

**SANTA FE COUNTY SINGLE-USE PLASTICS AND POLYSTYRENE
WORKING GROUP
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023, 10:30 AM
100 CATRON ST., SANTA FE , NEW MEXICO**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Santa Fe County Single-Use Plastics and Polystyrene Working Group was called to order by Ms. Pierpoint, Chair, at 10:35 am, on Monday, February 6, 2023, at 100 Catron Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sara Pierpont, Chair
Kim Kelly
Gary Stoller
Joe Eiger

MEMBERS ABSENT

Karen Sweeney, Excused

OTHERS PRESENT

Commissioner Hank Hughes
Olivia Romo, Santa Fe County Constituent Services
Jacqueline Beam, Santa Fe County Sustainability Manager
Laura Jagles, Constituent Liaison for Commissioner Hansen
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Eiger, seconded by Ms. Kelly, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE The motion passed on a voice vote.

IV. MATTERS FROM THE WORKING GROUP

A. ASSIGNMENTS AND RESEARCH PLANNING

Chair Pierpoint shared her screen showing the work plan that was recently

discussed by the working group. The plan included everyone's assignments and tasks. Her thought is that we can review this and then work on our assignments for the remainder of the meeting.

Chair Pierpoint stated that Shirlene Sitton is going to attend our regular meeting this month to talk about their operation and bill.

Ms. Bean asked if they should discuss the education process as well. We could discuss that first and then break up and work on our tasks.

Mr. Eiger said in the original Resolution one of the alternatives was not to have an Ordinance and to have only education. He would like to see us make a decision on that today. Otherwise, we will spend a lot of time on educational plans and outreach items. He thinks the most effective thing would be to have an Ordinance. We had a discussion early on regarding educational programs or if we should focus on working of a Resolution.

Chair Pierpoint said Gary did research on that and found that voluntary education does not work in other states. Education would be complimentary to anything we did, not in lieu of an Ordinance.

Mr. Eiger said he is not saying that we should not have an education program, but it would be good to decide today if we are going to focus on an Ordinance.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Eiger, seconded by Chair Pierpoint, saying based on the research conducted by this group, we will not just have an educational component to reduce single use plastic, we will focus on an Ordinance that will supplement the educational component.

VOTE The motion passed on a roll call vote as follows:

Chair Pierpoint, yes; Mr. Eiger, yes; Ms. Kelly, yes; Mr. Stoller, yes.

Chair Pierpoint said the educational component can address what this looks like if the Ordinance passes.

There was a discussion around what the working group could work on today and what individual members would focus on as outlined in the plan. Also discussed was the data from the waste audit.

V. DISCUSSION AND NEXT STEPS

Chair Pierpoint said we will be giving a presentation to the County Commissioners. We need to begin to form an outline of what that presentation will

entail. We can start with outlining the problems, then talk about what is happening around our state, then what other states are doing.

Ms. Romo said after our presentation from the City of Santa Fe we could say to the Commissioners here is where we are and then have what we recommend to the Commissioners. Our Media Coordinator can assist with putting the packet material together for the presentation, a high level of research and final recommendations. We could also direct staff to word the Ordinance.

Chair Pierpoint said we have time to do this. We have until September, but can get it done before that. We can divide up parts of the process between members and staff.

There was a discussion about what needs to be done and who will do it.

Mr. Eiger and Mr. Stoller will work on policy recommendations.

Ms. Beam recommended becoming members of some of the organizations listed in the research and plan.

Chair Pierpoint recommended becoming a member of the National Stewardship Council and Beyond Plastics.

Mr. Stoller said he and Karen are members of the Board for Beyond Plastics. We can share information from them with this group.

Chair Pierpoint said we want to promote reuse. She would like to look at how to change the law so that when you order take out food you can bring your own container to put the food into. We need to also look at the big picture and what other places are doing.

Chair Pierpoint said for the outline, we can state the problems, then what is happening in New Mexico, then what is happening in other states, then the costs to the County and implementation of the plan then enforcement of the plan.

Mr. Stoller said regarding illegal dumping Amigos Bravos is a nonprofit that is interested in that.

Ms. Bean said we need to think about the capacity of the County for enforcement and make recommendations on our findings.

Ms. Romo stated that it will require her to add code enforcement people.

Commissioner Hughes said there are two components in that. One is calling up businesses and reviewing the new Ordinance with them and sending out letters from

the Sustainability Department letting them know if they are not in compliance. There would need to be an additional FTE or part time person to do that. Two is legal enforcement, which would be rare. That would be under code enforcement. It might require another staff person for all the types of enforcement.

Ms. Bean said we are going to have to really sell enforcement as a priority since other codes are not being enforced.

Chair Pierpoint said the possibilities of enforcement, costs and reporting will need to be reflected in the presentation under the impact analysis.

Commissioner Hughes said this is why he divided it into two parts. One would be done by Sustainability for enforcement and the other under Code Enforcement. He hopes we never have to take anyone to court.

Chair Pierpoint said it could be fines rather than court.

Ms. Bean said in our office we are focused on education and we could take that on, but we still need enforcement.

Commissioner Hughes said he doesn't think the County will make much money on the 10 cent fee for bags. Certainly not enough to pay for an additional person.

Chair Pierpoint asked how that money is collected.

Commissioner Hughes said the Treasurers Office collects our money.

There was a discussion around funding and which Departments would be responsible.

Chair Pierpoint said she would like to set up a meeting with the Santa Fe County Departments who would need to be part of this plan such as Sustainability, Growth Management and Finance.

Ms. Kelly asked where does the 10 cents go.

Ms. Beam said 9 cents goes to Environmental Services and 1 cent goes to the store for administration of the program.

Chair Pierpoint said so in our outline we will have the impacts portion and then our recommendations to the County. Can we ask for money.

Commissioner Hughes said yes. Ask for what you want so we can put it in the budget for the next fiscal year.

Ms. Bean said she will set up the meetings with the Departments.

Ms. Kelly and Ms. Sweeney will look into the restaurant issues. Ms. Sweeney will look at alternatives costs.

Chair Pierpoint said as to next steps, we will work on our assignments and will include an ask for money for an education roll out and enforcement in our recommendations.

Ms. Romo recommended that the group focus on one outline item at a time and complete that portion so it can go to Legal for vetting.

Ms. Bean said we will find out new things as we go along so she would hate to give them documents that need to be changed. We can set up deadlines for people to bring in their work and can create drafts of the segments.

Ms. Romo said we need at least a month for Legal to review this document. We would have to have a draft by July.

VI. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Pierpoint said as to the next meeting, we can look at everyone's information regarding the big picture part of the presentation at the meeting on February 21st. The meeting will be from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

Ms. Romo said we will need the packet information by February 16th. That will include draft reports from the assignments and/or charts and tables if necessary.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION A motion was made by Ms. Kelly, seconded by Chair Pierpoint, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE The motion passed on a voice vote.

There being no further business before the Group the meeting adjourned at 12:06 pm.

Sara Pierpoint, Chair

Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer