

Natural Resources Commission Minutes
February 26, 2018; 6:30 p.m.

Present: John Johnston, Alan Pryor, Evan Schmidt, Stan Bair

Absent: Steven Westhoff, Patrick Henderson, Mark Braly, Anya McCann

Staff: Kerry Daane Loux, Sustainability Coordinator, Community Development & Sustainability

Council Liaison: Rochelle Swanson

1. **Approval of Agenda** –Following a request to continue Item D, Commission Goals Planning, until March, the agenda was approved unanimously.

2. **Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons** –
John Johnston noted that Unitrans is having their 50th anniversary this year. A celebration will be held on Friday, March 2, and bus rides all day will be 15 cents.
A public meeting was held last week to introduce the recommendations of the Recycled Water Master Plan, a project underway by consultant West Yost Associates and City of Davis Public Works. The project will come to the NRC for comments at a future meeting.
Staff noted that the City of Davis is a key participant in the Yolo Resiliency Planning group, an ad hoc staff-level Yolo County group that has been meeting for the last six months to address heat-related resiliency and adaption planning at a regional level, with the understanding that impacts do not stop at jurisdictional boundaries. The group held a first workshop last week, with 40 participants from a wide range of county, city and other local stakeholders.

3. **Public Communications** –
No public comments were made.

4. **Consent Calendar** –
(A) January 29, 2018 minutes. Approval of minutes, as amended by discussion, was continued to the March meeting, due to lack of sufficient Commissioners present who had been at the January meeting.

5. **Regular Items**

A. Draft Organics Processing Facility Feasibility Analysis

Jennifer Gilbert and Richard Tsai presented information from the Draft Report. Following discussion, staff requested that the NRC Solid Waste/Zero Waste Subcommittee should peer review the Final Organics Processing Facility Feasibility Analysis, to be available in one week, and make comments prior to staff bringing back the final report to the full commission. Commissioners requested that the pro forma information in the report be made available in Excel format, rather than PDF.

The current subcommittee is formed of Pryor and Henderson. A motion was made by Pryor and seconded by Bair to include Johnston on the subcommittee for the duration of this peer review. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

B. Davis Waste Removal (DWR) Update

Richard Tsai gave an update to the process of selling DWR. Many of the discussions and decisions to date have been made in City Council closed session, since the financial transaction of a private business is not public information. DWR has been the City’s exclusive solid waste and recycling hauler, as a private business serving the public, for Davis residences and businesses for over 40 years. They have approximately 65 employees, operating on a seven acre property, along with all facilities, trucks and other equipment. Now that they are ‘retiring’, the City has the right of first refusal to purchase the operation.

At a recent City Council meeting, the first right of refusal was waived. The Utility Rates Advisory Commission (URAC) will be discussing a proposed contract next week, with City Council scheduled to review on March 13, 2018. Should another company, Recology, be the purchaser of the operation, as proposed, the agreement between the City and DWR currently asks for the following provisions:

- The City has authority to determine the destination of organic materials
- A franchise fee will be paid into the City's General Fund by the owner/operator
- An artist-in-residence program with an educational component will be developed
- Paper shredding events will be provided annually
- Specifics about a potential relocation of the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and possible purchase of the existing seven acres by the City are itemized

The text of the proposed contract is on the City's website. Staff noted that the maximum current contract rates are guaranteed with the new provider until the end of the existing DWR contract, with the exception of service changes requested by the City, such as implementation of the organics program now under study.

C. Environmental Recognition Awards

Staff presented the process and schedule for the 2018 ERA. Submittals are due by March 20, 2018. The NRC subcommittee will consist of Westhoff, Pryor and Schmidt, and will meet on March 21, 2018 to review nominations and make recommendations to the full Commission.

D. 2018 Commission Goals Planning

Continued to March 2018

E. Subcommittee Updates –

No subcommittee reports were made.

6. Commission and Staff Communications

- a) **Long Range Calendar/Future Agenda Items.** Reviewed
- b) **Upcoming meeting items/events.** Next regular meeting March 26, 2018

7. Adjourn: 8:20 p.m.