



CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE WASTE AUTHORITY MEETING

held on Wednesday 8 September 2010
Department of Environment and Conservation
11.00 am – 3.30 pm

Meeting No. 12/2010

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms Jan Grimoldby Acting Chairperson
Ms Carolyn Jakobsen
Mr Marcus Geisler

APOLOGIES

Prof Paul Hardisty (overseas)

ATTENDEES

Mr Robert Atkins	Deputy Director General – Environment, DEC (Delegate for Director General, DEC)	
Ms Catherine Rayner	General Manager, Office of the Waste Authority	For item 7.1
Ms Linda Thoresen	Manager, Policy, Office of the Waste Authority	For item 11.5
Mr Ian Hill	Manager, Communications & Media Relations Office of the Waste Authority	For items 7.4, 11.2 & 11.8
Ms Diane McKinnon	Executive Officer, Office of the Waste Authority	Minutes/Actions
Mr Bernard Ryan	Manager, Waste Management Branch, DEC	For items 7.2, 11.1 & 11.7
Dr Jill Lethlean	Manager, Programs, DEC	For items 6.1, 11.3, 11.4
Mr Tony Beeson	Manager, WARR Account, DEC	For items 9.1 & 11.9

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES & INTRODUCTIONS

The A/Chair declared the meeting open at 11.00am and welcomed members and staff to the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE A/CHAIR

The A/Chair and General Manager, Office of the Waste Authority recently met with representatives from the Western Australian Planning Commission and Department of Planning to discuss planning matters associated with land availability for the appropriate disposal of waste.

The A/Chair attended the Western Metropolitan Regional Council's Annual Dinner.

The A/Chair advised members that she would be meeting with the Minister for Environment on 15 September and highlighted agenda items for discussion with the Minister. The Minister also provided two items for inclusion on the agenda.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLUTION:

4.1 The minutes of the Waste Authority meeting number 10/2010 held on 4 August 2010 were accepted as an accurate record of proceedings, subject to minor typographical corrections.

Moved: Ms Jakobsen
Seconded: Mr Geisler
CARRIED

5. REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Authority reviewed the actions from previous meetings. The status of actions listed was acknowledged and noted by members. Specific item updates were:

Actions from Meeting 10/2010 held on 4 August 2010:

7.3 Meeting with the EPA - 14 October 2010

The A/Chair sought confirmation from members regarding their attendance at the meeting with the EPA. The A/Chair, Carolyn Jakobsen and Robert Atkins confirmed their attendance, subject to confirmation of the meeting time. Marcus Geisler tendered his apology.

7.5 Local Government – Model Waste Local Laws

Staff advised that WALGA has indicated that it would be happy to accept an offer of assistance for legal costs, advising that some costs had already been incurred. The Authority agreed that a word template be provided for inclusion on the Towards Zero Waste Website to ensure the information is easily accessible to any local council wishing to access it.

Actions from Meeting 09/2010 held on 7 July 2010:

7.2 SWIS Priorities

Carolyn Jakobsen advised that she would like to meet in the afternoon of the date nominated, rather than the morning due to another appointment.

7.4 Towards Zero Waste Website – Discussion Paper

The Authority queried the status of the development of an upgrade to the Waste Authority website, including moving the website to a new domain name. Staff informed that a business case is being prepared while approval of the website budget is considered. The Authority

agreed that the work proceed as soon as possible without delay, due to the need for the website to be moved to a more stable environment.

7.6 Regulatory Gatekeeping Unit

The Authority requested an update on the status of discussions with the Regulatory Gatekeeping Unit (RGU) and the preparation of a PIA. Staff informed that they were in discussions with the RGU to determine whether amendments to the WARR levy would be captured under the RGU's guidelines. A number of possible scenarios were discussed during the meeting.

Actions from Meeting 08/2010 held on 2 June 2010:

10.5 Recycling Activity Report 2007/08 & 2008/09

The Authority queried the status of preparing a number of Fact Sheets for public release on key findings of the Recycling Activity Reports. Staff informed that preliminary work has been completed with the aim on having Fact Sheets ready for release at the Waste & Recycle Conference. Laminated copies will be included on the display booth and copies available for the public.

7.2 Strategic Partnership Proposal – Waste Management Association Australia (WMAA)

Staff informed that they met with Mr Bruce Bowman regarding a variety of issues, including the Strategic Partnership Proposal.

The A/Chair briefly informed members of an article she had read in the Sustainability Matters magazine regarding a large building company that has set up its own recycling depot in Canberra. The A/Chair advised that she would forward a copy of the article to members and follow-up on additional information. It was noted that the information may be of interest to the Master Builders Association.

RESOLUTION:

The Authority:

- 5.1 Noted the status of actions listed in the 'Waste Authority – Status of Actions Arising from Meeting' table.**
- 5.2 Requested confirmation of the meeting time with the EPA on 14 October 2010.**
- 5.3 Requested that a word template of the Local Government – Model Waste Local Laws be provided for inclusion on the Towards Zero Waste Website.**
- 5.4 Agreed that work proceed without delay on the development of an upgrade to the Towards Zero Waste Website, including moving the website to a new domain name.**
- 5.5 Noted that the A/Chair would circulate a copy of an article in Sustainability Matters discussed during the meeting, to members for their interest.**

6. OUT OF SESSION ITEMS

6.1 Proposal for a Strategic Waste Infrastructure Planning Committee

The Authority noted the resolution of the out-of-session briefing of 1 September 2010 regarding a proposal to establish a Strategic Waste Infrastructure Planning Committee to investigate waste infrastructure issues in Western Australia. The Authority resolved:

- 1) to request the Minister for Environment to approve the establishment of a Strategic Waste Infrastructure Planning Committee as a Committee of the Waste Authority under Section 18 of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Act 2007; and
- 2) endorsed the draft Terms of Reference for the Strategic Waste Infrastructure Planning Committee.

The Authority further discussed the draft Terms of Reference for the proposed Committee.

RESOLUTION:

The Authority:

- 6.1.1 **Noted the resolution of the out-of-session briefing of 1 September 2010 regarding a proposal to establish a Strategic Waste Infrastructure Planning Committee.**
- 6.1.2 **Requested staff to include the Infrastructure Coordinating Committee in the list of invited participants within the draft Terms of Reference.**
- 6.1.3 **Requested an expanded version of the Terms of Reference be provided by staff to describe some of the activities that will underpin it.**
- 6.1.4 **Agreed that the A/Chair would provide final sign off on corrections to the draft Terms of Reference.**

7. DISCUSSION / DECISION ITEMS

7.1 Sponsorship Request – Perth International Arts Festival

The Authority considered a 3 year sponsorship proposal provided by the Perth International Arts Festival (PIAF) to assist the Festival in improving waste management and recycling activities for specific components of the program, including Festival Films and Beck's Music Box. The Authority noted the briefing provided by staff and made the following comments:

- Some concerns regarding the total cost of the sponsorship proposal were highlighted, including whether or not it could be supported within current WARR Account budget allocations. PIAF has requested \$30,000 (plus GST) per year for 3 years, to support the 2011, 2012 and 2013 Festivals.
- Members highlighted additional partnership benefits, including a quarter page advertisement in the Festival's main brochure (with a shelf life of 5 months), opportunities to network with fellow sponsors and stakeholders at Festival events and a range of acknowledgements as a Public Funding Partner and acknowledgements on Festival promotion material including the West Australian Guide to the Festival. Credit during the AV presentation at the opening event and program launch, which includes 30 second screen credits is also provided.
- The proposal provides a good opportunity to promote the waste avoidance message through the Festival but there is a need to build into the proposal, requirements for waste audits of the two film venues and Beck's Music Box within year one and the preparation of waste management plans for the three venues.
- Members discussed the need to focus the event on the bigger picture with regards to where the Authority wants major public events in Western Australia to go in future years. Members agreed that the PIAF process should be used to assist in the development of a 'waste event certification model' for major public events in Western Australia in future years.

- Members discussed the opportunity to value add through the Earth Carers program undertaking activities such as assisting Festival attendees to use the right bin, handing out relevant information and generally promoting the towards zero waste message.

The Authority provided its in-principle support for the proposal subject to the approval of the Minister for Environment, the removal of corporate hospitality benefits, a firmer commitment on recycling of materials at venues, PIAF undertaking a waste audit in the first year of the Festival Films and the Beck's Music Box – in preparation for the development of a waste management plan (in year 2) and implementation plan in years 2 and 3; subject to satisfactory completion of year 1.

The Authority sought advice on indicative costs for the creation and production of a 30 second multi-media message and whether there is a government common use agreement panel for preparing this type of media.

The Authority agreed to determine which three key messages would be most relevant for the PIAF event.

RESOLUTION:

The Authority:

- 7.1.1 Noted the proposal from the Perth International Arts Festival (PIAF) for a 3-year sponsorship/partnership with the Authority in the areas of waste management for Festivals 2011, 2012 and 2013.**
- 7.1.2 Agreed to advise PIAF of an in-principle agreement of the proposal, subject to the following:**
- **sponsorship being subject to the approval of the Minister for Environment;**
 - **the removal of corporate hospitality benefits;**
 - **a firmer commitment on recycling of materials at venues;**
 - **PIAF undertaking a waste audit in Year 1 of the Festival Films and the Beck's Music Box, in preparation for the development of a waste management plan (in Year 2) and implementation plan in years 2 and 3 – subject to satisfactory completion of year 1.**
- 7.1.3 Agreed that the A/Chair would seek the urgent approval of the Minister following an informal discussion with PIAF to address matters raised.**
- 7.1.4 Agreed to use this process to develop a “waste event certification model” for major events in Western Australia in future years.**
- 7.1.5 Agreed to determine which three key messages would be relevant for this type of event.**
- 7.1.6 Sought advice from staff on indicative costs for the creation and production of a 30 second multi-media message.**

7.2 E-Waste Transition

Mr Marcus Geisler, Chair of the E-Waste Committee provided an update on the deliberations of the E-Waste Committee, following its fourth meeting. This included recommendations from the WMRC and WALGA in relation to program elements and a suggestion that more detail was required to fully appreciate costs and expected tonnages of e-waste.

The Authority noted that a considerable amount of data is already available in various forms, and a gap analysis for the purpose of the transitional program would be undertaken by staff and relevant Committee members as soon as possible. This may lead to an application for SWIS being made.

Members noted that the E-Waste Committee is keen to move forward on amendments agreed upon at the last Committee meeting to address outstanding promotional and budgetary aspects, to ensure the expected schedule for the WA transitional e-waste program is kept on track.

The Authority noted correspondence from the Chairman of the Forum of Regional Councils (FORC) maintaining that no Regional Councils would participate as collection points for the WA transitional e-waste program unless accurate data to assess the likely cost and specifically the tonnages of e-waste expected to be generated can be guaranteed, or the scheme funding is uncapped.

The Authority noted the possible impacts of FORC member councils not participating in the interim scheme and discussed options. The Authority made the following observations:

- Non-metropolitan e-waste interim collections and ad-hoc industry collection days have the capacity to roll out straight away.
- An approach could be made to individual metropolitan councils regarding their participation in the interim e-waste scheme in the absence of FORC participation.
- Based on current disposal costs, up to \$325 per tonne up to a certain amount (based on tonnes collected) could be offered to individual metropolitan councils to share the responsibility of supporting existing e-waste collections. This would provide funding for up to 50% of the disposal costs up to a maximum amount (notional allocation based on population).
- Should a Regional Council opt out of the interim e-waste scheme, then the funding allocated to that Council would be returned and used elsewhere.
- The E-Waste Committee will soon consider an appropriate interim e-waste transition proposal and make its recommendations to the Authority.

The Authority noted that the next E-Waste Committee meeting would be held on 23 September. Members requested to be provided with the minutes of E-Waste Committee meetings.

The Authority also noted that a SWIS sub-committee meeting will be held in early October. Applications relevant to the work of the E-Waste Committee may be deferred and referred to the Authority for decision.

RESOLUTION:

The Authority:

- 7.2.1 Noted the oral report provided on the E-Waste Committee by Marcus Geisler, Chair of the E-Waste Committee;**
- 7.2.2 Await the E-Waste Committee recommendations to the Authority;**
- 7.2.3 Congratulated the E-Waste Committee on its progress to date; and**
- 7.2.4 Requested minutes of E-Waste Committee meetings to be circulated to members.**

7.3 Re-coup for WARR Account – Endorsement for 2010-2011

The Authority discussed the request from DEC seeking re-coup for its indirect overhead costs for providing support to the Waste Authority for 2010/11 from the allocation approved by the Minister for Environment in the 2010/11 Work Plan.

The Authority discussed the amount of indirect costs calculated to be recovered in respect of the Waste Management Branch (WMB), Waste Authority members and Office of the Waste Authority (OWA) staff. Members noted that the indirect costs in respect to the Waste Authority and OWA have been calculated in a slightly different manner to WMB to account for DEC costs which are not relevant in these cases.

Staff explained how indirect costs are calculated, based on Atrium, central, divisional and corporate costs. Costs are calculated using the budgeted costs for the support areas and apportioning the share for the WMB using the budgeted level of FTEs and workstations appropriated for those activities.

The Authority discussed the variance in the WMB apportionment of the 2010/11 budgeted costs and requested that the information include percentages and how percentages are derived, due to a number of different formulas being applied. Members noted that a consistent proportion used throughout the document would make it more transparent.

The Authority agreed that the Memorandum of Understanding and Service Level Agreement required review to include more detail regarding costs charged to the Authority. The Authority requested that the review be completed by December 2010.

The Authority noted that it had previously agreed to approve the DEC recoup of indirect overhead costs quarterly in advance. Members discussed the reduced fee for the total 2010/11 budgeted divisional costs from \$526,568 to \$454,102 in light of the discussion.

RESOLUTION:

The Authority:

- 7.3.1 Provided its in-principle support of the quarterly DEC recoup for indirect overhead costs for providing support to the Waste Authority for the 2010/11 Work Plan subject to the report being referred back to the next meeting following corrections to formula structures used.**
- 7.3.2 Requested that the revised 2010/2011 budgeted costs include percentages and a description of how percentages are derived.**
- 7.3.3 Agreed that the Memorandum of Understanding and Service Level Agreement between DEC and the Authority be reviewed to include more detail regarding costs charged to the Authority by December 2010.**

7.4 Ruggies Recycling – Recognition of Effort

The Authority discussed a request received from Ruggies Recycling to recognise support given by drivers and companies who donate free transport to deliver recyclable material from remote mine sites in the Pilbara and Goldfields region on their return journey to Perth.

Members noted that the program is supported by the Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) and the Royal Flying Doctors Service (RFDS). Recognition from PMH includes a plaque. No known formal endorsement is provided by the RFDS. Members noted that some form of recognition for drivers would be the preferred form of acknowledgement.

The Authority discussed the proposal and considered that PMH and RFDS would be best placed to formally recognise the work of drivers in this regard. The Authority was of the view that many opportunities for recognition may be possible through the PMH and its fundraising activities in particular.

RESOLUTION:

The Authority:

- 7.4.1 Considered the request from Ruggies Recycling to recognise through some form of acknowledgement/ recognition, support provided by drivers and companies for the free transportation of recyclable materials.**
- 7.4.2 Agreed that the A/Chair would write to the Princess Margaret Hospital and the Royal Flying Doctor Service acknowledging the good work of the people who donate free transport to deliver recyclable material from remote mine sites to Perth.**

8. COMMITTEE UPDATES

8.1 E-Waste Committee

An update on the work of the E-Waste Committee was provided during item 7.1 – E-Waste Transition.

9. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

9.1 Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme & Community Grants Scheme – Final Reports / Terminations

The Authority was advised of the following project terminations and received final reports for completed projects as detailed below:

Project Terminations:

- **1st Donnybrook Scout Group – Encourage, Collect, Recycle, Reclaim, Reduce, CGS 2010, \$7,000 plus GST.** The project (in negotiation with the Shire) was to build two steel cages with colourful signage displaying recycling and waste reduction messages to encourage people (predominantly children) to deposit aluminium cans via a child friendly safe hatch into the cages.

The Authority offered \$7,000 (request was for \$3,500) to include all plastic beverage containers as well as cans.

The applicant did not return the contracts within the 30 day timeframe, and advised that the Group had not actioned anything to do with the grant, and were still required to negotiate on the location of the bins with the Shire.

- **Bunbury Community Garden – Bunbury Community Garden Waste & Recycling Services start-up, CGS 2010, \$4,880 plus GST.** The Bunbury Community Garden anticipated to use funds to obtain infrastructure including waste items for use in set up of garden plots, operate an effective compost system, worm farm and enable mulch to be produced from green waste, for promotion to the wider community.

The applicant did not return the contracts following several reminders after the 30 day timeframe. The original applicant was no longer involved with the project and the documents had ended up in a locked filing cabinet with another person on sick leave. Staff were advised

that the original location for the garden had been lost, and they had not secured another one. It was agreed to cancel the funding agreement.

Final Reports Received for Completed Projects:

- **Westralia Airports Corp (WAC) – Perth Airport Waste Audit / Zero Waste Plan, SWIS 2007, \$53,000 plus GST.** The project was to ascertain the amount of recyclables and waste currently being generated within the Perth Airport Estate by conducting waste audits of the operations at the Domestic and International airports, and at the operations of the commercial tenants/lessees occupying land leased from the Corporation.

From the results of the survey, WAC considers it to be premature to consider the development of zero waste plans. There appears to be opportunity to improve waste management practices through WAC developing methodologies for disseminating waste management information through the environmental forums and through such instruments as tenant newsletters as a pre-cursor to tenants being asked to develop waste management plans.

There appears to be a general lack of understanding by all but a very small number of businesses for the opportunities that could be achieved regarding improved waste management practices.

There is, by many of the businesses interviewed, a lack of awareness of the waste services being provided, the costs of those services and alternative arrangements that are available to reduce the waste management costs being incurred.

It would seem that WAC, as the lessor/landlord, has the potential to require waste service providers to be registered to operate on the Estate.

WAC is also in a position to co-ordinate collections or act as a clearing house for those items that may, on a business by business basis, be uneconomical or impractical to recycle such as printer cartridges, automotive batteries or scrap timber pallets. With respect to timber pallets not one of the businesses contacted, that had scrap timber pallets, was aware of the Waste Timber Recycling operation at Hazelmere which diverts scrap timber from landfill for re-use.

The quantities of waste currently being generated and sent to landfill, estimated to be in the order of 7,000 tonnes per annum, may not warrant major involvement by WAC. There is a possibility however that the tonnages sent to landfill could be reduced by 30% or more if WAC was to provide information on recycling or encourage recyclers to make contact with tenants to offer them the recycling services.

The Authority discussed the Westralia Airports Corp grant and requested that it be referred to the relevant committee of the Waste Management Association of Australia (WA Branch).

- **Curtin University – Recycled Concrete Road Base Performance Specifications for Local Government, SWIS 2009, \$100,617 plus GST.** This investigation has considered Australian and international trends in the use, performance and specification for roadbase material sourced from construction and demolition materials.

The aim of this investigation was to develop a specification for use on local government road pavements in Western Australia. In order to complete this task, reference has been made to specification limits based firstly on Australian practice, and then where applicable, international practice.

Laboratory characterisation of three sources of recycled materials and two sources of virgin quarried aggregates was undertaken by Curtin University. These results were used to give a greater understanding about the characteristics of recycled materials sourced from construction and demolition materials and how these materials compared to local virgin materials. These test results were also compared to those in selected engineering papers and indicate that the materials produced in Western Australia are comparable in performance to those in other parts of Australia and the world.

The field and laboratory test results show that the constituents of the source material are significant to the long-term performance of the pavement materials. Where pavement material contains only structural concrete crushed from the demolition of reinforced concrete structures, rehydration of the cement within the material may produce an excessively stiff material likely to fatigue with time. The blending of small amounts of crushed clay bricks and tiles appears to help minimise the risks of excessive rehydration of recycled structural concrete.

The possible effect of cement reacting with bitumen, where cement fines may be pumped by traffic action into the seal coat has been noted and will require further research. A specification has been provided for industry and local government for the manufacture and use of recycled construction and demolition materials as road building materials. This specification has been developed based on the results of a literature review, laboratory testing and field performance test results of pavements constructed using recycled materials. It was found that the existing virgin aggregate specifications did not account for the porous nature of crushed concrete and potential ongoing rehydration of cement.

Whilst this specification is aimed at the local C&D recycling industry and local government, it has been shown in both this report and the literature review, that recycled products have exceptionally good performance characteristics, and should be considered a premium product suitable for high-stress applications. As the C&D recycling industry continues to develop and improve its products to meet these specifications, these C&D materials should be considered for adoption by design and construct contractors and state road authorities.

Members discussed specifications set for the use of road building materials. It was noted that Main Roads uses its own specification, separate to the one produced for Local Government as part of the grant.

The Authority requested that the Institute of Public Works Engineering of Australia (IPWEA) be invited to undertake a peer review of the Curtin/ARRB report to independently verify the proposed specifications. Members agreed that this would assist in going back to Main Roads in support of using recycled materials in roadbase.

The Authority also agreed that the report be provided to WALGA for possible assessment under its strategic partnership arrangement with the Authority.

- **Dowerin Tidy Towns Group – Developing the Dowerin Recycling Centre, CGS 2009, \$11,540 plus GST.** The Dowerin Tidy Towns group in conjunction with the Shire received funding to assist in developing a purpose built, fully equipped community based recycling centre to ensure a higher volume of waste could be recycled.

The shed was completed by June 2010. The recycling centre has a range of equipment for volunteers to assist recycling efforts, such as a wool baler for cans and a new cardboard bailer for cardboard. Volunteers have reported an increase in pick ups during the monthly kerbside collection and an e-waste recycling promotion was well received. The construction of the shed has also helped to increase community awareness of recycling and encouraged more residents to recycle items other than newspaper.

The extra equipment and storage space has reduced transport time to Perth for volunteers and increased efficiency – reducing the number of volunteer hours spent on recycling activities, easing the burden on volunteers.

The Shire has proposed that over the next 6 months an outdoor recycling area adjacent to the shed will also be developed, with full public access for the community to drop their recyclables in large bins at the centre.

- **Williams Pride in your Town Committee – Trash to Treasure and Beyond, CGS 2009, \$18,452 plus GST.** The Williams Pride in your Town Committee, together with the Shire proposed to further enhance its recycling capabilities by purchasing a cardboard and plastics waste press to assist in waste minimisation and expand the existing recycling shed to cater for larger recyclable items by adding a concrete floor and patio extension.

The implementation of the recycling initiatives have had a positive impact on the community and made a considerable difference to the refuse site. There is a more concerted effort of the community to recycle pre-loved goods into the recycling shed, and people are making an effort to separate their recyclable items to remove them from the landfill site.

The Shire of Williams has also implemented town based kerbside recycling, and this has made a positive experience, with considerably less general rubbish being dumped in the landfill site.

Cardboard recycling has only been in place for one week, but it has already been noticed that larger users (roadhouses, general store and rural trading agencies) have made an effort to separate and flatpack their cardboard ready for baling to be recycled.

- **Earthwise Community – Naming the Waste, CGS 2007, \$4,250 plus GST.** The project purpose was to spread the key messages of Earthwise and the website production was a key step in this process. As the site is managed by volunteers, the website is seen as a useful way to keep others up to date with events and activities. Signs are also critical to Earthwise as the gardens are open at all times to the public and so information can be both onsite and electronic. The best promotion for the project has been production of the website -<http://earthwisewa.org/>

The project has been considered successful as there have been further extensions to infrastructure since this project has been completed, and many recycling activities continue at the site. These will draw more people through the site and signage will remain a key element to ongoing communication and education.

- **Naragebup (Rockingham Regional Environment Centre) – Waste Basket, CGS 2009, \$20,000 plus GST.** The grant provided a resource recovery and recycling centre for the Rockingham region and provided training to volunteers through workshops to make saleable items from recovered resources. It also provided for a retail outlet for items to be sold on consignment basis.

32 workshops were conducted, involving 137 participants. Almost 469kg of household waste was diverted from landfill, with approximately 364kg being collected by the local community. An online sustainability shop was created and will be maintained to provide information and help to sell recycled goods made.

The project attended 4 festivals promoting its activities and is a finalist in the Celebrate Rockingham Awards 2010 to be announced in late August.

- **City of Geraldton-Greenough – Rock Crushing Trial, SWIS 2009, \$50,000 plus GST.** The objective of the rock crushing trial was to recycle and re-use the C&D waste stockpile that had accumulated over the last 10 years at the Meru Waste Disposal Facility (approximately 40,000 tonnes over the last 5 years) and at decommissioned landfill sites in the former City of Geraldton.

The project involved screening and subsequent crushing of the C&D waste stockpiles, consisting of reinforcement wire, concrete, rock and rubble, bricks, etc. The material was fed into a crusher which pulverised the rock to between 14 – 20mm particle sizes.

The trial was successful and produced approx 20,000 tonnes of fine road base material for use on site and on other building and construction sites within the surrounding municipality. Following promotion of the activities within the Masters Builders Association (through meetings and workshops) there was genuine interest by construction firms in purchasing recycled road base produced by the City in the future. The City intends to pursue this line of income generation within the current financial year.

The Authority noted its disappointment in the report's quality and level of information.

RESOLUTION:

The Authority:

9.1.1 Noted the following two project terminations:

- **1st Donnybrook Scout Group – Encourage, Collect, Recycle, Reclaim, Reduce (CGS 2010); and**
- **Bunbury Community Garden – Bunbury Community Garden Waste & Recycling Services start-up (CGS 2010).**

9.1.2 Noted the final evaluation project reports received for completed projects from the following organisations:

- **Westralia Airports Corp (WAC) – Perth Airport Waste Audit / Zero Waste Plan (SWIS 2007);**
- **Curtin University – Recycled Concrete Road Base Performance Specifications for Local Government (SWIS 2009);**
- **Dowerin Tidy Towns Group – Developing the Dowerin Recycling Centre (CGS 2009);**
- **Williams Pride in your Town Committee – Trash to Treasure and Beyond (CGS 2009);**
- **Earthwise Community – Naming the Waste (CGS 2007);**
- **Naragebup (Rockingham Regional Environment Centre) – Waste Basket (CGS 2009); and**
- **City of Geraldton-Greenough – Rock Crushing Trial (SWIS 2009).**

9.1.3 Requested that the Westralia Airports Corp project report be referred to the relevant committee of the Waste Management Association of Australia (WA Branch).

9.1.4 Requested that the Institute of Public Works Engineers of Australia (IPWEA) be invited to undertake a peer review of the Curtin University *'Recycled Concrete Road base Performance Specifications for Local Government'* Report.

9.1.5 Agreed to provide a copy of the Curtin University report to WALGA for possible assessment under its strategic partnership arrangement with the Authority.

9.1.6 Noted its disappointment in the City of Geraldton-Greenough Rock Crushing Trial report.

9.2 Correspondence – Waste Authority/Ministerial

The Authority discussed the list of incoming and outgoing correspondence provided.

Members discussed the recent presentation by Professor Hiroki Hashizume on Japanese Waste Management – Challenges for Industrial and Municipal Waste held on 6 September through the Centre of Excellence in Cleaner Production (CECP). Those members able to attend provided feedback on the presentation, which was well received.

The Authority discussed the need to develop a plan for raising the profile and issues surrounding waste to energy. The Authority requested that a discussion paper be provided at the next Authority meeting, exploring issues surrounding waste to energy, steps to achieving outcomes over the next 5 years and key issues to be considered to guide direction.

The Authority discussed the possibility of running a seminar with stakeholders to explore waste to energy issues and noted possible opportunities for including the topic of waste to energy in the 2011 Waste & Recycle Conference program using the Japanese and Baltimore examples.

The Authority noted correspondence from an Eastern States company wishing to expand its business in the area of e-waste recycling. It was agreed that the Office of the Waste Authority would respond direct to the request in line with the discussion during the meeting.

RESOLUTION:

The Authority:

9.2.1 Noted the list of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

9.2.2 Noted the feedback on the CECP presentation provided by Professor Hiroki Hashizume on Japanese Waste Management – Challenges for Industrial and Municipal Waste.

9.2.3 Requested that a discussion paper be provided at the next Authority meeting, exploring issues surrounding waste to energy in line with the discussion.

9.2.4 Noted opportunities to run a seminar with stakeholders to explore waste to energy issues and include this topic at the 2011 Waste & Recycle Conference.

9.2.5 Noted that the Office of the Waste Authority would respond direct to correspondence received from an Eastern States company wishing to expand its business in the area of e-waste recycling.

10. PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

11.1 Monthly Report – Actual WMB staff numbers

The Authority noted that the actual staff numbers within the Waste Management Branch, DEC as at 31 August 2010 is 19 staff, of an approved number of 24 staff for the Branch. Members noted that four positions are being prepared for advertising within the Branch and a recruitment process will follow.

11.2 Towards Zero Waste Website Statistics – August 2010

The Authority noted the website statistics for August 2010.

Website activity is higher than the 4 previous months and reflects grants opening. Viewed traffic for August 2010 included 5,210 unique visits, 7,558 visits, 20,829 pages and 99,293 hits. The top pages visited during the reporting period included the homepage, demolition directory, SWIS, landfill and tyre recycling.

The Authority noted that the majority of visits had been directed via the DEC website.

11.3 Household Hazardous Waste Program – Year 3, 1st Quarter Report

The Authority noted the activities of the Household Hazardous Waste Program for the period 1 May – 31 July 2010. In this quarter, three temporary collection days were held, 525 vehicles attended the days, disposing of more than 16 tonnes of household hazardous waste, at a disposal cost of \$170,097 plus GST.

From the permanent facilities, more than 53 tonnes of batteries, CFL's, paint, gas bottles and general household hazardous waste was collected, at a disposal cost of \$268,934 plus GST.

A total of 69,537kg of household hazardous waste was collected through the temporary collection days and permanent storage facility collections in this quarter. Paint (waster and solvent based) was the greatest material collected by weight, and had the greatest cost of disposal.

11.4 Product Stewardship for Paint Meeting – 1 September 2010

The Authority received an update on the outcomes of a recent product stewardship for paint meeting held on 1 September.

As an outcome of the meeting, staff informed that an informal working group including representatives from the Authority, DEC, WALGA, the Australian Paint Manufacturers and Master Painters would be established to explore practical options of what to do with paint after it is collected in Western Australia. This would include finding possible local destinations and examining programs currently working in other States including the model used in Victoria.

The Authority noted possible opportunities for providing assistance towards recycling paint options in the future and noted that about 108 tonnes of paint is collected per annum in Western Australia.

RESOLUTION:

The Authority:

11.4.1 Noted the outcome of the recent product stewardship for paint meeting held on 1 September.

11.4.2 Agreed that staff would draft a letter of appreciation to meeting participants, re-iterating interest in a product stewardship arrangement for paint.

11.4.3 Agreed that a draft Terms of Reference for the informal working group be prepared.

11.4.4 Noted that a formal proposal for researching paint options may be forthcoming.

11.5 Update on Landfills in Aboriginal Communities Working Group

Staff provided an update on discussions towards finding alternative solutions for the disposal of construction and demolition waste currently going to landfills in Aboriginal communities and provided an outline of the process currently underway, entailing three tiers of government, to ensure the provision of municipal services in Aboriginal communities.

Discussions have occurred with representatives from the Department of Housing, the Centre for Appropriate Technology (Derby) and WALGA to develop a plan for cleaning up C&D waste in communities where Commonwealth-State housing activities has finished as well as for developing waste management plans for communities where housing activity is about to commence. A meeting of these organisations is being negotiated for late September 2010.

The Waste Authority noted opportunities to provide advice on the matter of waste management in Aboriginal communities and remote and rural areas during the development of the National Waste Policy (strategies 14 and 15) where DEC is charged with chairing the Regional and Rural Australia Working Group. The A/Chair requested to be included in meetings with the Department of Housing and WALGA on this matter.

RESOLUTION:

11.5.1 The Authority noted the information provided on landfills in Aboriginal communities and progress made to address municipal services in these communities.

11.5.2 The A/Chair requested to be included in meetings with the Department of Housing and WALGA on this matter.

11.6 Current Listing of Registered Lobbyists

The Authority noted the current listing of lobbyists registered on the State Government's Lobbyist Register as at 25 August 2010.

11.7 Waste & Recycle Conference 2010 & Waste Awards

The Authority received an update on the planning for the Waste & Recycle Conference and the Waste Authority Waste Awards. Members noted that 11 Award recipients would be attending the evening, with a further one to confirm.

11.8 Colmax Glass Plant Launch

The Authority noted the successful opening of the Colmax glass reprocessing plant in Kewdale on 26 August. 70 people attended the official opening by the Minister for Environment. Members viewed the media coverage of the event during the meeting.

11.9 Landfill Levy Outcomes from 1 January 2010 Increase

The Authority noted that in the January to March 2010 landfill levy quarter, inert landfill returns indicated a drop of 61% in reported volume to landfill (in relation to the previous quarter). Putrescible landfills indicated a drop of 19% in reported weight to landfill. Total levy received in the quarter was \$8.9M.

The April to June 2010 landfill levy quarter indicated an increase of reported inert volume to landfill by 80% (in comparison to January to March 2010). Putrescible landfills indicated an increase in reported weight of 7% overall. Total levy received in the quarter was \$10.2M.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Waste Awards – Support for Attendance

Staff informed that they had been approached by a finalist in the Waste Champion category of the inaugural Waste Awards advising of their difficulty in attending the event due to travel costs incurred from Walpole. The finalist sought the possibility of receiving financial assistance from the Authority to enable their attendance at the event.

The Authority discussed the possibility of providing a subsidy to offset travel and accommodation costs for finalists attending the event from non-metropolitan areas. The Authority agreed that a partial subsidy of up to a maximum of \$250 would be approved on the submission of receipts for travel, accommodation and meals (excluding alcohol) associated with attendance. This is limited to one person per finalist and where travel is greater than a 100 kilometre radius from Perth.

The Authority also agreed to integrate travel subsidies into future Awards structures, and allow for \$2,000 within the budget for travel subsidies outside of the metropolitan area. It was also agreed that this should be promoted for future Awards events.

RESOLUTION:

The Authority:

12.1.1 Agreed to provide a partial subsidy of up to \$250 to the finalist travelling from Walpole to offset travel (on the submission of receipts for travel, accommodation and meals associated with attendance).

12.1.2 Agreed to integrate travel subsidies into future Award structures and allow \$2,000 within the budget for subsidies. Subsidies would be offered to one person per finalist and where travel is greater than a 100 kilometre radius from Perth. Promotion of this will be included in future Awards events.

12.2 Recycling Tool Kit

Staff informed that they had been approached by an organisation wishing to use the Recycling Tool Kit for apprenticeship training in the building industry. The Authority considered the request and agreed to its use on the proviso that the cost of the recycling tool kit is not reflected in the fee structure for the course and the material included in the recycling kit is not varied in any way.

RESOLUTION:

The Authority:

12.2.1 Agreed to allow the use of the Recycling Tool Kit for an apprenticeship training course in the building industry subject to the cost of the kit not being included in the fee structure for the course and the material in the recycling kit not being altered.

12.2.2 Requested staff to advise Encycle of the Authority's decision in this regard.

12.3 Waste Management Branch Direct Costs 2009-2010

Staff circulated an updated copy of the Waste Management Branch direct costs for 2009-2010 for the Authority's consideration.

RESOLUTION:

12.3.1 The Authority agreed to adopt the 2009-2010 direct costs on the basis of the circulated paper and requested that it be included as an addendum in the Annual Report.

13. CLOSE

The meeting closed at 3.05pm.

14. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Waste Authority will be held on 6 October 2010, commencing at 11.00am in the 4th Floor Boardroom, Department of Environment and Conservation, The Atrium, 168 St Georges Terrace, Perth.

APPROVED / APPROVED WITH AMENDMENT



Jan Grimoldby (Ms)
A/CHAIR, WASTE AUTHORITY

6 October 2010