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**MINUTES**

**SOUTH BAYSIDE WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

March 5, 2024 3:00PM

RethinkWaste Offices 610 Elm Street Suite 202, San Carlos, CA 94070

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**Call To Order: 3:07PM**

**1. Roll Call**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Al Royse	<b>X</b>	
Adam Rak	<b>X</b>	
Adam Loraine	<b>X</b>	
Warren Slocum		<b>X</b>

SBWMA Staff Members Present: Julia Au, Joe La Mariana, Cyndi Urman, Jean Savaree

Others Present: Kayla Robinson, Environmental and Energy Consulting.

**2. Public Comment**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3(a), members of the public wishing to address the Committee may do so, and the comments shall be limited to the Special Meeting notice topic(s). Speakers may join the Zoom meeting via the meeting link and using the “raise hand” feature and the Clerk of the Board will call on people.

None

**3. Executive Director’s Welcome**

Executive Director La Mariana welcomed the committee to the meeting and gave the following updates:

The SWANA Legislative Task Force that he is a part of has created a sub-committee to work on SB 54, and he is engaged in that committee.

Last Wednesday he traveled to Sacramento to lobby for funding of \$200M for SB 1383 procurement assistance, and \$500M to offset Zero emission vehicle construction at facilities like Shoreway to be included in the Climate Bond that is being proposed in the legislature. He met several legislators and legislative aides both representing our service area and on the Natural Resources Committee and the Environmental Quality Committee.

Kayla Robinson noted that the request made aligns with others in the waste reduction and transportation industries.

Member Royse asked if the bond would be broken down in terms of dollars for waste, or transportation etc.

Executive Director La Mariana answered that his understanding is that it's a build number and this is one of many line items.

#### 4. Approval of Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar item(s) are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless members of the Committee, staff or public request specific items be removed for separate action. *Items removed from the Consent Calendar will be moved to the end of the agenda for separate discussion.*

A. Approval of the Minutes from the February 6, 2024 Legislative Committee Meeting

Motion/Second: Loraine/Royse

Voice Vote: 2-0-1-1

Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Al Royse	X			
Adam Rak			X	
Adam Loraine	X			
Warren Slocum				X

#### 5. Legislative and Regulatory Updates from EEC and Committee Discussion

Kayla Robinson of EEC gave the following updates.

Following up on the taxpayer protection ballot measure conversation from last meeting. Currently it's on the ballot for November 2024, but the Governor has filed a lawsuit against the ballot measure citing it's unlawful, and CalCities has filed an Amicus brief citing the same thing, but the proponents have filed their own. It will be June before more is known.

She then gave an update on the introduced legislation for this session. She noted that she would focus on the new bills introduced, not the two-year bills on the list that the Agency has already taken a position on.

Member Rak asked if any action needed to be taken on the two-year bills this year.

**AB 1567 (Garcia) and SB 867 (Allen)** are bonds that align with RethinkWaste's priorities and the letter that was just submitted, and we continue to advocate for bonds.

- Member Loraine asked if Diane Papan was working on one of these bonds, or a new bond.
- Kayla Robinson noted that Assemblymember Papan was a co-author of AB 1567.

Several **Bottle Bill spot bills** have been introduced, but none that the agency should take a position on at this time.

- Joe noted that the changes to the bottle bill last year that were supported by RethinkWaste and ultimately passed by the Governor, should equal increased revenue for the agency due to more categories of material being accepted into the program.
- Member Rak asked if changes in the bottle bill would mean the agency should think about reopening the buyback center again.

- Executive Director La Mariana noted that the two are somewhat unrelated as the passing of this bill will mean that glass recycling trucks will fill up faster and therefore bring more revenue to the agency. As opposed to the buyback center which is or was for individuals to redeem bottles and cans for the redemption value.

Member Loraine asked for further clarification on what a spot bill meant.

Kayla Robinson answered that spot bills are ones where something vague is introduced with the intent of amending in the future.

**SB 537 (Becker)** is a two-year bill that is further along in the process than the other bills introduced related to teleconferencing that are currently spot bills, but there aren't any bills in this space that need to be addressed at this time.

**AB 2311 (Bennett)** is recommended for support. It takes the existing Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) and applies it to edible food recovery, so that it can be applied more broadly and support SB 1383 compliance.

- There were no issues with taking a support position for this bill.

**SB 2346 (Lee)** is recommended for support is trying to open up additional avenues for procurement for SB 1383 and is being run by StopWaste in Alameda County.

- Member Royse asked to make sure it would not reduce the impact of SB1383, by adding more options.
- Kayla Robinson answered no, they are working closely with CalRecycle on this to make sure that it's not undermining the intent of SB 1383.
- Member Loraine noted that his only hesitation for support would be if it were to reduce the value of what RethinkWaste is providing.
- Executive Director La Mariana noted that he could see an unintended consequence of 1383 as a whole, because increased supply of compost could lead to saturation of the market. But this bill is aligned with the spirit of SB 1383

**AB 2577 (Irwin)** is recommended for support it requires a best buy date stamp on food.

- Member Rak commented that this is just a labeling bill, and he is in support.

**AB 2902 (Wood)** is recommended for watch position at this time, and is bill related relief for rural counties related to 1383.

**SB 972 (Min)** is currently a spot bill that is planning to create an avenue for local government assistance for 1383, and it would require CalRecycle to report to the legislature on 1383. Not yet recommending support until the bill is in print, but EEC will likely recommend support.

- There were no issues with conceptual support at this time.

**SB 1046 (Laird)** – is recommended for support. It requires CalRecycle to create an environmental impact report for small and medium compost facilities, and not require smaller compost facilities to do their own environmental impact report and aims to ease some permitting strife.

- Member Loraine asked if this would compete with RethinkWaste
- Executive Director La Mariana noted that staff didn't see it that way and supported anything that would help increase capacity in the marketplace.

- There were no issues with support.

**AB 2236 (Bauer-Kahan) and SB 1053 (Blakespear)** – Aims to remove the loophole in the bag ban that allows for thicker plastic bags.

- Staff Au asked if San Mateo County’s bag ban ordinance, because it had been grandfathered in for \$0.25 instead of \$0.10 per bag cost, would supersede this bill either way.
- Kayla Robinson recommended taking a pause on support to do that research before the committee decided.
- Member Loraine asked in what way does this bill reduce plastic waste.
- Kayla Robinson noted that when the bill was originally passed there was a loophole that allowed for the thicker plastic bags many retailers use, and this bill would remove that loophole and remove plastic bags entirely. She also noted she would check with the authors of the bill to confirm.

**AB 2761 (Hart)** is recommended for support, it bans PVC and PFAS from plastic packaging.

- There were no issues with support.

**SB 1066 (Blakespear)** is recommended for support, it creates an extended producer responsibility program for marine flares.

- There was no opposition to support.

**SB 1280 (Laird)** is recommended for support and would require small propane cylinders to be refillable or reusable.

- Member Royse noted that he supports it in principle but isn’t clear on what the language about the city attorney authorizing civil penalties the bill would mean.
- Kayla Robinson noted that many bills include this language as an alternative enforcement method.
- Member Royse asked for further clarity on that language offline.

**SB 1143 (Allen)** is recommended for support and creates an EPR program for household hazardous waste beyond what is already covered by other legislation.

- There was no opposition to support.

Member Royse asked if there were any bills introduced related to toxic chemicals in solar panels.

**AB 2 (Ward)** is a two-year bill that is a “support in concept” by the agency bill. It would include solar panels as part of electronic waste.

Executive Director La Mariana noted that there are 57 bills that the Agency is tracking, 15 in organics, 5 in plastics, 7 in product stewardship, and 4 or 5 in toxics.

Member Rak asked for a discussion at the next meeting about where to focus resources, since this is such a large list of bills.

## **6. Legislative Committee Member Comments**

Member Royse asked to coordinate the environmental impact of the bills the Agency is supporting.

7. Adjourn 4:10PM