



**MINUTES**  
**SOUTH BAYSIDE WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
 Legislative Meeting  
 September 10, 2024 – 3:00 p.m.  
 San Carlos City Hall, 600 Elm Street, San Carlos, CA

**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call** 03:02 p.m.

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

**RethinkWaste Staff Present:**

Joe La Mariana; Julia Au; Dolores Molina-Bucio; Cyndi Urman

**Others Present:**

Kayla Robinson; Mandi Stella

**2. Public Comment**

Persons wishing to address the Board on matters NOT on the posted agenda may do so. Each speaker is limited to three minutes. If there are more than five individuals wishing to speak during public comment, the Chairman will draw five speaker cards from those submitted to speak during this time. The balance of the Public Comment speakers will be called upon at the end of the Board Meeting. If the item you are speaking on is not listed on the agenda, please be advised that the Board may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed as allowed under The Brown Act (Government Code Section 54954.2). The Board's general policy is to refer items to staff for attention, or have a matter placed on a future Board agenda for a more comprehensive action or report and formal public discussion and input at that time. **Speakers may also submit comments via email prior to the meeting by sending those comments to [rethinker@rethinkwaste.org](mailto:rethinker@rethinkwaste.org).**

None

**3. Executive Director's Report** (*Verbal Update*)

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

- The agency plans to receive temporary occupancy from the building department on Friday with an official move-in date for staff to be Monday.
- The September Board and TAC meeting will be at SamTrans.
- Meetings in October are planned to take place in the new office.
- The underground storage tank project will begin on September 23, 2024. Four weeks after that, the old tank will be swapped with the new one. The following six weeks are projected to complete the refilling of the dug-up ground with soil and building the new fuel line above.
- In support of this project, a contract has been executed with the County of San Mateo for one acre of land behind the Shoreway property to use as storage.

- A tour was given to the airport staff to have an inside view of the work being done and the space that is needed.
- He with John Zirelli of Recology and staff member, Matt Southworth, observed a Hydrogen fueled vehicle that is over 1 million dollars in value. Though the focus is more toward the EV vehicles.
- The transition to an EV fleet is being planned for 50-60 Recology trucks and 15 pickup trucks for a total of 75 vehicles.

#### 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 Board, 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 June 4, 2024, Legislative Committee Meeting

**Motion:** Member Rak 3:08 p.m.

**Second:** Member Loraine

**Voice Vote:** 3 – 0 - 0

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

Mandi Stella, the newest member of EEC introduced herself.

Kayla Robinson gave an overview of where the legislative process is:

- August 31st was the last day of the legislative session and the last day for legislators to pass bills off the floor.
- The Governor has until Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> to sign or veto bills.
- At the end of session the Governor was pushing an energy affordability package. There were a lot of delays, and many bills were not passed and did not make the midnight timeline. As a result, the Governor called for a special session and the Senate decided to not join the special session.
  - Member Royse asked when would the special session be held and if it was it limited to a specific purpose?
  - Kayla Robinson answered that the Governor is pushing for it now and limited it to gas price gouging and anything connected to energy.
  - Kayla Robinson provided an overview of the bills related to RethinkWaste’s priorities:
- **AB 2346 (Lee)** made it to the Governor’s desk and is being strongly supported by RethinkWaste is related to the SB 1383 procurement requirements and pathways beyond investing in compost.
  - Member Rak asked if a letter was sent on behalf of SBWMA in support of this bill to the Governor. And, who sees and signs off on these letters prior to being sent.
  - Kayla Robinson confirmed that a letter from RethinkWaste was sent to the Governor in support of this and other bills by Executive Director La Mariana
  - Executive Director La Mariana added that every legislative session, the board reviews and approves a legislative platform with 13 points of emphasis, that becomes the priorities for EEC and this committee. This allows staff to respond in a timely manner to the quickly changing legislative landscape. Once letters are sent staff reports to this committee.

- Staff Au added that all letters are signed by Executive Director La Mariana, or sometimes these letters are placed in packets for board approval. The EEC team drafts these letters which are then approved by Staff Au and Executive Director La Mariana. But staff is happy to amend that process and bring these letters to the Legislative Committee for review.
  - Member Rak noted that he thought the Legislative Committee should review these letters and decide what makes the most sense if the Board Chair should sign or the Executive Director, but there should be a process discussion to decide who should be the one to sign these letters.
  - Staff Au stated that the list of bills are discussed at the beginning of the session and it is recognizing that the language changes the process needs to be able to move quicker than waiting for a monthly meeting to occur.
  - Staff Urman asked if it is allowed to receive letters via-email at the committee level.
  - Attorney Savaree confirmed that it is permitted.
  - Member Royse stated that it is important to have the Legislative Committee as a delegate committee of the Board review letters before they are sent if they cannot be reviewed before . The committee should be copied to have the information and have the option to object.
  - Member Loraine asked for confirmation that the committee members contribution would be sharing a small window of review to give people the option of objecting if needed.
  - Kayla Robinson commented that bills get amended and letters need adjustments, and she asked the committee to think through how often they'd like to be updated on the language changes that need to be made.
  - Member Royse stated that the process this committee goes through now is very open and we just want to be aware of the letters and be given an opportunity to review. He commended EEC for being very thorough in providing the committee with information and guiding through the processes, but noted that the committee would just like to be aware of the letters for possible review.
- **SB 1143 (Allen)** was amended to focus on paint and more types of paint. RethinkWaste continued to support this bill.
  - **SB 660 (Irwin)** related to streamline food packaging and reduce food waste, which is the first of its kind. This bill landed on the Governor's desk.
  - **AB 863 (Aguiar-Curry)** is a bill that expands the existing carpet EPR program, holding the producers responsible. The carpet industry lobbied against this expanded EPR program. The expansion was cut out but kept holding the carpet industry accountable which is why RethinkWaste continued to support this bill. Continuing to support this bill to further update and improve the program to make sure the carpet industry is meeting the target and successfully recycling carpet.
    - Member Loraine – This is a step forward even when it may seem like a step back.
  - **AB 2236 (Bauer-Kahan)** – RethinkWaste has not taken a position on this bill to reduce plastic bags, but local jurisdictions could decide to mirror the bill.
    - Member Loraine asked if there is a sense whether this would be something that cities in SM County would be interested in mirroring.
    - Staff Au noted that all the Member Agencies have already adopted a plastic bag ban authored by the County. Staff Au noted she would contact the County to ask if they are interested in making amendments.
    - Member Rak asked for confirmation that this bill did not move.
    - Kayla Robinson answered that the Assembly version did not, but the Senate version did not but, both mirror each other so there is a version of this bill on the Governor's desk.
    - Member Rak asked staff to follow up noting that this may be something that the member agencies should mirror and send a letter to the County to adopt.
    - Member Loraine added that he wouldn't want RethinkWaste to be behind other cities in the state.
    - Member Rak commented that he is in favor of looking at it to see if it is better from the Agency's perspective.

- **SB 615 (Allen)** - RethinkWaste signed an EV battery recycling support in concept letter 2 years ago. As the bill got to the Governors' desk, EEC removed the note regarding support in concept, which is where the confusion may have been. Technically, RethinkWaste never had a position on this bill this year.
- **SB 707 (Newman)** holds the producers of textiles responsible for end of life of their products, and it has made it to the Governor's desk.
  - Executive Director La Mariana added that there are plans to bring back a textile drop off at the Shoreway Public Recycling Center.
  - Executive Director La Mariana and staff Au noted that the bill is not only a producer responsibility bill, but it also has a repair and reuse aspect to this bill that is sponsored by California Product Stewardship Council.
  - Member Rak asked for more information about textile recycling at Shoreway. What materials are would be looked at for reuse or recycling.
  - Staff Au answered that it will be defined by what company uses it, textiles are more specific to clothing versus linens, bedding, blankets.
  - Member Rak noted that this means a third party would be required and asked how to define what is reused or recycled.
  - Staff Au answered that it depends on the quality of the clothes; most textiles can be reused through reselling. The irreparable may be recycled though many new textiles can be hard to recycle based on the materials they are made with.
  - Member Rak asked from a broader policy standpoint, should RethinkWaste form partnership with donation agencies like Samaritan House and support locally.
  - Executive Director La Mariana stated that ideally doing it at the highest and best use where no water, no electricity, no reprocessing is the model that we would love to have. There once was a partnership with Goodwill Industries and St. Vincent de Paul years ago. Staff Chung is looking into different organizations that have bins for textile drop offs that are responsibly maintained and researching what happens to the materials after they are donated. Staff Au added that it is the most common question that we get, and we don't want to be a dumping ground. We want to provide people with info and guide them to what is best practice to do.
- **SB 972 (Min)** – RethinkWaste decided to not support this bill, which creates a pathway for CalRecycle to offer technical assistance with SB1383.
- **SB 1046 (Laird)** will create a programmatic environmental impact report for small and medium compost facilities to help streamline the permitting of these facilities.
  - Executive Director La Mariana added that with every RFP that goes out for organics there are many small to medium composters that can handle an industrial scale and anything that can help advance that we support.
- **SB 1053 (Blakespear)** is the Senate version of AB 2236, and it did make it to the Governor's desk.
- **SB 1066 (Blakespear)** is supported by RethinkWaste and will create an EPR program for marine flares has made it to the Governor's desk
- **SB 1280 (Laird)** has been supported by RethinkWaste for the last three years to ban single-use propane cylinders and is currently waiting to see if Governor signs off.
  - Executive Director La Mariana– When these cylinders are placed in bins and make it to the facility, their pressure is very dangerous and they can explode.
  - Member Rak asked for a reminder about where those items can be dropped off.
  - Staff Au answered that an appointment needs to be made with San Mateo County Household Hazardous Waste.
- **AB 2214 (Bauer-Kahan)** is from the Ocean Protection Council: Microplastics; Kayla Robinson noted that there was a question about why it wasn't supported, and noted that not a lot of time has been spent

focusing or discussing on this bill, but if it is a top priority for RethinkWaste, does the committee want to sign off on this bill.

- Member Loraine noted that this should be revisited during the 2025 platform.
  - Member Royse asked from a process perspective, when the Agency has a position of support and write a letter, do we testify.
  - Executive Director La Mariana answered that there are several versions of letters, some directly from the Agency or sign on letters where an entire roster of people or Agencies with the common interest in support.
  - Kayla Robinson added that Executive Director La Mariana and EEC attend committee hearings, and state support on behalf of RethinkWaste as well as longer witness type testimonies for bills supported.
  - Member Royse encouraged that the Agency's advocacy should be made more public that RethinkWaste is testifying.
- **AB 2302 (Addis)** –which is more of a clarification to the teleconferencing bill. It adds that if there are multiple sessions in a day then that can count as one meeting towards exemptions and calculates 20% in a quorum number form instead of using a percentage.
  - **SB 537 (Becker)** had quite a bit of opposition and the bill was gutted and changed. The opposition side thought it was too soon to revamp Brown Act related teleconferencing issues.
    - Member Rak asked if this bill is related to 2449 and under the old Brown Act there are no such limitations.
    - Attorney Savaree answered that yes, the Attorney General has put out an opinion that if someone is health compromised can now attend remotely. It didn't answer some questions on whether it's required to confirm that they have health issues or take them on their word. She noted that a memo will be sent out with the details.
  - **Bond Update** – Senator Allen's version of the bond SB 867 was passed in July 2024 and signed by the Governor. It is now on the ballot as Prop 4. She noted that the version of the bond that passed did not have funding for EV or SB 1383 specific infrastructure as RethinkWaste was lobbying. They decided to forego on clean air issues related to vehicles and methane reduction in the bond, but it did end up having funding for healthy soils and composting for farmers to purchase.
    - Member Rak asked for clarification on where RethinkWaste's position ended up on the changes in the bond.
    - Kayla Robinson answered that there was no position taken on the bond.
    - Executive Director La Mariana– There was language that was looking to be added to represent the interests of the Agency that didn't make it in.
    - Member Rak commented that would have turned the bond into something that would have been supported.
    - Executive Director La Mariana noted that the tangential items mentioned healthy soils and composting are a direct byproduct of the Agency's legislative efforts, because the Agency has a direct stake in those markets.
    - Kayla Robinson noted that it is an unexpected win.
    - Member Rak asked for some analysis on the bond to understand the impact it has on our agency.

## 6. Committee Member Comments

Member Rak asked if there are any more Legislative Committee meetings.

Staff Au answered that the next meeting is scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup>, the November meeting has been cancelled due to election day.

## 7. Adjourn: 4:03 p.m.