



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (ES) ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ESAC)

Minutes

Approved November 12, 2015

Thursday, October 8, 2015, 5:30 p.m.
Ward 6 Council Office Conference Room
3202 E. 1st St.
Tucson, AZ

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Kristin Ginter, ESAC Chairperson at 5:30 P.M.

Those present and absent were:

Present:

Yvonne Merrill	Representative, Ward 1
Ron Ewing	Representative, Ward 2
Dan Uthe	Representative, Ward 6
Catherine Schladweiler	Representative, City Manager's Office
Sandra Fimbres	Representative, City Manager's Office
Margot Garcia	Representative, City Manager's Office
Kristin Ginter (Chair)	Representative, City Manager's Office
Ann Marie Wolf	Representative, City Manager's Office

Absent:

VACANT	Representative, Ward 3
David Reed	Representative, Ward 4
Timmy Bacchus	Representative, Ward 5
Lisa Shipek	Representative, Mayor's Office
VACANT	Representative, City Manager's Office

Staff Members Present:

Andrew Quigley	Director, ES
Brittany Aldrich	Recording Secretary, ES
Blake Ashley	Assistant City Attorney
Fran LaSala	Environmental Manager, ES

2. Call to the Audience

None

3. **Approval of Minutes for September 10, 2015**

Committee Member Wolf made a motion to approve the minutes of September 10, 2015 as written. Committee Member Garcia seconded. Motion passed by voice vote of 8-0.

4. **Director's Report**

Director Andrew Quigley remarked on the recent passing of an ES employee. Director Quigley provided an updated on the following:

- **City of South Tucson** – The City of South Tucson was interested in moving forward with the City of Tucson to become their Waste Collection Servicer. An Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the two cities would be required. Director Quigley indicated there were concerns about establishing an IGA for waste collection services outside the City limits. He stated there were state laws that raised concerns regarding income tax, real estate tax, and other issues. The City would utilize the City's auditors to look into the law and see if moving forward with an IGA would be allowed.
- **ES Staffing Update** – It was announced that Pat Tapia had been promoted to the Deputy Director of Environmental Services. This left a vacant Administrator position. This Administrator position would be reorganized to overlook the landfill, environmental, and engineering functions of the department.

Chairperson Ginter expressed her concerns of the passing of the ES employee and requested staff to pass along the Committees condolences to the family and co-workers of the employee.

5. **Chair's Report**

- **Los Reales Opening** – Chairperson Ginter commented on the successful Landfill Opening Ceremony and spoke about the great accomplishments the Department made in doing so. Chairperson Ginter stated this event was celebrated by many.

6. **Subcommittee Reports, Appointments, Meeting Dates, and Assignments**

- **Environmental/Engineering** – No meetings had been held since the last ESAC meeting. The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2015. Subcommittee Chairperson Fimbres noted that the Landfill Art Project would meet October 19, 2015 to look at three finalists to review the possible proposed art to be placed at the Landfill Entrance of Los Reales.
- **Waste Diversion, Collections, and Education** – The subcommittee meeting was held October 7, 2015. Subcommittee Member Garcia was selected as Chairperson for the subcommittee. Subcommittee Chairperson Garcia reported on items discussed at the subcommittee. An update was given regarding the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF); the MRF was still losing money on the materials collected, due to the slowing of the China's economy and decreasing

oil prices. Other items discussed were: screens had been installed on trash trucks to help prevent truck fires in order to save on costs: ES was conducting contamination studies in Ward 3 and 5; and the Commercial Recycling Survey which would be brought back for further discussion. The Zero Waste concept was also discussed including: definition of Zero Waste; its relationship to Plan Tucson; and the overall committee's goal for Zero Waste. Further discussion would be held on Zero Waste.

- **Finance** – The subcommittee meeting was held on September 24, 2015 Subcommittee Chairperson Ewing provided an update to the ESAC Committee. Zero Waste was also discussed at this subcommittee. The end of year financial statement was reviewed by the subcommittee. Debt services and working capital improvement projects would be discussed at the next subcommittee meeting.

7. MRF Meeting Update

Director Quigley provided an update on the MRF. A counterproposal was sent to ReCommunity agreeing to about half of the requested items from the original proposal. Director Quigley said he did believe the department was not in a position to have to pay ReCommunity for recycling services yet. Based on the current proposed changes, ES expects to lose approximately \$650,000 in revenue a year. Further discussion was held. No action was taken on this item and was requested to be added to future ESAC agenda.

8. Committee Member Updates

City Attorney Blake Ashley provided guidance on the appropriate way to agendize and provide Committee Member Updates to ESAC. It was explained a member presenting an item would have to be named and a time associated to the agenda item. Committee members would have to send an email request to staff by Wednesday, a week before an ESAC meeting requesting to be placed on a future agenda. Also at this time, if a handout was required or available, it should be provided to Committee Members in advance when the agenda packet materials were distributed to committee members. No action was taken on this item

9. Meeting Start Times

Director Quigley asked committee members if a new meeting start time was desired by the committee. Discussion was held. Committee Member Wolf moved to hold the committee meetings at noon on every second Thursday of each month. Motion was duly seconded by Committee Member Uthe. An amendment to the motion by Committee Member Garcia to allow a second option to hold committee meetings at 5:00 P.M. on the second Thursday of each month if the at Ward Office 6 conference room was not available for a noon meeting. Council Member Wolf seconded the amended motion. Motion passed by voice vote of 8-0.

Option 1: Meetings to be held on the second Thursday of each month at 12:00 P.M. at Ward 6.

Option 2: Meetings to be held on the second Thursday of each month at 5:00 P.M. at Ward 6 if the conference room was not available at 12:00 P.M.

Chairperson Ginter commented on the importance to review emails from ES staff to confirm the meeting times of future meetings.

10. Landfill Study Estimates

Director Quigley discussed this item. Discussion was held regarding a related waste diversion article. Further discussion was held. No action was taken at this time.

11. Zero Waste Program

ES Manager Fran LaSala provided an update regarding Zero Waste and discussion was held. Chairperson Ginter expressed that she did not believe a set definition was needed for “Zero Waste” at that time. The idea of “Zero Waste” was evolving and as that moment, it was not an obtainable goal. She said the focus should return to increasing the Waste Diversion percentage for the community. Director Quigley explained what ES was currently doing to help increase the waste diversion rate and to help lower recycling contamination. Committee members agreed to move forward with helping lowering the contamination rate and increasing the waste diversion percentage. Director Quigley stated one major thing that would help increase the rate was to require mandatory recycling across the City. Further discussion was held. No action was taken at this time.

12. Financial Update

Director Quigley provided information on this item. Discussion was held regarding concerns on tire cost and debt services. Further discussion was held. No action taken at this time.

13. Future Agenda Items for Next Meeting (November 12, 2015)

- MRF Update
- New York Times “The Reign of Recycling” Article
- UA Students of Sustainability Presentation
- Commercial Recycling Survey

14. Call to Audience

None

15. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:37 P.M.