

**Summary Minutes  
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)  
March 25, 2010  
Lazarus Government Center  
50 W. Town Street  
Columbus, OH 43215**

**The Following Members Announced Their Attendance at Roll Call:**

Eilert Ofstead, Environmental Advocacy Organizations  
Erv Ball, Health Departments  
Erin Miller, Municipalities  
Steve Hill, Industrial Generators  
Terrie TerMeer, ODNR  
Holly Christmann, Single County SWMDs  
Thomas Ferrell, Counties  
Chris Jacobs, Joint County SWMDs  
Joseph Denen, Municipalities  
Larry Johns, Townships  
Kathy Trent, Private Solid Waste Management Industry  
Belle Everett, Townships

Chuck Keiper, Counties, arrived after roll call.

**Welcome and Introductions – Andrew Booker, Ohio EPA – DSIWM**

Mr. Booker indicated that the vacant seat representing the private recycling industry should be filled before the next SWAC Meeting.

**Review of the November 19, 2009 meeting minutes**

Steve Hill MOVED to accept the November 19, 2009 meeting minutes presented today. Erv Ball SECONDED the motion and the minutes were approved on voice vote.

**Update on Legislative/DSIWM Issues – Andrew Booker, Ohio EPA-DSIWM**

Mr. Booker indicated that the 2009 State Solid Waste Management Plan (State Plan) was adopted by Director Korleski on March 3, 2010. It is available on Ohio EPA's website.

The County Commissioners Association of Ohio has sponsored a solid waste training course titled "After It Leaves the Curb." The training is intended for Ohio government decision and policy makers to educate them about solid waste and the related laws, regulations, etc. In addition to four training sessions to be held across the state, the training is being disseminated on DVD and YouTube.

Ohio EPA's eBusiness Center is now operational. The eBusiness Center is a secure portal for the regulated community and consultants to electronically complete and file Ohio EPA-related reports and permit applications. The electronic transfer of funds will be incorporated into its functions later this year.

Letters were recently sent to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Georgia Environmental Protection Division by U.S. EPA relating to recent discussions about reversing landfill bans for yard waste to increase methane production at landfills. The letters indicated that reversal of yard waste bans would be inconsistent with the preferred waste management hierarchy. It was related that Ohio has a yard waste ban in place and that the State Plan reinforces the need to divert yard waste from landfills.

Recently, Ohio EPA's Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management (DSIWM) sent a letter to all the Solid Waste Management Districts (SWMDs) reminding them that SWMD-sponsored collection events can only accept household hazardous waste (HHW), and are not to accept hazardous waste from non-household generators at such events.

An update on the rules of the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne (STW) SWMD was provided. The Court of Appeals issued an opinion invalidating the rules that were passed by the STW SWMD prior to Ohio EPA issuing their plan. The court opinion affirmed that the rules were not enforceable once Ohio EPA issued the plan. It was also related that the recent budget bill included a provision that requires Ohio EPA to approve certain rules that restrict out-of-district waste.

The statewide roll-out of the Disaster Debris Training for SWMDs and Emergency Management Agencies (EMAs) is complete. Over 200 people attended the training statewide, including representatives for 33 of the 52 SWMDs. Feedback from the evaluations indicated that efforts to disseminate this type of information are greatly appreciated. The concept of the training was not just to educate SWMDs and EMAs them on their respective roles in the event of a disaster, but to foster further cooperation and development of debris management plans.

An electronics waste recycling bill was introduced by Representative Murray in February. The legislation provides for a manufacturer responsibility system with an initial setup period of one year. After this, manufacturers would be required to advise consumers on how their old electronics can be recycled at no charge to them. In other states, these programs have taken the form of drop offs at retailers and centralized recycling locations. The legislation also creates an Electronic Waste Recycling Advisory Council to consider several related e-waste questions, such as: mandatory recycling minimums applied to each manufacturer, the expansion of the program to other devices, and an outright ban of the acceptance of e-waste at landfills.

It was indicated that testimony from proponents of the legislation was heard yesterday by proponents of the legislation and the testimonies by opponents have yet to occur. Twenty other states have electronics legislation, most having a producer-responsibility framework. Terrie TerMeer related to the advisory council that would be created by the proposed legislation, and indicated that SWAC should be the appropriate body to perform the necessary guidance. Kathy Trent indicated that Waste Management is preparing suggestions to improve the bill and encourage electronics recycling. She also indicated that the preferred method would make the decisions at the federal level, rather than having different requirements from state to state.

Erin Miller also provided an update. The City of Columbus has made a commitment to offer non-subscription curbside recycling to 227,000 households by 2012. The plan is to offer bi-weekly recycling collection, with yard waste collection on the alternate weeks. Currently the city is getting input through surveys to determine such things as what types of containers to consider.

### **Overview of the North Central SWMD (Dennis Baker, Coordinator)**

Mr. Baker provided an overview of the six county SWMD, which includes Allen, Champaign, Hardin, Madison, Shelby, and Union counties. The SWMD encompasses a large area and the local county recycling/litter prevention offices have traditionally been used rather than having to travel the long distances. Highlights of their many pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) programs were provided. The programs differ depending on the collection system that is used but always includes free curbside recycling. In one of the counties, the SMWD even bills each customer for services and bids out the contracts. The SWMD built a non-profit recycling center, Union Recyclers, in Marysville with help from an ODNR grant and a second recycling center is planned to be built in Allen County. The SWMD is funded by only a four dollar generation fee, but will be raising the fee to five dollars soon.

### **Cooksey Landfill Clean-up: Responsible Parties (Andrew Booker, DSIWM)**

Mr. Booker related to the former Cooksey Brothers Landfill in Kentucky that caught fire on January 3, 2006. The landfill used shredded tires as daily cover. The U.S. EPA helped to remediate the site because the owner did not have the resources to close the facility properly. The U.S. EPA's regional office sent letters in December of 2008 to all the tire dealers known to have sent tires to the facility, which included some retailers in southern Ohio. The letters notified them that may be responsible for clean-up costs at the landfill. Ohio EPA is on the record indicating it is not a good idea to go after the tire dealers to recover the expenses.

### **Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program (Andrew Booker, DSIWM)**

The Ohio Department of Development will roll out their Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program on March 26, 2010. Essentially, this is the appliance equivalent of the "Cash for Clunkers" program that was done for older vehicles. Using funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the program will provide rebates for approximately 89,000 energy efficient appliances on a first come, first serve basis. Ohio EPA partnered with ODOD to facilitate a recycling component to the program. A list of partnering retailers is provided, such as Lowes and Sears, and Ohio EPA (with the help of the SWMDs) did outreach to the recyclers across the state to create a list facilities for participants to bring the old appliances for recycling. The outreach included a registration process that allowed a basic compliance check to minimize concerns about the management of refrigerant from the appliances.

### **Ohio's Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards (Anne Goodge, PUCO)**

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) is close to adopting rules that implement the alternative energy portfolio standard created by Senate Bill 221, Ohio's electricity law. Ohio's alternative energy portfolio standard requires that by 2025, at least 25 percent of electricity sold in the state by electric distribution utilities and electric services companies must be generated from alternative energy resources. At least half of this energy must come from renewable energy resources, including wind, biomass, hydro and fuel cell, and a minimum of one-half percent must come directly from solar resources. One half of these renewable energy facilities must be located in Ohio.

It was clarified what advanced resources were versus the renewable energy resources. Advanced resources include clean coal and advanced nuclear technologies. Others would include the use of agricultural product, wood, or grasses at a coal-fired power plant as well as the use of landfill gas, food waste, manure, sewer plant gas, and solid waste. Solid waste is listed as renewable, but there is a requirement for technology that is not principally combustion. An example given was a gasification plant that had no emissions.

The rules to be adopted put into practice annual benchmarks, or incremental percentage requirements, that electric utilities and service companies must meet to fulfill the renewable portion of the portfolio standard. Exceptions for a single year can be made if a utility can demonstrate why the benchmarks are not met, but would have to make up the difference the following year.

It was clarified that PUCO cannot certify a product, such as a pallet, to verify that the energy standards are met. PUCO certifies the facility that produces the pallet.

PUCO is the regulatory agency involved. The Ohio Air Quality Development Authority is the department that offers business assistance, such as tax credits and financing options, to purchase equipment or make operational changes.

**ODNR Updates: Tire Amnesty Grants and Ohio's Glass Recycling Initiative (Terrie TerMeer, DRLP)**

Ms. TerMeer related that an additional \$500,000 was included in the grant monies to facilitate market development for tires, making a total of \$1.5 million available. The Tire Amnesty Grants provide financial assistance to Ohio's local governments, businesses, schools, state colleges or public universities, health districts, soil and water conservation districts and non-profit organizations for the following purposes:

- to design a program to promote sustainable scrap tire collection drives
- to sponsor a drop off effort during a specified period of time
- to engage in targeted clean up events

Applicants must ensure that the tires collected will be used as feedstock for a viable and technologically proven scrap tire end-use market or beneficial use as designated by the Ohio EPA. Applicants may represent multiple local government entities and may address multiple markets for scrap tires.

Ohio is home to a significant amount of industry that uses recovered glass. That industry has indicated a need for more high quality recycled glass. The industry currently gets most of their feedstock from other states. The glass has commented on Ohio's limited infrastructure to obtain the quality of glass the industry needs. Potential pilot projects are currently being identified across the state. Bars and restaurants, a sector that currently has limited recycling infrastructure, will be targeted. Beer and wine wholesalers are other potential partners that could help with the issue of back-hauling the material. A request for proposals is being drafted and barriers, processing potential, etc. are being identified to boost the amount of recycled glass that is available to the industry.

**Update on RecycleBank/Toter Pilot Programs (Holly Christmann, Hamilton County SWMD)**

RecycleBank is an incentive-based recycling program where residents receive points based on the amount recycled using large toter carts. Points can then be redeemed for "RecycleBank dollars." In October of 2008, the City of Montgomery began a RecycleBank pilot for 3,400 units in cooperation with the Hamilton County SWMD, ODNR and Rumpke. This was the first RecycleBank program in Ohio. The goals were to increase recycling participation by 25 percent and a 32 percent increase in the city's recycling rate. RecycleBank's fee for the program is 50 cents per unit per month.

The results show significant waste reduction and increases in participation rates and the amounts recycled:

Recycling rate: Pre-RecycleBank = 18%  
Post-RecycleBank = 28.6%

Lbs recycled/hh: Pre-RecycleBank = 571  
Post-RecycleBank = 857

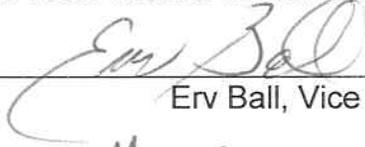
Participation rate: Pre-RecycleBank = 68%  
Post-RecycleBank = ~87%

Tons recycled increased by 50%

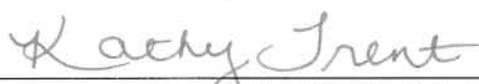
Another subdivision, with similar demographics as Montgomery, implemented a switch for 764 units from subscription curbside recycling with bins to contracted curbside recycling with 64 gallon carts. It is difficult to isolate the increase associated with the switch to carts versus the switch from subscription to non-subscription services. According to SERA, a three to five percent increase is expected from switching to contracted recycling services. Overall, the increase in participation and recycling was similar to Montgomery's implementation of the RecycleBank pilot. The recycling rate increased to 26 percent from 16 percent, a 60 percent increase in recycling tonnages was seen, 849 lbs/hh was recycled, and a 13 percent reduction in waste was achieved.

**Agenda Items for the May 20, 2010 SWAC meeting**

The Ohio Department of Transportation is slated to present an overview of their green initiatives. The Landfill Methane Outreach Program and the yard waste ban were also mentioned as possibilities for future SWAC meetings agendas. Chuck Keiper MOVED to adjourn the meeting and Chris Jacobs SECONDED the motion.

Respectfully submitted:   
Erv Ball, Vice Chair

Minutes approved on: May 20, 2010

Certified by:   
Kathy Trent, Secretary