



**MINUTES**  
**RETHINKWASTE**  
**SOUTH BAYSIDE WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MARCH 03, 2026 – 3:00 p.m.**  
**1245 San Carlos Ave. Suite E, San Carlos, CA 94070**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call: 3:03**

Member	Present	Absent
Fran Dehn	<b>X</b>	
Jeff Schmidt	<b>X</b>	
Christopher Sturken	<b>X</b>	
Adam Rak	<b>X</b>	

**RethinkWaste Staff:** Julia Au, Joe La Mariana, Jean Savaree, Cyndi Urman, Dolores Molina-Bucio, Karina Hammoud, Oliver Crawford-Shelmadine.

**Others Present:** Noam Elroi, Reed Addis

**Committee Member Virtual Attendance:** Jeff Schmidt, Christopher Sturken, & Fran Dehn.

Board Counsel informed the committee of the vote required to allow committee members to attend the Legislative Committee meeting virtually moving forward.

**2. Approval of virtual attendance for the Legislative Committee**

**Motion:** F. Dehn

**Second:** A. Rak

**Motion Pass:** 4 - 0

Member	Present	Absent
Fran Dehn	<b>X</b>	
Jeff Schmidt	<b>X</b>	
Christopher Sturken	<b>X</b>	
Adam Rak	<b>X</b>	

**3. 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).**

N/A

**4. Executive Director’s Report (Verbal Update)**

Executive Director La Mariana shared bill and agency updates with the committee:

- **AB762** left the Assembly and is now in the Senate awaiting committee dates to testify. Adding that staff informed the executive director of a recent fire caused by batteries.
- **Master Plan Steering Committee** with the Board’s approval of the RFP to be released tomorrow, Wednesday 03/04/2026 to 15-16 identified engineering and technical firms.
- **MRF 2.0** RFP was released, and staff is currently in the process of evaluating and recommending a selected contractor and expecting to include it in the agenda for the March Board of Directors meeting.
- **Recology Labor Negotiations** are ongoing with an imminent successful outcome.

**5. 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 of January 6, 2026, Legislative Committee Meeting

**Motion:** F. Dehn

**Second:** J. Schmidt

**Motion Passed:** 4 – 0 – 0 – 0

Member	Approve	Oppose	Abstain	Absent
Fran Dehn	X			
Jeff Schmidt	X			
Christopher Sturken	X			
Adam Rak	X			

**6. Discussion on RethinkWaste’s Co-Sponsored Bill**

**AB 762 (Irwin and Wilson): Disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device: prohibition.**

EEC Staff, Noam Elroi, shared following bill updates with the committee:

AB 762 made it out of the first house at the start of the year after cannabis was dropped from the scope. Adding that there is a commitment from the author to continue working with the cannabis industry to create a takeback program to reduce vapes in waste bins.

Member Schmidt recommended staff begin to outreach to re-educate mayors and supervisors during this time and volunteered to begin.

EEC Staff, Noam Elroi acknowledged member Schmidt’s efforts and informed members that there is a delay in moving forward with outreach due to referral of senate committees and knowing who to connect with.

Member Schmidt volunteered to begin outreach with all senate committees and inquired with staff if there is approval from the board council to post the landing page.

Board Counsel informed staff and the committee members that they are looking into the matter and will provide confirmation on the posting of the information soon.

Executive Director La Mariana informed the committee of Board Member Speier’s inquiry to initiate local ordinance in support of the bill and inquired if staff have connected with the Board Member.

Staff Au confirmed that agency staff and partnering Californians Against Waste have connected with Board Member Speier and their team regarding the local ordinance.

Member Dehn inquired if Board Member Speier will be reintroducing the ordinance as the originally drafted bill or the updated version where Cannabis is no longer included.

Staff Au confirmed the ordinance provided to Board Member Speier was the originally drafted bill adding that staff will connect with board members staff to discuss further.

Member Sturken inquired if the bill would only cover the county.

Staff Au will work to determine the ordinance coverage.

Member Dehn stated that it would be a great template for cities to reference and create their own ordinance.

## **7. Legislative and Regulatory Updates from EEC and Commission Discussion 2026 Legislative Session Introduced Bills to Track and Take Positions On**

EEC Staff Elroi provided updates on agency supported legislation and newly introduced bills identified for potential agency support, adding that there was a change to the packet provided to the committee where AB 1604 has changed from a bill to support to a bill to watch.

**AB 864** addresses the management of solar photovoltaic modules as hazardous waste to universal waste in California and possibly expanding to a producer responsibility program.

**SB 501** used to address extended producer responsibility program for household hazardous waste and was changed to management of larger detachable batteries (25lbs) as part of the battery extended producer responsibility program.

**SB 936 & SB 758** address the sale of nitrous oxide containers.

Staff Mangini informed the committee of the large cost of disposing the nitrous oxide containers and their ongoing prevalence in the waste stream.

Member Rak inquired on the committee process of determining legislation positions and if there is board approval for the advisory committee decision processes.

Staff Au described the agency process for regulative and legislative platform which is presented to the legislative committee and then presented to the board of directors.

Member Rak expressed concern on the current process not including board approval of legislative decisions and requested board counsel recommendations.

Board Counsel recommended legislative decisions made by the committee be presented to the board of directors as an agenda consent item.

Member Rak recommended the legislative committee meeting be scheduled closer to the board of directors meeting.

Staff Au requested the committee's direction on whether to continue the current process for reviewing letters of support.

Member Rak recommended that letters of support be distributed to committee members for informational purposes and included in the board packet for board members as an informational item to not impact legislative timelines.

Staff Urman recommended committee members determine the best date for the next meeting and motion a vote.

Member Rak recommended the board agenda includes a legislative update which can be informational or an action item if

needed adding that the legislative committee meeting change to Tuesday, April 21, 2026.

EEC Staff Elroi requested clarification on which board meeting the agency will have legislative positions following the legislative calendar.

Staff Au clarified that bills covered in this meeting will be included in the March board agenda and standing decisions can be included in the April board agenda.

EEC Staff Elroi confirmed that EEC staff are available to meet with the legislative committee meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 3:00 PM.

Committee members confirmed their availability for Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 3:00 PM.

**Approval to change of Legislative Committee Meeting from April 7, 2026, to April 21, 2026.**

**Motion:** A. Rak

**Second:** F. Dehn

**Motion Passed:** 4 – 0 – 0 – 0

Member	Approve	Oppose	Abstain	Absent
Fran Dehn	X			
Jeff Schmidt	X			
Christopher Sturken	X			
Adam Rak	X			

**AB 2253** would additionally require the recycled content claim to be based on the actual physical recycled content in the product without the use of certain types of accounting.

**AB 2462** would require the safe return or appropriate disposal of unsafe products to be at no cost to the end consumer, a recycling center, a municipal facility that accepts the product for recycling or disposal, a retailer that sells the product, a permitted solid waste facility, a household hazardous waste collection facility, and a thrift retail store.

**AB 2667** prohibits a person from marketing, promoting, labeling, branding, advertising, distributing, offering for sale, or selling a vape product in this state imitating a product that is not a vape product to conceal the nature of the vape product from parents, teachers, or other adults.

**SB 1180** addresses complying with specified requirements, including, among others, prioritizing programs and projects that benefit communities most burdened by the impacts of plastic pollution and that provide multiple benefits.

**AB 1812** addresses compostable labeling. EEC Staff Elroi informed the committee that the bill's full language has not been included.

Committee members concluded that they prefer AB 1812 be watched and plan to make a decision once its full language is provided.

**SB 54 update**

- Rule making process complete
- 15-day comment period opened, and agency staff submitted comments
- Final regulations are expected soon from the Office of Administrative Law
- Needs assessment from the state is out.
- Producer Responsibility Plan is due mid-year after which will include a comment period where staff expects to submit comments.
- Staff initiated dialogue with the producer responsibility organization and was deferred to wait for the comment period.
- Reimbursement portal has yet to be available for agencies to input investments made to comply with the bill.

Staff Au informed the committee that CalRecycle has officially selected a producer responsibility organization for SB 707, a textiles EPR bill from a previous year.

Member Rak inquired if the committee would like to make a recommendation to the board on the support position on legislation.

**Approval to Recommend all bills for support and watch positions to be included in the next board consent calendar.**

**Motion:** A. Rak

**Second:** F. Dehn

**Motion Passed:** 4 – 0 – 0 – 1

<b>Member</b>	<b>Approve</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Fran Dehn	X			
Jeff Schmidt	X			
Christopher Sturken				X
Adam Rak	X			

**8. Committee Member Comments**

**9. Adjourn:** 4:01 PM