

**Summary Minutes
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)
February 17, 2011
Lazarus Government Center
50 W. Town Street
Columbus, OH 43215**

The Following Members Announced Their Attendance at Roll Call:

Erin Miller, Municipalities
Thomas Ferrell, Counties
Chris Jacobs, Joint County SWMDs
Joseph Denen, Municipalities
Holly Christmann, Single County SWMDs
Gary Sims, Private Recycling Industry
William Murdock, ODOD
Belle Everett, Townships
Terrie TerMeer, ODNR
Timothy Lynch, Townships
Dan Harris, Ohio EPA
Jean Byrd, Public
Matt Trokan, Statewide Environ. Advocacy Org.
Steve Hill, Industrial Generators
Christopher Valerian, Private SW Mgt. Industry
Erv Ball, Health Departments

Election of Officers

Gary Sims MOVED to nominate Erv Ball for the position of Vice Chairperson. Timothy Lynch SECONDED the motion. Erv Ball was elected Vice Chairperson on voice vote.

Terrie TerMeer MOVED to nominate Holly Christmann for the position of Secretary. Erv Ball SECONDED the motion. Holly Christmann was elected Secretary on voice vote.

Review of the November 18, 2010 meeting minutes

It was noted that the draft version of the November 18, 2010 meeting minutes emailed to members prior to today's date had been slightly updated based upon corrections made by Holly Christmann. The version distributed to members today is the corrected version.

Belle Everett MOVED to accept the **November 18, 2010** meeting minutes presented today. William Murdock SECONDED the motion and the minutes were approved on voice vote.

DSIWM General and Legislative update – Dan Harris, Ohio EPA - DSIWM

Mr. Harris shared that the Division has several draft rule packages and draft guidance documents that are posted on DSIWM's web site. There were a couple key rule packages highlighted by Mr. Harris. The updated C&DD rules are out for interested party comment. The updated composting rule package is also available on the Division's web site. With the composting rules, there are several multi-program rules being revised. The multi-program rules apply to C&DD, MSW, transfer facilities, infectious waste facilities, and others. To evaluate the applicable rule requirements, it is necessary to first choose the program rule you are interested in learning more about (Ex. Composting), and then it will refer you to the multi-program rules, if applicable.

DSIWM is continuing to read and consider comments related to policy development on how the Agency will regulate waste to energy and conversion systems.

Pam Allen responded to a question regarding information about Ohio EPA's new Director. Ms. Allen explained that Director Nally is from the Indiana DEP. In this position he worked as a deputy director to improve efficiency for enforcement and permitting processes. Prior to this he worked with Perdue Farms. Ms. Allen mentioned that she heard the Director identify protection of the public health and environment as his primary concern. He wants the Agency to do this with the highest level of efficiency.

Ms. Allen also covered some changes ahead for the Agency related to three divisions now in existence. DSWIM, DHWM, and DERR will be combining to form two divisions. These changes are a result of taking advantage of some retirements in the Agency in order to consolidate resources.

Ms. Everett asked if the new Director has expressed any opinion on the existence of SWAC. Ms. Allen explained that specific discussions with the Director have not included anything regarding changes related to SWAC.

Ms. TerMeer provided an update for ODNR to say that the Division is still going through transitions under Ohio's new administration. The focus for the new Director of ODNR has been addressing tourism and considerations to create jobs with the Division's market development program.

Mr. Murdock discussed ODOD's involvement for the Governor's new program titled "Jobs Ohio." ODOD will continue, status quo, for the next six months. Many changes under the Governor's comprehensive plan will be forthcoming.

Andrew Booker provided an update on a project that the Planning Unit has been working on for big city recycling. The Unit has been working with six of Ohio's largest cities to identify common issues and best practices. The Unit hopes to schedule additional follow-up meetings in the spring.

Capital Crossroads (Melanie Houston, Capital Crossroads)

Mr. Booker introduced Melanie Houston and Cleve Ricksecker of Capital Crossroads (CC). This private-sector organization is voluntarily funded by more than 500 property owners with the primary purpose of promoting downtown initiatives. Today's topic highlighted CC's involvement in recycling initiatives.

CC formed a group of downtown property owners to consider the approach of using a single hauler as a provider for recycling. Due to a number of variables this approach could not be pursued.

As a general statement, downtown property owners have many concerns which tend to crowd out matters related to management of solid waste and recycling. For example, the vacancy rate for downtown properties is a major issue of focus for this group. So it was soon determined that any program to promote recycling needed to be easy, voluntary, and risk free.

The idea of creating "strength in numbers" was put to the test for recycling. A model contract was created that included a consortium of 35 downtown properties for recycling. As a result of this initiative, thirty-five waste audits were performed and it was found that 71 percent of waste being generated was recycled (14.5% diversion). The waste audits that were performed yielded an opinion that as much as a 50 percent diversion rate could be achieved.

In addition, there have been two pilot projects for waste diversion. One project involved diversion of paper and the other was for food waste diversion. Sixty-five and twenty-five tons of waste have been diverted by the paper and food waste pilot projects, respectively.

Capital Crossroads intends to continue work toward waste diversion and hopes that other downtown property owners can learn through the experiences of the consortium and the pilot projects.

Recycling Markets (Steve Sargent, Rumpke)

Mr. Sargent presented a graph that showed a pattern of increasing positive markets for the past several years with the exception of 2008. In 2008 there was a dramatic drop in recycling markets. It reached the point where even overseas companies ceased taking recycling materials.

Although what happened in 2008 has had a lasting impact, there has been real change since this time. Global markets tend to be the driving force behind continued positive growth. Additionally, the business sector's embracing of sustainability concepts has helped cause materials to be available and in higher demand.

Available technologies to accommodate single stream collections have also enhanced recycling markets. Single stream technologies have required increased capital investments for recycling processors. However, the investments have become essential with the prevalence of single stream collection systems. These systems are also able to account for changes in the types of recycling materials being generated. For example, these technologies have been able to keep pace with increasing generation amounts of cardboard from the residential sector and the decreasing amounts of newspaper from this sector.

Markets for metal recycling have nearly always been consistent. While the pricing for the material is sometimes lower and disappointing, there always seems to be a demand for the materials. For the past three to four months copper has been selling at record highs.

Mr. Sargent mentioned that China is a huge driving force for our recycling markets. If they pull out of the market a ripple effect will be experienced here in the United States.

As a final note, Mr. Sargent informed SWAC that Rumpke is making more investments in recycling plants in 2011 than in landfills. This is the first time in the history of their company that this statement has ever been made.

Industrial Sector Recycling Initiatives (Honda of America and GE)

Robert Bottom works for Honda of America (Honda) in Company Facilities and Environmental out of Marysville, Ohio. Mr. Bottom reported that Honda is reaching a major milestone in the near future by being nearly "zero waste" by the end of March.

There are three main manufacturing sites for Honda in Ohio. The Marysville plant produces 440,000 vehicles a year. The East Liberty plant produces 240,000 a year. The plant in Anna is an engine plant that services their entire company.

Honda expresses the desire to be a company that society wants to exist. So being a "green" company is directed downward from upper level executives. The ideal image is to eliminate waste. Getting to this point takes much time and effort. The company's desire to eliminate waste is accompanied by a desire to do so at a flat cost. To date, the company has been able to achieve this goal.

Company officials have found that segregating recycling and waste elimination are the best practices to employ for achieving zero waste. Most recently the company has worked to divert waste generated in the cafeteria areas. There are about 12,000 people provided with cafeteria service at 12 different cafeterias. The four largest cafeterias have moved from single use plateware to washable dishes. These four have also started composting organic wastes.

In order for zero waste to be achieved, it is imperative to get everyone in the company involved. A culture must be developed toward waste reduction and recycling.

Steve Hill from General Electric provided insights for his company. Mr. Hill is the environmental programs leader for GE's aviation division.

GE employs a significant number of people in Ohio. Aviation headquarters for the company is in Cincinnati. The Cleveland area is the focus of GE's lighting business. GE's money capital business is in Canton and the health care business portion of GE is in Aurora. In total, GE employs 13,700 people in Ohio.

The environmental commitments made by GE fall under a program called Ecomagination. The company has 10 million dollars invested in projects today to help solve environmental problems. A big part of this falls under the company's aviation divisions.

GE has commitments in place to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and energy usage. Just last year the company made new commitments to reduce water usage.

The company tends to be very transparent regarding its environmental impacts by publishing a citizenship report each year.

Mr. Hill discussed paper recycling as a practical example of the company's activities for recycling. The company's aviation division is involved in producing written proprietary information. Recycling of paper with proprietary information posed a unique challenge. For the Cincinnati plant the company employs a safe shred operation that uses lockable

storage units.

GE has a plant in Bucyrus that is the North American leader for producing fluorescent lamps. This plant includes a system for glass recovery where the crushed glass is sent for recycling.

Appliance sales by the company to big "box stores" include a take back program in some states but not yet in Ohio.

The company has been collecting world-wide data for its waste generation in the past three years. In 2009 waste generation declined significantly because of the world economy

Overview of the Miami County SWMD (Cindy Bach, Coordinator)

The Miami County SWMD is a division of the county's Sanitary Engineering Dept. Ms. Bach began by giving a history of the District. A landfill operated in the county closed in 1982. An incinerator was built in the mid-60's and operated until 1973. The transfer facility was built by the county and was finished in 1998.

Miami County has a population of 103,640. The transfer facility, operated by the county, allows the county to enforce flow control. District recyclables are processed at the transfer facility.

The District operates on tipping fees collected at the transfer facility. There are no generation fees and no tier disposal fees.

The District joined with Montgomery County to bid a contract for hauling of recyclables. The contract was awarded to Rumpke with subcontracting to another company for transportation. District staff load trailers from drop-offs and stage them.

Miami SWMD is involved with festivals for collection of recyclables. The District holds drop-off events for HHW and electronics. Residents are charged at the events.

The District has a web site and is involved with educational outreach to schools. In 2010, the District began offering a grant to school districts to help with recycling.

Out-of-State Waste (Andrew Booker)

Mr. Booker explained that Ohio is a net importer of solid waste. The amount imported to Ohio has remained steady the past few years at around 3.5 million. New York City is identified as the city that sends the most waste into Ohio.

The landfills in Ohio that tend to receive the most out-of-state waste are connected by rail. The Apex, Sunny Farms, and Carbon Lime landfills take much of the out-of-state waste.

Approximately 13-15 percent of waste disposed in Ohio is generated out-of-state.

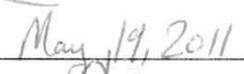
In 2009, Ohio exported 1.3 million tons.

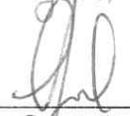
Agenda Items for the May 19, 2011 SWAC meeting

Mention of a few potential agenda topics included: presentation by another solid waste management district, inviting other industry representatives to discuss company recycling efforts, review of a glass study, and information from the waste synergy group.

Mr. Harris declared meeting adjournment.

Respectfully submitted: 
Vice Chair

Minutes approved on: 

Certified by: 
Secretary

