

Summary Minutes
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)
May 20, 2010
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
Larry Johns, Townships
Kathy Trent, Private Solid Waste Management Industry
Gary Sims, Private Recycling Industry
William Murdock, ODOD
Dan Harris, Ohio EPA
Jean Byrd, Public
Eilert Ofstead, Environmental Advocacy Organizations
Erv Ball, Health Departments

Terrie TerMeer, ODNR, and Joseph Denen, Municipalities, arrived after roll call.

Welcome and Introductions – Dan Harris, Ohio EPA - DSIWM

Mr. Harris mentioned that the agenda was shuffled because Ms. Bach from the Miami County Solid Waste Management District (SWMD) was not able to present today. Fortunately, Ms. Shaw from the Clark County SWMD agreed to make a presentation.

Two new members were introduced to the group. William Murdock was appointed by the Director of the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) to sit on SWAC on her behalf. Mr. Murdock is the Director of ODOD's Urban Development Division. Gary Sims is the new appointee for the Private Recycling Industry. Mr. Sims is with Sims Bros, Inc., a scrap management business in central Ohio.

In addition, the appointment/reappointment process is under way for the members whose seats expire June 23, 2010. We bid farewell to Eilert Ofstead, statewide environmental advocacy organizations, and Larry Johns, Townships. Both individuals have served on SWAC since 2006 and were thanked for their contributions during those years, especially during the recent update of the State Plan.

Review of the March 25, 2010 meeting minutes

Larry Johns MOVED to accept the March 25, 2010 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, related to the recently proposed electronics recycling legislation. Ohio EPA, Dell and the Sierra Club provided testimonies in support of the bill. It is likely there will be opposition testimonies, but Ohio EPA is not aware of anything scheduled at this point.

Andrew also referred to a recent "Green Venues" meeting he attended with U.S. EPA in Cleveland. The initiative is a voluntary partnership focused on helping entertainment and sports venues improve the sustainability of their facilities. Participating venues will make measurable improvements in energy use, water consumption, materials and waste management, air quality and other areas. Progressive Field (Indians), and the Quicken Loans Arena (Cavaliers), among other area venues, are active in the program.

Terrie TerMeer, ODNR-DRLP, provided information concerning planned focus group meetings and stakeholder survey to get input about the future role of soil and water conservation districts. She also related that a request for proposals was just made available to research glass recycling in Ohio.

Dan Harris will be participating in the ASTSWMO Solid Waste Subtitle D Task Force. The task force is focusing on the proposed federal regulation of coal combustion wastes, the proposed federal changes in the subtitle D solid waste definition to address use of select solid wastes (using tires, biomass as fuel) and potential greenhouse gas requirements for municipal solid waste landfills.

A number of significant rule packages will be updated in the near future. Transfer station, composting, financial assurance, licensing, and the multi-program rules will all be visited. New draft rules for interested party review include rules that would allow for design and operation as a bio-reactor landfill (vs. current dry-tomb landfill designs) as a research and demonstration project. Such rules would also necessitate obtaining USEPA approval of the Ohio program. Through the state program approval process, USEPA requires that bio-reactor landfills go through a research and development process in order to use the wet, microbial design of a bio-reactor landfill. Kathy Trent indicated Waste Management operates such a landfill in Louisville, KY and mentioned her organization supports continuing the research and development categorization. Eventually, regulations on the federal level are anticipated to move bio-reactor landfills beyond this research and demonstration phase.

Big City Recycling Update (Andrew Booker, OEPA-DSIWM)

Mr. Booker focused on the efforts of most of Ohio's biggest cities to advance their recycling programs. The following is a summary of recent recycling developments in Ohio's big cities:

Cincinnati:

- Longest running major city curbside recycling program
- 98,000 households
- Municipal waste collection service w/contracted recycling pick-up
- Paid through taxes (no specific sanitation charge)

Moving towards city-wide RecycleBank program (route-based):

- 7-year contract, possible 3-yr extension
- Automated collection
- 64 or 96-gallon wheeled carts for recycling
- Estimated \$3.8 million to purchase carts
- Every other week collection
- Looking at developing volume-based system (charge for service to residents)
- Revenue sharing for value of recyclables

Cleveland:

- 150,000 Households
- Municipal waste collection
- Had very small curbside recycling pilot in 1990, dropped in 2003

2006:

- New Mayor was elected that wanted recycling for Cleveland to be a priority.
- Automated waste collection
- Experimented with various equipment options
- 96-gallon trash carts

2007:

- Pilot automated curbside recycling collection
- 64-gallon carts for recyclables
- 15,000 households (10%)
- Most difficult areas in city

Mayor's Mandate: Mandatory Recycling City-wide

- Additional 25,000 households in 2011
- Additional 25,000 each year thereafter
- \$28,000,000 projected costs (trucks and carts) to complete automated waste collection and recycling for entire city
- January 1, 2010 residential waste collection fee of \$8/month/unit was implemented. The fee will increase \$0.25/year capping at \$8.75. City Council will revisit the fee in 2013.

Route efficiencies have been greatly improved:

- 500-600 homes/route manual
- 800-1,000 homes/route automated
- Number of routes was reduced from 54 to 32
- 32 employees will be re-deployed
- \$1.5 million savings.

Re-bid recycling:

- Was paying \$24/ton processing
- Now making \$28/ton revenue
- Estimate savings \$54/ton by recycling

Columbus:

- 227,000 households
- Municipal waste collection
- Contracted, subscription curbside (\$8.25/month)
- Single digit participation rate

Mayor's 2010 State of the City Address: Curbside Recycling by 2012

- Currently exploring options
- Automated collection almost a certainty
- A hybrid system is likely to service different areas (not automated in some of the urban core where there are special restrictions)
- Contracted service almost a certainty
- Every-other-week collection being considered

Toledo:

- Estimated 100,000 households
- Municipal waste collection
- Pilot project in fall of 2008 that included recycling/trash collection
- Automated curbside collection rollout completed in March of 2010 (\$15/month)
- 99% of city covered
- 96-gallon carts for recycling, RFID tagged
- \$25,000,000 bonds for trucks and carts (assembled & delivered)
- Billing started April, 2010 (\$15/month)
- Lower rate is being considered for households that recycled

Akron:

- 66,000 households
- Municipal waste collection
- Automated trash and recycling collection system completed December 2006
- Subscription curbside program (approximately 40,000 households)
- \$2 discount for homes that recycle, recycle cart is free (\$17.50 for recyclers, \$19.50 for non-recyclers)

- Prior to automated system, 16% participation
- With automated system, 60% participation
- 96-gallon cart for trash, 64 gallon cart for recyclables
- \$8,000,000 loan for trucks, reload cart tippers and carts (assembled & delivered)

The commitment to curbside recycling is a consistent theme for all of these cities. Automated collection and charging sanitation fees for service are also more prevalent.

On April 21, 2010 a conference call was held between Cincinnati, Cleveland and Columbus to discuss curbside programs in large municipalities. Attendees included SWMD coordinators, public service representatives of each municipality and Ohio EPA staff. In early July, 2010, Ohio EPA will schedule another conference call or meeting to further discuss existing and new programs in the large municipalities. SWMD coordinators and public service representatives of Toledo, Akron and Dayton will be included in these discussions. There is potential for this information sharing to continue in the future and an annual meeting may be considered.

Product Stewardship (Andrew Booker, OEPA-DSIWM)

The principle of product stewardship directs all participants involved in the life cycle of a product to take shared responsibility for the impacts to human health and the environment that result from the production, use, and end-of-life management of the product. The greater the ability of a party to influence the life cycle impacts of a product, the greater the degree of that party's responsibility.

The stakeholders typically include manufacturers, retailers, consumers, and government officials. Incentives are provided to manufacturers to consider the entire life-cycle impacts of a product, its packaging and product design to take increased responsibility for the end-of-life management of the products they produce. The objective of product stewardship is to encourage manufacturers to redesign products with fewer toxics, and to make them more durable, reusable, and recyclable, and with recycled materials.

There are an increasing number of states that have proposed or passed product stewardship legislation. The solutions and roles vary from one product system to another and from state to state. Categories include auto-switches, batteries, electronics, fluorescent lighting, mercury thermostats, paint, and pesticide containers. A national approach for some products may be seen in the future.

The proposed Ohio E-waste Legislation is based on extended producer responsibility. Manufacturers of computers would be required to implement take-back and recycling programs. Manufacturers would be required to register with Ohio EPA, report the amount recovered and demonstrate that they have take-back programs in order to sell

computers in Ohio. Retailers would also not be allowed to sell computers unless its manufacturer is registered.

After It Leaves the Curb - CCAO Solid Waste Training (Michael Greenberg, GT Environmental)

Mr. Greenberg related to the recently developed solid waste training modules made for government decision and policy makers. The County Commissioners Association of Ohio, along with funds awarded from the Ohio Environmental Education Fund, developed DVDs that summarize many different aspects of solid waste management in Ohio. Topics include the history of House Bill 592; the SWMD planning process; roles and responsibilities of SWMD policy committees and boards; and solid waste management facilities and equipment. Four training sessions have been held and the videos will continue to be available on YouTube (*After It Leaves the Curb*). Continued utilization of the training material is planned and periodic updates could be done if warranted.

ODOT Green Initiatives (Matthew Perlick, Green Project Manager)

Mr. Perlick provided an overview of the many green initiatives the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is implementing. As part of ODOT's business plan, there is a commitment to pilot green initiatives, reduce energy use, use the best environmentally sensitive practices in operations, and lead by example in environmental stewardship.

A Green Team was created to prioritize, evaluate and research ideas that will be the most effective and affordable energy and environmental improvements to implement at ODOT. Focus areas of the team include green technology, green materials and recycled products, recycling, energy, climate change, water, plant and wildlife protection, noise pollution, environmental compliance, efficiency and waste reduction, and promoting an environmentally conscious ODOT culture.

A statewide recycling policy will be established. Targeted materials include bulbs, ballasts, batteries, cardboard, construction debris, electronic waste, glass, landscaping waste, metals, oil, paper, plastics, and vehicle fluids. The efficiency and waste reduction focus includes improved participation in recycling, implementation of waste reduction strategies, and identification of new pathways/revenue for wastes. A waste stream analysis is currently identifying waste volumes by components from: offices, garages, and typical construction sites. Alternative pathways or revenue from wastes are being identified as well as opportunities for use of recycled materials. As a result of the research, a baseline will be established to be used in developing policy, guidance, and specifications. Examples include the development of specifications for the use of shingles or fly ash shingles in asphalt. Relating to ODOT's use of recycled products, a goal has been set to increase ODOT's use of recycled products by at least 10% each year for three departments: maintenance, operations, and construction.

Other highlights of ODOT's green initiatives include:

- Cleaning product pilots
- LED highway and interior lighting pilots
- Developing alternative fuel fleet policy
- Developing management plans for threatened and endangered species
- "Green" noise wall pilot
- Measuring ODOT's carbon footprint & GHG emissions
- Expanding of the Green Team concept in ODOT districts
- Experimental crumb rubber concrete mix for weed barriers
- Environmentally sensitive revised herbicide and mowing policy
- "Green" landscaping pilot at ODOT's Central Office
- Pilot prairie planting project in northwest Ohio
- GPS aided snowplow salt application
- GreenFleet certification
- Researching PPA solar power installation pilot
- Wildlife crossing research
- Wind turbine powered truck electrification terminals

Overview of the Clark County SWMD (Debra Shaw, Director)

Ms. Shaw started by providing the general demographics and history of the Clark County SWMD (district). The district contains significant urban as well as rural demographics, with half of the district's 144,000 people living in the City of Springfield. The major industrial entity is International Harvester and there are less than 200 other industrial facilities. No solid waste landfills or transfer facilities are located within the district. There are two construction and demotion debris landfills, two large yard waste facilities, and Paygro, a large class II composting facility in the district.

Funded by a generation fee of \$8.50/ton, the district owns and operates a Specialty Recycling Center and three drop-off recycling stations. Also, subscription curbside is offered to most of the households in the district. The district demonstrates an overall recycling rate over 50 percent and a residential commercial recycling rate over 30 percent. The Specialty Recycling Center accepts fluorescent bulbs, tires, electronics latex paint and CFC containing appliances on a weekly basis and the district also offers additional collection events.

The district implements many other programs. These include promotion of contracting for waste hauling, technical assistance to many businesses and providing litter and recycling services at numerous events, including some zero-waste events. The district has a strong partnership with Keep Clark County Beautiful. Also, the district supports environmental enforcement of illegal dumping and litter laws.

Logan County SWMD Zerowaste Program (Alan Hale, Coordinator)

Mr. Hale presented an overview of the Zerowaste philosophy. The old paradigm is to use resources to make products that eventually become a “waste”. The consumption pattern of the world’s growing population is not sustainable. Zerowaste envisions a sustainable society where environmental protection and public health weighs as heavily as profit and where the products and by-products of our activities can be reused, recycled, or composted.

The drive for sustainability provides for economic viability through the triple bottom line, PPP: People, Planet, and Profit. This full cost accounting includes Profit to sustain business activity, benefits to the People (employees and public), and the following strategies for benefitting the Planet:

- Resource maximization
- Energy conservation and renewable sources
- Resource extraction minimization
- Reuse & recycled resources maximization
- Waste minimization or elimination

Cradle to cradle design is promoted in the zerowaste philosophy. The idea is to design and engineer products in a manner that mimics nature. Extended Producer Responsibility allows for front end design and engineering as well as responsible packaging to eliminate waste. Many programs already exist for computers, light bulbs, rechargeable batteries, and carpeting. Measurement of carbon footprints is another tool promoted.

There are many examples of zerowaste businesses in Ohio. Honda of America’s corporate goal in Ohio was zero waste to the landfill by 2008. Zerowaste Northeast Ohio (NEO) has developed a network of businesses that have already declared zerowaste goals. The NEO network envisions a zerowaste region in northeast Ohio by 2019. The Logan County SWMD and the Logan County Commissioners declared Logan County as a zerowaste zone in 2007, with a goal of zero waste to the landfill by 2020. As a result, the Logan County SWMD’s recent 15 year plan update included planning that works towards the zerowaste goal, including:

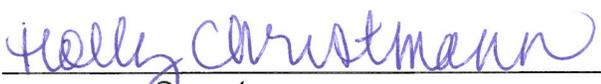
- Completing the recycling infrastructure;
- Using social marketing to increase citizen participation;
- Integrating businesses into the zero waste goal; and
- Creating a facility to capture organic wastes.

Agenda Items for the August 19, 2010 SWAC meeting

A number of agenda items have already been determined for the August 19, 2010 meeting. The Miami County SWMD will present and an update is planned summarizing the efforts of DSIWM's Contracting and Remedial Oversight Unit, specifically the sites being addressed by the Closed Landfills and Orphan Site Evaluation and Rating Team. Also planned is a presentation from the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio summarizing the results of the recently developed waste consortium for many of Columbus' suburbs. Another future agenda topic was identified to discuss the industry trend of increased competition for waste, including the yard waste/landfill gas issue. Another potential meeting topic was suggested to provide a discussion of SWMDs' fees, the relationship with decreasing disposal, and long term funding of SWMDs. ODNR should also have some information regarding grant awards for the tire amnesty grants.

Respectfully submitted: 
Vice Chair

Minutes approved on: August 19, 2010

Certified by: 
Secretary

