

**SANTA FE COUNTY  
SINGLE-USE PLASTICS WORKING GROUP  
Tuesday, June 27, 2023, 5:39 PM  
100 CATRON STREET, SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Santa Fe County Single-Use Plastics Working Group was called to order by Karen Sweeny, Vice Chair, on Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 5:39 pm, in the Johnson Conference Room, 100 Catron St., Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Joseph Eigner  
Gary Stoller  
Karen Sweeney  
Sara Pierpont, Chair (Arrived at 5:54pm)

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Kim Kelly  
Jacqueline Beam, SFC Sustainability Manager  
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Olivia Romo, Constituent Services  
Jacqueline Beam, Sustainability Manager

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION** A motion was made by Mr. Stoller, seconded by Mr. Eigner, to approve the agenda as presented.

**VOTE** The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MAY 16, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

No changes at this time.

**MOTION** A motion was made by Mr. Eigner, seconded by Mr. Stoller, to approve the minutes as amended.

**VOTE** The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

## V. MATTERS FROM THE WORKING GROUP

### A. ASSIGNMENTS AND RESEARCH PLANNING

Vice Chair, Sweeny requested that the working group conduct one final review of the draft single-use product ordinance with changes from Chair Pierpont.

Gary Stoller will submit the new citation for the declaration and policy, specifically from the 2016 New Plastics Economy-Rethinking the future of plastics to strengthen the opening statement.

**Applicability:** Mr. Eigner requested that we include the following verbiage: "This ordinance applies to all retail establishments in Santa Fe County".

**Definitions:** Joe Eigner is concerned about the exception for the single use plastics straw. We do not need to include this as an exception, especially those residents with disabilities? Businesses should be poised to provide straws to customers who have disabilities. Gabe will look up citation for straw requests for compliance for those with disabilities as a prohibition in section 4 b.

Member Sweeny recommends we stay consistent with our language and use the word plastic instead of plastics with plural, S.

The \$.10 is a good cost for paper bags so the County can make some money for education. This is what the City of Santa Fe does and other municipalities have done. Mostly for consistency, the working group recommends we adopt the \$.10 for a paper bag to stay consistent of prices for Santa Fe at large.

Omit B. in Section 2 of Expanded polystyrene plate, cup or food container.

Joe Eigner discussed how some compostable items like milk cartons are being supported by the manufactures to be recycled. However, other plastic lined or PFAS items are not compostable and still creating pollution issues.

Should the committee deleted section 6 and leave section 2 as written and that manufactures cannot purchase or sell expanded polystyrene items? Committee decided that yes, this would limit what retail establishments stock on their shelves.

**Enforcement and Effective Date:** We need to define who gets the \$.10 at the County? Yes, the ordinance should be made clear that the Sustainability Division should receive the monies.

Gabe will confirm the code enforcement policies and procedures of escalation if a

business does not comply with the ordinance after fines and notices of violations.

Sarah Pierpont recommends that Code enforcement tracks all the notices of violation.

For homework, look up exemptions for disabilities in request for straws and other products. Read the public information campaign section. Let's work on those language changes and email them to Sarah to be included in the draft.

## **VI. DISCUSSION AND NEXT STEPS**

It was decided that Chair Pierpont will provide the updated draft Ordinance for review at the next meeting and any changes to the public information/educational campaign section of the ordinance. The group will formally finalize the ordinance at that time and be available and open to any recommendations by Santa Fe County Legal and the Managers office on finalizing their recommendations.

## **VII. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None.

## **VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

Olivia Romo recommended the Committee read and investigate why other local governments are rolling back their plastics ordinances and regulations.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Karen, Second by Joe Eigner. There being no further business before the Working Group the meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

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Sara Pierpont, Chair

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Olivia Romo, Communications Coordinator