfill operation. He stated the landfill did not appear the same on days of tours and photograph sessions. He expressed concerns about Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) statements in relation to the landfill. He noted a recent DEQ hearing had over 300 citizens appearing to testify in opposition. He noted the contamination area was located one year ago and was now worsening. He said DEQ had no means to clean up a contaminated water source. He expressed concerns for the environment. He stated Metro would be responsible to clean up the landfill according to DEQ.

Councilor McLain noted a change in tonnage had not occurred since 1978. She said no change in the acreage had been made. Mr. DePuy said the landfill was established to accept Yamhill County waste only. Mr. Emrick noted the early projection was to receive Yamhill County waste. He said industrial waste was included in the original projections. He noted two major industrial customers discontinued disposing waste at the facility.

Councilor Wyers noted item five on the agenda discussed fiber based fuel. She stated she opposed the item. She asked if any Newberg residents were concerned about the matter that they contact either herself or John Houser, Council Analyst.

3. Resolution No. 93-1764, 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

Items three and four were discussed concurrently.

4. Resolution No. 93-1765, 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

Terry Petersen, Planning and Technical Services Manager, noted an alternative proposal to both resolutions was to conduct the work in-house. He summarized a staff report, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. He explained the cost of the project would be approximately \$143,202 and would require an amendment to the current budget and an adjustment to the FY 1993-94 Budget prior to adoption.

Councilors McFarland, Washington, and Wyers praised staff for their innovation in determining an alternative to the contract.

Councilor McLain asked for clarification regarding where staff was found for the project. Mr. Petersen noted the proposal included hiring temporary FTE.

5. Establishing Metro Council Support for the Executive Officer to Execute Change Order No. 11 that Allows Trans Industries to Install a Fiber Based Fuel Processing Line

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Mr. Martin noted the staff report had been presented at previous meetings and testimony had been heard. He noted the resolution would create an "avoided cost" payment. He expressed concerns about the rates. He said Metro was the only entity able to ensure the quality of fuel from waste products.

Councilor Wyers asked for clarification about the pelletizer operations and who else was performing the function. Mr. Martin stated there was a demand for pellet fuel. He said Metro could produce a better quality pellet that was more environmentally sound. He said if access to pellets was not available, recycle producers might lose more materials for use as fuel. He said it would affect recovery goals and revenue.

Councilor Wyers asked about paper that was unable to be recycled. She stated if \$1.6 million were put into recycling promotion more of the paper might be recovered. Mr. Martin said 40% of material going to landfills was paper. He noted the paper was contaminated and could not be recovered. Mr. Martin and Councilor Wyers discussed reductions in the Waste Reduction Budget. Mr. Martin advocated the proposal as a "no-risk" situation.

Councilor McLain noted Metro was not assuming a financial responsibility. She stated she was convinced the project would provide a needed product. She said the pelletizer would recover material that would otherwise not be recycled.

Chair Buchanan noted Rick Breuner, Smurfit Newsprint representative, was present to answer questions.

Chair Buchanan opened the public hearing.

Mr. Houser noted Lauri Aunan, OSPIRG, provided written testimony, a copy of which is provided in the record of this meeting.

Jeanne Roy, Recycling Advocates, appeared to testify. She spoke to the State established hierarchy for waste materials. She discussed providing systems for recycling to meet the goals of Senate Bill 66. She said a system to reward recyclers should be established. She noted if \$1.6 million were spent to burn materials, incentive would be reduced to provide alternate methods. She advocated recycling and composting. She favored establishing a hierarchy for the "avoided cost" payments based on the state hierarchy.

Louise Zeringue, 411 S. Blaine, Newberg, appeared to testify. She stated little public input was encouraged or received by the Newberg community. She expressed concerns about toxic emissions created by the burning of the pellets.

Councilor McLain asked Ms. Zeringue how she learned about the resolution. She said she heard about the item through friends in the Portland area.

Austin Collins, 3125 NE Schuyler St., Portland, appeared to testify. He discussed wood fiber toxins. He suggested an amendment to sunset the project to allow an opportunity for review of the success of the project.

Mr. Bruener and Rod Small, Corporate Manager of Environmental Services at Smurfit Industries testified before the Committee. Mr. Small discussed genetically engineered organisms used to reduce waste substances. He noted Smurfit was committed to recycling paper. He stated sludge by-product material from the paper processing was currently burned at their facility.

Chair Buchanan closed the public hearing.

The Committee discussed the potential votes to forward the resolution to the Council. It was determined that there were not enough votes to forward the resolution with a recommendation.

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Motion: Councilor McLain moved to forward the resolution to full Council without recommendation.

Councilor Washington stated he favored Council discussion of the resolution.

Councilor McFarland stated she was currently opposed to the resolution.

Councilor McLain restated her position.

Councilor Wyers noted she would schedule the item for the May 13, 1993 Council meeting.

Vote: Councilors McLain, Washington and Buchanan voted aye. Councilors Wyers and McFarland voted nay. The vote was 3/2 and the motion passed.

With no further business before the Committee, Chair Buchanan adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Lee  
Committee Recorder

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