

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

November 1, 1994

Council Chamber

Committee Members Present Ruth McFarland (Chair), Roger Buchanan (Vice Chair), Sandi Hansen, Susan McLain, Rod Monroe, Judy Wyers

Chair McFarland called the regular meeting of the Metro Council Solid Waste Committee to order at 4 00 p m

1. Consideration of October 18, 1994 Solid Waste Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion. Councilor Hansen moved to approve the October 18, 1994 Solid Waste Committee meeting minutes as submitted

Vote. Councilors Buchanan, Hansen and McFarland voted aye Councilors McLain, Monroe and Wyers were absent.

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed

2. Solid Waste Updates

- General Staff Reports
- Waste Reduction Program Activities

Debbie Gorham, Waste Reduction Manager, introduced Ed Armstrong, representing Cascade Education Corps, the School-to-Work-Options Director for Forest Grove High School. She said Mr. Armstrong supervised this school program involving youth who cared for Metro's four home compost demonstration sites. She said a reception was held recently for the volunteers in the program at which Mr. Armstrong spoke about the involvement of these youth.

Mr. Armstrong noted he presented the program at a Work Now and in the Future Conference held at the Red Lion, Jantzen Beach, and indicated Metro was represented in the presentation. He noted the program started five years ago, and commended Metro as a good partner. He said the youth involved were youth at risk of not finishing high school, and said he felt through this program Metro had helped students complete high school. Mr. Armstrong went on to describe the program, which included a variety of conservation projects and other contracts. Mr. Armstrong said the program served students ranging in age from 16 to 24 years of age from other areas as well as Forest Grove. Mr. Armstrong said his duties with the program had undergone some change and he acknowledged the current program director who was present, Tim Greseth, and a Forest Grove student involved in the program who was also present, Chris Hedger. Mr. Armstrong noted that Chris was a high school student crew leader for a middle school program that had been instituted for middle school students as a joint partnership model between Forest Grove and Hillsboro.

Bob Martin, Director of the Solid Waste Department, noted the project had benefited from the enhancement fee from Forest Grove solid waste fees.

3. Committee Review of Proposed Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) With the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office

Sam Chandler, Solid Waste Facilities Manager, said the Division was interested in entering into an IGA with the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, and introduced Steve Kraten, Senior Solid Waste Planner.

Mr. Kraten said through the contract with the Sheriff's department, a corrections crew was dispatched throughout the region cleaning up illegal dumpsites, followed by referral to the enforcement unit for further investigation as necessary. He said one crew was however not enough to cover the entire region, and discussed an offer from the Sheriff's Department to cover the cost of an additional van and trailer set up if Metro would cover the cost of an additional corrections officer and the \$1 per day paid to the inmates involved, thus providing two full corrections crews to the region.

In response to Councilor McLain, Mr. Kraten said he would make a list of projects covered to date by the corrections crew available to the Committee.

Chair McFarland opened a public hearing.

Jack McGowan, Executive Director, SOLV, addressed the Committee in support of the proposal to add a second corrections crew to the illegal dumpsite cleanup program. He said that with the most recent SOLV-IT event, the 2 million pound mark of illegally dumped solid waste picked up on one Saturday every year for the last five years, was exceeded. He said the historic sites were cleaned up for the most part and the stewardship provided in continuous cleaning up the smaller sites was now needed. He said a program was underway utilizing curriculum packets for the schools to educate the youth regarding illegal dumping and said those packets were being sent out at the end of this month. He referred to an editorial in the Oregonian in an April issue which commended Metro for its involvement in SOLV.

David Adams, 5330 N. Columbia Ct., Portland, testified before the Committee, and explained his efforts to clean up an illegal dump site he had inherited in the purchase of some land, and said he had expended between \$1,200 and \$1,400 to clean up the land, which he noted included 180 tires he transported to the transfer station and for which he paid the appropriate fees. He said as soon as he would get the land cleaned up to prepare to build a shop, it would be dumped on again. He praised the Sheriff's department for their assistance and professionalism, and said prison crews had been brought out on three separate occasions to work on the problem. Mr. Adams said once a set of bed springs or tires were dumped others would shortly follow, and he said that the immediacy of the response provided by the Sheriff's department crews proved to be a deterrent to future subsequent dumpings. He advocated that participating on corrections crews should be mandatory as an educational tool. He said before the involvement of the Sheriff's department in clean up it was futile to attempt to get help from the police department.

Joe Johns, PO Box 82036, Portland, addressed the Committee, and expressed support for the extra clean up crew. He discussed his frustration over an attempt to dump asbestos at a Metro transfer station, and said he felt Metro had an obligation to notify the public more thoroughly regarding the rules for dumping special waste, and said he felt there needed to be one central location to take all hazardous waste so that citizens did not get shuttled around. He said the signage at the Metro Center transfer station indicating hazardous waste had led him to believe he would be able to dump the asbestos he had there. He presented materials that had been sent to him delineating portions of the Metro Code, and indicated he felt the Code was not specific in its definitions of special or unacceptable waste or regarding the necessity to obtain a special waste permit. He asked Metro to create a central station for all hazardous waste.

In response to Chair McFarland, Bob Martin, Director of the Solid Waste Department, addressed the Committee, and explained brochures have been printed and distributed to help educate the public regarding acceptable and unacceptable waste for receipt at the transfer stations, although, he said, he understood Mr. Johns' frustration. He added that although he felt there was always room for improvement, only two such incidents had occurred in a four year period. Mr. Martin said the facility was set up to take household hazardous waste (H2W) rather than registered hazardous waste.

Councilor McLain suggested that since a review was slated to take place in December regarding the regional availability of H2W disposal, the issues addressed by Mr. Johns could be dealt with at that time.

Councilor Hansen commented she understood Mr Johns was interested in pursuing the legalities involved, and noted Mr Johns had received a document containing legal language.

In response to Councilor Wyers, Mr Chandler said there was signage containing universal symbols at the transfer station such as a gas can with a slash through it He said to post everything not receivable at the H2W facility, it would take five pages of single spaced material He explained Metro Staff had been trained to identify materials such as asbestos, and said the customer had the option of picking up the material after it had been inappropriately disposed of or they can leave it and be presented with a bill for the additional cost of removal of an unacceptable material He said those options were made clear in the information provided to H2W customers He said had Mr Johns indicated he was attempting to dump asbestos at the beginning of his visit, the situation would have been addressed earlier on Mr Chandler said other signage was a possibility and felt it would be beneficial to look further into that aspect

Mr Johns advocated further for a central hazardous waste facility where everything could be received, where the permits could be Metro's responsibility and the citizenry would be served

Chair McFarland assured Mr Johns that the Division would be looking at the situation further for ways to improve the effectiveness of the system

Mr Johns advocated for better IGA's in order to better serve the needs of the people Chair McFarland acknowledged Mr Johns concerns and suggested that he sit down with the Division staff to discuss his ideas further

4. Update Report From the Evaluation Committee Concerning Local Government Commercial Recycling Plan

Chair McFarland indicated she had received a phone call from Jeanne Roy, Recycling Advocates, who reminded the Committee there were five items mentioned at the October 18, 1994 Solid Waste Committee meeting having the purpose of meeting the four criteria of the comprehensive commercial recycling plan

John Houser, Council Analyst and member of the Evaluation Committee, presented the staff report. He said he and Jennifer Ness, Associate Solid Waste Planner and member of the Evaluation Committee, met with local government representatives on October 26, 1994 and began a dialogue designed to examine the development and exchange of information between Metro and the local governments in order to give both groups an opportunity to better assess how the commercial recycling programs were actually working He said it was clear that different local jurisdictions handled commercial solid waste differently, and that it was difficult to create omnibus language that would fit all the jurisdictions He said agreement was reached to develop the information to the fullest extent possible He said another meeting was planned for this week in order to achieve a better understanding their commercial recycling programs and the nature of the kinds of information on hand or that could be gathered that would be valuable in assessing those programs

In response to Chair McFarland, Mr Houser said the Evaluation Committee was prepared to release the Challenge Grant funds subject to the ability to produce the appropriate language in each individual intergovernmental agreements He said that he and Ms Ness intended to visit with the local jurisdictions for further discussions

Debbie Gorham, Waste Reduction Manager, referenced the minutes of the previous Solid Waste Committee meeting in which the five items were listed [Recorder note October 18, 1994 Solid Waste Committee meeting minutes, page 4, paragraph 3.]

Ms Ness said that in a meeting with the City of Milwaukie today it was concluded that one communication problems was making too many assumptions about what each other knew about what went on in each jurisdiction

In response to Councilor Wyers, Mr. Houser said IGA's would need to be undergo individual review by the evaluation committee. He added they would be filed with the Council Office and would be subject to review by the Council. Councilor Wyers requested these agreements come before the Council for review. She added that the five suggestions as previously outlined should be included in these agreements so as to articulate more specifically the message. Mr. Houser indicated the attempt would be to tailor the information requested in the five suggestions to the individual local jurisdiction's regulatory system in each IGA. Councilor Wyers said a question to examine was whether or not Metro was in compliance with the DEQ.

Ms. Gorham discussed how the funding was typically administered during the past four years, noting that following the review committee's work and the IGA, funds were released about this time of the year for the upcoming year's plans. Ms. Gorham said that scenario had proved successful in the past, noting funds were not typically withheld until performance was completed, but rather were given to facilitate that performance. Councilor Wyers felt the agreements would be more binding if the five suggestions were specifically included in them.

Chair McFarland closed saying a message to indicate funding would be more performance-oriented in the future might be beneficial, and noted she anticipated another report was forthcoming from the evaluation committee.

5. Resolution No. 94-1976. For the Purpose of Authorizing An Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with Portland State University (Contract #903466)

Dennis O'Neil, Senior Solid Waste Planner, presented the staff report, and said the proposed resolution, if adopted, would grant an exemption from the competitive procurement process and would authorize execution of an amendment to the intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with Portland State University for groundwater modeling in the St. Johns Landfill region. Mr. O'Neil outlined several aspects of the model and noted the DEQ had required that Metro submit a seepage control plan for the landfill by May 1995.

Joanna Karl, Senior Engineering Planner, gave a slide presentation to the Committee which contained information regarding the groundwater seepage flux, groundwater flow and the chloride plume cross-section near St. Johns Landfill. The slides demonstrated information from 1950 and projected to the year 2020, and it was noted that after 6-8 years there was almost no groundwater seepage from the landfill following a significant decrease in the 1990's when final cover was added. The slides showed there was a groundwater divide in the landfill and explained why contaminants moved straight down. They also showed the top of the chloride plume was dropping, spreading and thinning, decreasing concentration over time, although certain unknowns regarding its movement existed.

She said approval of the proposed resolution would give opportunity to refine the model and enable greater sensitivity to the results.

Motion Councilor McLain moved to recommend Resolution No. 94-1976 to the full Council for adoption.

Vote. Councilors Hansen, McLain, Monroe, Wyers and McFarland voted aye. Councilor Buchanan was absent.

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

6. Resolution No. 94-2042. For the Purpose of Authorizing a Competitive Bid Exemption Pursuant to Metro Code Chapter 2.04.041(C) and Execution of a Sole-Source Contract With Nancy Own-Myers For Development of an Integrated Pest Management Program For Metro Solid Waste Facilities

Mr. Chandler presented the staff report, and said the proposed resolution would authorize execution of a sole-source personal services agreement with Nancy Owen-Myers to implement an pest management program for the

Metro solid waste facilities He explained that Metro had been involved in education programs for alternatives to the use of hazardous products in the past, and noted Ms Owen-Myers' masters degree was specific to such a program

Councilor Hansen and Ms Owen-Myers discussed a recent problem with ivy at the Regional Center and its subsequent disposal Councilor Hansen noted golf courses had not been included at this time Mr Chandler said it was hoped that such inclusion could occur in the future Ms Owen-Myers noted a specific piece of turf at the Zoo was being maintained strictly organically, and suggested the information could be utilized as a model to be extended in an expanded manner to other turf at other Metro facilities The Committee and Staff discussed possible ways and means of proceeding to do so

The Committee and Staff discussed the budget impacts

Councilor Hansen suggested the possibility of using grass similar to that used at Blue Lake

Motion Councilor Hansen moved to recommend Resolution No 94-2042 to the full Council for adoption

Mr. Houser and Mr Chandler discussed the process used to discover qualified persons for the performance of the functions of the planned program

Vote Councilors Hansen, McLain, Monroe, Wyers and McFarland voted aye Councilor Buchanan was absent

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed

7. Councilor Communications

Councilor Wyers indicated she was pleased with the manual numbering of the agenda pages as suggested in the last Governmental Affairs Committee meeting by Jack Polans, citizen, and said she found it useful

Councilor Wyers expressed her concern regarding Metro's state of complicity with the DEQ regulations pertinent to commercial waste reduction She said she had discussed the matter with Jeanne Roy, Recycling Advocates, Chair McFarland, as well as Metro Staff, Messrs. Houser and Sadlo and had requested a legal memorandum addressing the matter be drafted by Mr Sadlo for review

Mr Martin noted Metro was in compliance, and felt such a memorandum would be possible

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6 00 p m

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn E Geary-Symons
Committee Recorder