

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

December 3, 1991

Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Judy Wyers (Chair), Ruth McFarland (Vice
Chair), Tom DeJardin

Committee Members Absent: Jim Gardner, Susan McLain

Councilors Also Present: Roger Buchanan

Chair Wyers called the regular meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

1. Solid Waste Updates

o General Staff Reports

Bob Martin, Director of Solid Waste Department, presented the staff report. He said proposals were solicited for utilization of landfill gas at St. Johns Landfill noting four proposals had been received and evaluated. He said the evaluation had narrowed the field down to two proposals, and said those two would be further evaluated until one was selected for negotiations noting the goal for selection was the end of the year. He hoped negotiations would be completed and a proposer could be brought before the Committee and the Council in April, 1992. He named the two proposers being further evaluated as Energy Tactics, which he said would be an electrical producer, and Bio-Gas Industries, which would transmit the gas directly to end users.

In response to Chair Wyers, Mr. Martin said Metro was committed to the capital expense of installation of gas lines and the flare system, although, he said, some of the proposals would cover that expense. Mr. Martin said the estimated capital expenditure was approximately \$2.5 to \$3 million. He indicated the two systems proposed were in use in other areas in the country.

Mr. Martin said an informational briefing was planned for December 17 regarding the two proposals submitted to the Solid Waste Department for the Washington County transfer station. He said the evaluation committee was processing their evaluation of the two proposals with the goal of bringing a recommendation to the Committee and the Council in early January, 1992. In response to Chair Wyers, John Houser, Council Analyst, said he had copies of the two proposals and was attending the selection committee meetings.

Mr. Martin discussed Solid Waste permit fees, and noted he had participated on a state review committee to review the permit fee structure for solid waste facilities. He said a recommendation was

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being submitted to the solid waste committee, and then to the EQC for final regulatory action. He characterized the recommendation as moderately fair, but, he said it put a higher burden on larger facilities which have compliance problems not experienced at the smaller facilities. He said final action on the item was subsequent to Metro final FY1991-92 budget action. He said the permit fee was increasing from \$60,000 in the current fiscal year to approximately \$150,000. He said he would bring the fee structure recommendations to the Committee when they were available. The Committee and staff discussed the potential for illegal dumping related to fee structures.

Mr. Martin discussed the last single day Household Hazardous Waste event held, and said the cost to Metro was \$420,000. He said the single day events would be replaced by the permanent facility at Metro South, which he noted was 95% complete and would go into operation in late January or early February, 1992. He said although the expenditure for the facility had been high, he felt it was well spent in terms of risk management.

Mr. Martin discussed the Riedel Compost facility, which he said was operating at design level, although, he said odor problems were ongoing. He said the company had submitted a plan for capping the facility and collecting the gas prior to discharge to the air. He said DEQ was reviewing the plan, and agreed to forego civil penalties although the December 1, 1991 deadline in the DEQ stipulated order had passed.

Mr. Martin said the parent company, Riedel International, had announced intent to file bankruptcy. He said Metro's relationship was with Riedel Environmental Technology, which he noted was a separate corporate entity.

In response to Councilor Buchanan, Mr. Martin said the financial problems of the composter facility had not been resolved. He said Riedel continued to work on the process and plans to cover the breezeways, construct walls and doors to capture the air and install a collection system to remove the air into an exchange system with incoming air and subsequently processing all the air through a treatment scheme which could involve scrubbers and biofilters. He said a biofilter was a filter which would biologically trap and treat the air with biological media. Mr. Martin said cost estimates were in variable range of approximately \$2 to \$3 million.

In response to Councilor Buchanan, Mr. Martin said Metro's current role was that of observation. He said DEQ had the regulatory responsibility to determine whether or not the plan Riedel submitted was acceptable.

Chair Wyers opened a public hearing.

Charles Bird, Riedel Waste Disposal Systems, testified before the Committee, and said he agreed with most of what Mr. Martin had said. He

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clarified there was distance in the connection between the company he represented and Riedel International, and said his company would not be directly affected. He added the parent company of the operating entity at the compost facility, Riedel Environmental Technologies, was a publicly held company of which Riedel International was one of the stockholders, but, he said, there was no direct connection. He added the debts of Riedel International were not the responsibility of Riedel Waste Disposal Systems.

Mr. Martin indicated Metro Legal Counsel concurred with Mr. Bird's representation of the facts.

In response to Councilor Buchanan, Mr. Bird said the outcome of discussion with DEQ would determine details of the process cost, and agreed with the approximated figures expressed by Mr. Martin.

Waste Reduction Program Activities

Debbie Gorham, Waste Reduction Manager, presented the staff report and distributed a copy of "The Acquirer" to the Committee, a Metro newsletter produced as part of Metro's "Buy Recycled" waste reduction efforts and subtitled "Creating Demand for Recycled Products." She said the current issue, Fall 1991, was concerned with recycled oil and other recycled products news. This newsletter has been made a part of the permanent meeting record.

Ms. Gorham commented on the Waste Reduction staff's involvement with the Sears building renovation project and Metro Regional Facilities Department during demolition in keeping with development of the region wide emphasis to encourage residential and commercial salvage, recycling and recovery in construction and demolition projects. She said the Waste Reduction staff looked forward to a successful exchange of ideas and work effort. Chair Wyers, however, rejected Mr. Martin's suggestion for plastic lumber benches for the Council chamber in the new building.

Ms. Gorham said Associate Solid Waste Planner, Carrie Heaton, had attended the Western States Recycling Coalition meeting. She said Ms. Heaton reported a proposal had recently been made by David Dougherty of the state of Washington to the Commodities and Exchange Commission in Chicago to include recyclable materials on the commodities exchange. Ms. Heaton and Engineering and Analysis Manager James Watkins attended a meeting of EPA Pacific Northwest Policy Forum in which it was learned Canada had established a national packaging task force after determining 30% of their waste is packaging, and reported Canada has a 50% recycling goal.

Ms. Gorham said Clackamas County had reported on their recycling container program, and referenced Metro's assistance in the purchase of over 60,000 recycling containers in Clackamas County a year ago. She

said in January, 1990 approximately 23% participation was measured, and said as of September, 1991 participation had increased to 81% based on 65,000 households.

2. Presentation of Newspaper and Radio Spots Relating to Metro's Waste Reduction and Recycling Media Campaign

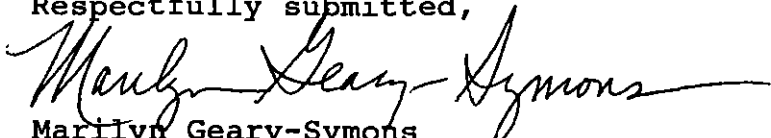
Vickie Rocker, Public Affairs Director, presented the staff report, and said the ad agency working with Metro had been working on the first campaign to promote the recycling of corrugated cardboard since it was showing up in the waste stream and is used by manufacturers of corrugated cardboard and kraft paper. Ms. Rocker played the radio spots and displayed the newspaper ads that had been developed for the campaign during the holiday season. She noted a campaign was under development for the upcoming recycle at the curb plan on the same day as garbage pick-up to go into effect after the beginning of the new year. In response to Chair Wyers, Ms. Rocker said the name of the ad agency was Marx, Knoll, DeNight and Dodge. Chair Wyers expressed interest in developing a campaign regarding illegal dumping. Ms. Rocker indicated she would be proposing budgeting for illegal dumping and household hazardous waste issues for the Public Affairs Department 1992-93 budget.

3. Supplemental Presentation of Five-Year Financial Plan Historical Information by the Solid Waste Department

Roosevelt Carter, Solid Waste Budget and Finance Manager, presented the staff report and distributed the Solid Waste Department Overview and Historical Findings, Phase I, Five Year Financial Planning document to the Committee. He briefly described the information presented and noted a breakdown of the activities of the Solid Waste Operating Account were represented as well as an overview of all of the accounts within the Solid Waste Department. This document has been made a part of the permanent meeting record.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Marilyn Geary-Symons
Committee Clerk