

**Summary Minutes
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)
August 19, 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
Joseph Denen, Municipalities
Holly Christmann, Single County SWMDs
Gary Sims, Private Recycling Industry
William Murdock, ODO
Belle Everett, Townships
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

Terrie TerMeer, ODNR, and Charles Keiper, Counties arrived after roll call.

Welcome and Introductions – Dan Harris, Ohio EPA - DSIWM

Three new members were introduced to the group. Timothy Lynch is the new appointee representing Trustees. Mr. Lynch has been a Trustee for thirty-six years and has served on the Board of Directors for the Ohio Township Association for three years. Christopher Valerian is the new representative for the private solid waste management industry. Mr. Valerian has been in the waste management business for eighteen years. Matt Trokan is the new appointee representing environmental advocacy organizations. Mr. Trokan currently serves with the Ohio Chapter of the Sierra Club.

A kind farewell was noted for Kathy Trent. Ms. Trent had served on SWAC since 1996 making her one of the Council's longest serving members. Ms. Trent formerly represented the private solid waste management industry. It was noted that a letter thanking Ms. Trent for her many years of service will be sent. With this change it was also noted that SWAC must appoint a new secretary.

The secretary of SWAC is responsible to certify the meeting minutes, sign the minutes, and, in the absence of the SWAC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, may be called on to conduct SWAC meetings.

MOTION made by Christopher Valerian, and SECONDED by Erv Ball, to appoint Holly Christmann for secretary for service that will extend until the end of 2010. Motion approved on voice vote.

Review of the March 25, 2010 meeting minutes

Erv Ball MOVED to accept the May 20, 2010 meeting minutes presented today. Thomas Ferrell SECONDED the motion and the minutes were approved on voice vote.

Update on Legislative/DSIWM Issues

Mr. Harris explained that DSIWM is closely following and providing input on two US EPA rule making initiatives. Division efforts for a coal ash related bill have included coordination with ODNR and ODOT. The comment period for the US EPA proposal on coal ash ends September 20, 2010. Member Belle Everett indicated that she has been concerned about the approach proposed by US EPA. Mr. Harris invited SWAC members to provide comments to his attention that may be considered for inclusion with the Agency's formal comments to US EPA.

Mr. Harris mentioned the second US EPA rule making effort addresses the definition of solid waste. US EPA is proposing to acknowledge certain waste streams having high energy level potential as fuel would not be considered solid waste under Subtitle D. Ohio EPA is in favor of the changes being considered for the specifically defined waste streams when these materials are used as an energy source. The comment period for this rule making effort ended August 3, 2010.

Mr. Harris explained that the Division has been working on the fee rules. The changes being proposed are "catch up" efforts to match updated statutory provisions. The C&DD landfill rules are also being revisited. In addition, considerations are being explored for bioreactor activities at municipal solid waste landfills. Using bioreactor technology landfills would generate gasses quicker. Consequently, there would be a need to change the technical design of such landfill facilities. Interested parties will receive information on these concepts in the near future to help the Division determine if rule changes should be considered. Finally, the Division has also been working on concept papers that would identify potential revisions to rules related to ground water.

Andrew Booker, Ohio EPA-DSIWM, discussed recent connections that have been made for some largely populated cities in Ohio on the topic of recycling. Scheduled conference calls with representatives from these cities and their associated solid waste management districts along with Ohio EPA have provided a forum for experiences to be shared on recycling programs offered by the cities and for the future direction that these programs may be heading. It is anticipated that a conference/workshop may be scheduled in early 2011 with US EPA's involvement included for input. Member Erin Miller expressed appreciation for these efforts being coordinated by Ohio EPA.

Update on Central Ohio Solid Waste Consortium (Albert Iosue, SWACO)

About a year ago SWACO presented information on this topic to SWAC as a preliminary discussion. Information presented today by Mr. Iosue affords SWAC the opportunity to learn how the activities of the Central Ohio Solid Waste Consortium (COSWC) have benefited participating communities over the past year.

Mr. Iosue explained that five to six years ago costs for waste collection, recycling collection, and composting collection varied fairly significantly in central Ohio from one community to the next. The ambitions of COSWC were geared to assist central Ohio communities in obtaining better prices for these services through contractual agreements between solid waste haulers and consortium member communities. The effort was based on the "economy of scale" concept. Communities also were adamant to receive better services along with lower costs.

There have been two bid processes that have resulted from two different consortium groups that were formed. The first consortium group represented approximately 55,000 households. The bid process was initiated for this first group for trash collection, recycling, and composting. There was a separate bid for each of the three separate services. Two waste haulers responded to the recycling and composting bids. There was only one bid received for solid waste collection.

The second consortium group was represented by eight member communities having a combined population of approximately 15,220 households. Some of the communities in this second group did not want collection for composting and some did not want to give an impression that residents would be "forced" to recycle.

In both groups, COSWC proved to be powerful tool for communities to obtain improved services and better pricing.

Member Belle Everett expressed her desire for a similar experience to be undertaken by representatives of her solid waste management district, but she also indicated that

political challenges would be difficult to overcome. Member Tim Lynch indicated that a similar consortium effort was undertaken by three townships in his solid waste district's jurisdiction. Mr. Lynch indicated that many positive outcomes resulted from this effort.

Mr. Iosue expressed a willingness by SWACO to assist other communities or solid waste management districts that may want to initiate similar efforts.

Orphaned Landfill Projects (Bob Large, DSIWM)

Mr. Large advised SWAC of DSIWM's changes for what was formerly identified as the Scrap Tire Unit. This Unit is now designated as DSIWM's Contracting and Remediation Oversight Unit (CROU). While CROU remains the point of contact for the Division's scrap tire program, the Unit now also addresses matters related with old solid waste disposal sites that require additional remediation for proper closure. These sites are referred to as orphaned landfill sites because there are either no parties to be held responsible for financing proper closure or the responsible parties are depleted of funds.

Mr. Large provided general summary information for the scrap tire program. Information was shared to identify the sunset date for scrap tire fees, which needs to be extended, and Ohio EPA's position for how the fees should be reconsidered, information about scrap tire clean-ups over the past several years, and basic information describing the laws enforced under the scrap tire program.

An internal team of Agency individuals was formed to assist CROU in identifying the needs related to the orphaned landfill sites and provide guidance on how available funding to remediate these sites is utilized. This team is identified, through acronym, as the CLOSER Team (Closed Landfills, & Orphaned Site Evaluation & Rating Team). A defined process has been established for CROU and the Closer Team to follow using a grading scale to determine which orphaned landfill sites present the greatest human health or environmental harm threat. Once this is determined CROU and the CLOSER Team identify what funds are available to meet the determined needs. Funding may be available from the facility's financial trust fund or from the Environmental Protection Remediate Fund (EPRF). This fund mainly results from monies received by the Agency through judgments and settlements (enforcement actions). EPRF funding is used to supplement facility financial assurance funds to remediate conditions at solid waste facilities, open dumps, and construction & demolition debris facilities.

Once all the determinations are made CROU establishes contracts or grants to remediate the sites.

Member Keiper sought clarification to understand if the ultimate outcome of remediation means that the orphaned sites have met all the closure requirements. Mr. Large explained that it is the Agency's ambition to remediate the sites to the greatest extent needed. However, when the remediation is complete the sites cannot be considered closed in accordance with the strict closure requirements dictated by the Ohio Administrative Code.

Overview of the Lawrence/Scioto SWMD (Dan Palmer, Coordinator)

Mr. Palmer began by sharing details related to the SWMD's structure. First mentioned were the two sets of commissioners that function as the District's Board. He identified members of the District staff to include himself, District Coordinator, the Outreach/Education Specialist, the Enforcement Officer, along with two litter control crew supervisors.

Mr. Palmer provided some history regarding how the District has struggled in the past to meet statutory obligations. In 1995, the District produced a draft solid waste management plan that was never fully ratified, and therefore, never approved by Ohio EPA. Since that time Ohio EPA issued findings and orders (F&O's) for the District to complete an updated solid waste management plan and submit the plan for approval. The F&O's included a fine issued against the District in the amount of \$7,833.75 (civil penalty). In March of 2006, the District finally received approval from the Director for a ratified draft solid waste management plan.

The District has no landfills operating within its boundaries. The means of funding the District has been through a property assessment fee. This is a \$12.00 annual fee for each improved parcel located in each of the two counties.

The District contracts with a private hauler to offer drop-off recycling for its residents. As a result, there are 12 drop-off recycling sites in Lawrence County and 17 drop-off recycling sites in Scioto County. There are two small non-subscription curbside recycling programs currently operating through funding provided by the District. One program services 125 households in Lawrence County and the other services 350 households in Scioto County.

The District has an extensive educational outreach program for schools, civic and business groups, scout groups, and for colleges and universities.

The District also has an extensive enforcement program that is well supported by elected officials in both counties. They have had a great amount of success in prosecuting cases against open dumping/littering. The District's enforcement officer is

commissioned as deputy sheriff in both counties. Mr. Palmer shared examples of many specific open dumping cases that were addressed through their enforcement program and the sites cleaned up.

The District's outreach efforts also include a well organized web site. "Sponsor A Site," a litter prevention program offered through the District, is also very popular for District residents. Many civic organizations, schools, and churches participate in activities related to the "Sponsor A Site" program.

A financial incentive program titled "Caught Green Handed" encourages District residents to recycle. On a monthly basis a small amount of money is randomly awarded to residents who bring material to the recycling drop-off locations. Recognition for these individuals is also given in local newspapers.

The District assists schools, businesses, and organizations in establishing recycling programs. The District is also involved in a number of other programs ranging from household hazardous waste collection to sponsoring individual township cleanup events.

Mr. Booker acknowledged the dramatic change that has taken place for the District since Mr. Palmer joined the District. The Division offers high regard for efforts undertaken by Mr. Palmer, the commissioners, and other District staff to make this District a "success story" especially given its difficult past.

Residential Food Waste Diversion (Angel Arroyo-Rodriguez, DSIWM, Sharon Barnes, Barnes Nursery, Ken Rieman, Wood County SWMD, and Michael Torok, N.A.T. Transportation, Inc.)

Mr. Arroyo-Rodriguez began by presenting a pie chart depicting the different waste stream types typically disposed by residential/commercial waste generators. According to this information 11.7 percent of wastes sent to landfill facilities by the residential/commercial sector consist of food scraps.

Recent trends across the nation indicate that more and more communities are establishing collection programs for food scraps. Currently Ohio has 19 composting facilities that are authorized to compost food scraps.

Ms. Barnes shared information related to a special food scraps collection program offered for residents of the City of Huron. The program in Huron involves residents setting the organic material out at the curb. Residents of Huron were already accustomed to setting out yard waste in a separate container. In areas where curbside collection of yard waste is already in place it is much easier to add a program for

collection of food scraps. If an infrastructure is already in place, the success for a food scrap collection program is increased. The foods scrap collection program in Huron that began in April 2009 has been a success.

Member Holly Christmann asked what initial concerns were raised by the hauler for the food scraps. Mr. Barnes explained that the main concern expressed by the hauler was the increased weight of the materials that would be loaded into their vehicles. This has not posed a particular problem for the haulers.

Mr. Rieman indicated that one of the major challenges he recognizes as a setback for communities to initiate food scraps collection programs is the availability of a composting facility in close proximity that is able to process the materials.

Mr. Torok represents a small waste hauling company that worked with a community in Wood county for curbside collection of food scraps. The community serviced by this hauler includes approximately 420 households. This company makes use of 65 gallon waste collection containers for the food scraps collection program. The program began in October, 2009. Total waste diversion has risen from 5.5 percent to 22 percent (as documented for the second quarter of 2010) since this program began. Participation in the program is 50 percent.

Member Chris Jacobs asked if the program was more difficult to manage during the winter months. Mr. Torok explained that there were no particular problems encountered during this season but that the volume of material collected by the program varies according to the seasons.

Agenda Items for the August 19, 2010 SWAC meeting

A number of agenda items have already been determined for the November 18, 2010 meeting. There was no discussion of the particular agenda topics that are being planned.

Mr. Harris declared meeting adjournment.

Respectfully submitted:


Vice Chair

Minutes approved on:

11-18-10

Certified by:


Secretary