

MINUTES OF THE PLASTICS RECYCLING TASK FORCE  
OF THE METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

February 27, 1989

Room 145

**Task Force Members Present:** Corky Kirkpatrick, Bill Martin, Jerry Herrmann, Bruce Walker, Patrick A. Moffatt, Peggy Lovell, Russell Brownier, Dave Phillips, Dennis Denton Bruce Holser and Jeff Gage

**Others Present:** Jerry Ebeltoft, Allen Hurst, Ray Barker, Pat Vernon, Randall Drawer, Sara Vickerman and Robyn Salisbury

Chair Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order at 4:19 p.m.

Correction of Minutes of February 13, 1989

Chair Kirkpatrick said page 2 of the February 13, 1989, minutes did not include the Plastics Recycling Task Force discussion of Senate Bill 353. Two Plastics Recycling Task Force members, Gaylen Kiltow and Bruce Walker, attended the February 13, 1989, meeting but were not recorded as present at the meeting in the minutes record. The clerk noted the corrections and the record was corrected.

2. Report on Meeting with Metro Council's Legislative Task Force

Ray Barker, Council Analyst, said Estle Harlan, Bruce Holser, five Metro Councilors; Jim Gardner, Roger Buchanan, Tanya Collier, Mike Ragsdale and Judy Wyers; and Executive Officer Rena Cusma met February 24, 1989. He said the Metro Legislative Task Force supported SB 344. He said Metro approved of SB 352 philosophically, but determined information of a more technical nature was required. He said a public hearing would be held March 10 on SB 352 and the now-entitled HB 34-89 tax credit law. He said there was no copy yet available of the latter. Mr. Barker said the Legislative Task Force did not support SB 350, but said it would be considered during the public hearing.

Mr. Barker noted Jerry Herrmann was present and could report on the Oregon Resource Conservation Trust Fund. Mr. Barker noted non-legislative issues, such as one percent of the Solid Waste departmental budget allocated to recycling and educational programs, would be considered by the Council Solid Waste Committee as well as the 1% for Recycling Committee chaired by Councilor Wyers. He said Friday the group supported all Plastics Recycling Task Force efforts, but did have a problem related to the Trust Fund.

Sara Vickerman said the Oregon Resource Conservation Trust Fund would probably appear before Legislative Counsel within the next several days. She said there were numerous sponsors and support had been expressed. Mr. Herrmann discussed the Trust Fund and said some perceived it as a sales tax but he said it should be considered an excise tax. Mr. Herrmann spoke with Greg McMurdo, Metro Government Relations Manager, who told him the chances the Trust Fund would be established were slim and thought it might not be in Metro's best interest to support such a fund. Mr. Herrmann said he

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would discuss the issue further with Mr. McMurdo. Mr. Herrmann said he discussed funding of the Trust Fund with Ms. Harlan who thought the Trust Fund a worthy enterprise, but expressed reservations over large funding amounts involved.

Mr. Barker asked Mr. Holser to report on tax credit issues discussed at the Legislative Task Force meeting February 24. Mr. Holser said Section 3 of the Tax Credit Law contained a typographical error to which Councilor Ragsdale objected. Councilor Ragsdale said the error would need correction before the item could be considered again. Chair Kirkpatrick said the Plastics Recycling Task Force could achieve consensus at this meeting on SB 353 and then could let the Legislative Task Force know their endorsement. The group discussed SB 352. Mr. Herrmann presented amendment language for SB 353. He said degradation should be defined and that language must specify degradation within 120 days. Those present discussed hazards to wildlife.

Mr. Herrmann proposed amendment language to SB 352: holding device "is designed to fragmentize into elements non-threatening to wildlife through entanglement processes and is" composed of materials... at the end of the goal statement. He said use of any elements would be prohibited unless fragmentation occurred and also continued to degrade after fragmentation.

Those present discussed Mr. Herrmann's SB 352 amendment language. Dave Phillips said the definition of environment was vague. He said language should state "open environment," rather than "natural environment." Those present discussed the proper definition and agreed "open" was the appropriate definition. Ms. Vickerman said language should specify fresh or salt water for further clarification. She suggested current language could stand with the addition of a definition of natural environmental conditions. Chair Kirkpatrick said the Task Force supported SB 352 with Mr. Herrmann and Ms. Vickerman's clarifications to improve existing language.

Chair Kirkpatrick asked those present if there was support for SB 350. No one present affirmatively supported the bill. Chair Kirkpatrick said the Task Force would not make a recommendation on SB 350. Those present discussed the bill and agreed such legislation was premature. Those present discussed the possibility of such legislation attached to Oregon's bottle bill in the future and the cost of reclaiming plastic. Chair Kirkpatrick said she would report to the Metro Council the Task Force could not reach consensus on SB 350 as currently written.

### 3. Update on Oregon Resource Conservation Trust Fund

Chair Kirkpatrick asked Mr. Herrmann and Ms. Vickerman if they would brief the Legislative Task Force March 10 on Trust Fund and Task Force activities and provide a listing of Trust Fund sponsors also.

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November 28, 1988

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Phone</u>
John Drew	FAR WEST FIBERS	643-9944
FAT VERNON	Metro Staff	221-1646
BOB MARTIN	" "	" "
BILL MARTIN	WASHINGTON Co.	648-8661
JERRY HERMANN	E.L.C.	656-0155
Russell Brown	Environmental Pacific	635-3863
John Normandi	Molded Container Corp	233-8601
Todd Jones	Northwest Strategies	241-8383
Dave Phillips	Clackamas County DTD	655-8521
MERLE IRVINE	WASTECH INC.	285-5261
MICHAEL SIEVERS	OREGON WASTE SYSTEMS, INC.	281-2722
Peggy Lovell	Recycling Advocates	287-5251
BRUCE AUBER	DENTON PLASTICS	257-9945
JEFFREY WALTER	DENTON PLASTICS	257-9945
Ted Stanwood	Columbia County	257-7947/397-6281
Leola Stanwood	Columbia County Recycling	257-7947/397-6281

Mr. Walker said he discussed the Trust Fund with people who indicated support of the Trust Fund, but said the perception it would be funded by a sales tax could be damaging. Ms. Vickerman said she had never thought passage of legislation for the Trust Fund would be easily accomplished, but said the list of sponsors was broad. She said it would need bi-partisan support to introduce it. She said a letter from industry would be necessary. She noted the handling fee would be included in the handling price. Mr. Herrmann said the industry did not quite perceive the wildlife factor. He said it could be rewritten with the focus on wildlife. Jeff Gage asked if the funding would be more acceptable if worded as a product disposal mitigation tax. Mr. Phillips noted tires and other products carried surcharges. Ms. Vickerman said the excise tax would be removed after the capital fund of \$300 million was accumulated.

Those present discussed Senate Bill 344 and Chair Kirkpatrick noted the Metro Council had declared support of plastic-compatible labels. Coding of containers was discussed. It was agreed that consistent code symbols were necessary nationwide.

1. Consider Revisions to Senate Bill 353 (Polystyrene Foam Bill)

Mr. Gage said he and others testified on SB 353 revisions. He distributed and explained language amendments to SB 353. Ms. Vickerman said if language amendments proposed were made, SB 353 would be sent to the Ways and Means Committee and would not make it to the floor of the Senate.

Those present discussed different methods in which to enclose styrofoam on docks. Mr. Herrmann said he had seen such styrofoam covered in thick plastic which in itself could create a demand for plastics. Mr. Phillips objected to the \$2 surcharge in Section 6. Chair Kirkpatrick referred to a Michigan State bill she distributed copies of those present and said that bill gave alternative financing options. She said Sections 6 and 7 could be revised and part of the Michigan bill language could be incorporated. Mr. Walker said based on the Portland City Council's vote, he would support SB 353 as it stood. Chair Kirkpatrick said she and Mr. Gage could further rework the language. Those present discussed improper disposal of polystyrene. Chair Kirkpatrick said the group would next meet Monday, March 13, at 4:00 p.m.

Chair Kirkpatrick adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Paulette Allen  
Committee Clerk  
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