

**Summary Minutes
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)
November 19, 2009
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
Jean Byrd, Public
Pam Allen, Ohio EPA
Steve Hill, Industrial Generators
Terrie TerMeer, ODNR
Chuck Keiper, Counties
Thomas Ferrell, Counties
Joseph Denen, Municipalities
Belle Everett, Townships

Welcome and Introductions - Pam Allen, Ohio EPA - DSIWM

Ms. Allen indicated that Representative Stephen Slesnick, from Canton, is the new SWAC member appointed by the Ohio House of Representatives. Also, Ohio EPA has submitted a recommendation to Boards and Commissions for the vacant SWAC seat representing the Private Recycling Industry.

Review of the August 20, 2009 meeting minutes

Chuck Keiper MOVED to accept the August 20, 2009 meeting minutes presented today. Belle Everett SECONDED the motion and the minutes were approved on voice vote.

Update on Legislative/DSIWM Issues - Pam Allen, Ohio EPA-DSIWM

It is time for the required five-year review of DSIWM's landfill rules. Interested party comments are currently being received in order to focus DSIWM's review. Also up for review are the compost and licensing rules. The groundwater monitoring rules are being updated and their timeline for implementation will coincide with the update to the construction and demolition debris (C&DD) rules. People were reminded to sign up for DSIWM's email list-serves in order to receive updates on these topics.

The expedited hearing schedule requirement for the Environmental Review Appeals Commission (ERAC) was overturned. The requirement was included as part of the recent budget bill. The specifics of how an expedited hearing schedule is to be implemented will be determined.

It was related that the topic of coal combustion waste is still a priority at the federal level. It may be regulated a subtitle D waste in the future, which will allow for more federal regulation. It was noted that such a regulatory change could hinder the ability for the materials to be incorporated into beneficial use projects. As another point, research is being done to increase the dry-storage of various coal combustion wastes, which would allow for more beneficial use.

Grant Application Packages for 2010 -Terrie TerMeer, ODNR-DRLP

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources released its grant packages this week. These include the grants for litter cleanup, community development, market development, as well as scrap tires. The grant information meeting will be held on December 18th and the applications are due on February 1, 2010. Changes include adding gypsum board (drywall) and universal waste (i.e: light bulbs) to the materials targeted for market development.

Alternative for Rural Recycling - Alan Hale, Logan County SWMD

Mr. Hale started by providing demographics for the Logan County Solid Waste Management District (District), which has a population of 46,580 and has a sizable tourism industry. Notably, the District has a privately owned landfill within its borders and two communities have non-subscription curbside recycling and pay-as-you-throw trash service. The District also designates itself as a zero waste zone, aiming for a goal of zero waste land filled by 2020.

The District is building a network of unique rural recycling centers. The sites are designed to offer free recycling for residents while vending machines are available to purchase bags for trash disposal at the site (\$2/bag). The result is a pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) system for trash which encourages recycling to reduce the disposal volumes. Each site has three roll-off containers, one for paper and cardboard recycling, one for recycling of containers, and one designated for trash only contained in the bags offered in the vending machines. There are currently nine centers operating with two more under construction and up to six more to be built in 2010. The hub in Bellefontaine is also a new material processing facility (MRF).

The sites have many features that make them very user-friendly and as functional as possible. Each site includes beautiful landscaping and four security cameras located on light poles. The kiosk where the vending machines are located includes smaller 36 gallon totes allowing handicap access, a slot for residents to recycle batteries, a slot to recycle their plastic bags, and a brochure rack that includes information on how to use the site. The signage uses pictures to indicate what is and what is not recyclable at the site. This has been proven to be the most useful education technique, compared to a simple list of materials. Each site has a volunteer monitor assigned to it. The monitors are usually residents that live nearby and they receive a small stipend for their cooperation. The result is someone who feels "ownership" of the site and will often do

much of the maintenance at the site, such as picking up litter, and notify the District when a container is nearly full, when brochures are needed, etc.

The recycling sites are located at parks, village lots, and on county land, with long term leases. The cost of each site can vary but generally are about \$55,000. The District borrowed \$2,000,000 to build up to 18 recycling centers and the MRF. PAYT revenues in 2009 will total about \$16,000 and an annual revenue of at least \$75,000 is anticipated once all the sites are up and running.

Five full time staff are employed by the District and one deputy's salary is paid by the District who tends the vending machines, road clean-up, and illegal dumping. Having a specific deputy assigned to the District has allowed prompt enforcement of any misuse of the sites, which constitutes illegal dumping. Inclusion of the enforcement cases in the local paper is crucial to get the best local cooperation.

The District implements a number of other notable programs. These include recycling programs in all of the local schools, recycling in all government offices, household hazardous waste collection for six months a year, and a well-used, interactive website. Also, zero waste events and education are incorporated into the District's programs. Future plans include a composting facility that is open to all residents and townships. The proposed facility will accept food waste from businesses and institutions. Another potential project is a gasification plant to generate electricity. The plant would accept animal waste (ie: a turkey farm) and produce steam through gasification. The steam would then be used to soften the corn used as feed for the animals.

Disaster Debris Pilot Training for SWMDs and Emergency Management Agencies (Matthew Hittle, OEPA-DSIWM)

Mr. Hittle provided information on an Ohio EPA training program being done in partnership with the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA). The intent of the training sessions is to provide a forum for solid waste management districts (SWMDs) to network with their local county EMA office(s) and learn each agency's respective roles and responsibilities, as well as identifying how they can work together efficiently.

Many disasters, such as floods and tornados, result in significant amounts of waste materials that need to be properly managed. The widespread damage experienced from the windstorm associated with Hurricane Ike helped to illustrate that a coordinated and well-planned debris management response by the county EMA and the SWMD can be invaluable following a disaster. Not only can a coordinated response result in less confusion and better management of the disaster debris, it can save the county and other government entities money.

SWMDs are recommended, but are not required, to include disaster debris management in their solid waste management plans. Likewise the EMA plans, called emergency operations plans, are not required to have a debris management component

to them. Currently, less than half of the counties have developed such a component. Even fewer have included planning down to the local level (municipalities, townships) – which is where most of the essential groundwork occurs. SWMDs would benefit immensely to identify what role they will play in the event of a disaster and more importantly by identifying what roles they will not perform. The roles of SWMDs can vary from acting as a call center during an event and/or compiling a phone list of the pertinent entities to heading the county's disaster debris management team and/or allocating funds to be used if an event was to occur.

The training was piloted in two sessions located in the Ohio EPA Southwest District area. Speakers shared hands-on disaster experience and the basics of debris management were covered. The training also included information on contracting, record-keeping, developing a disaster management plan, and how to navigate the available grant opportunities. The training will be rolled out statewide in early 2010.

Overview of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (David Hanselmann, Chief, ODNR- Soil and Water Resources)

David Hanselmann serves as Chief of both the Division of Soil and Water Resources and Recycling and Litter Prevention. The consolidated operations interface closely with Ohio's 88 soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) creating a "community conservation" partnership. SWCDs have increased access to a broad range of soil, water, and land resource information and services allowing SWCD boards and staff to better assist local residents and communities. This partnership helps address important sustainability needs relating to recycling and conservation of water, energy, soils, and land. Also, this partnership helps strengthen efforts to manage water and related land resources on a watershed basis which help to form a community conservation effort.

Mr. Hanselmann presented a video that provided a good background on the different roles and projects SWCDs are involved with. Examples included:

- Soils maps and information;
- Watershed and stream management, protection, and restoration;
- Stormwater management;
- Conservation engineering;
- Environmental education; and
- Resource management (including agricultural/silvicultural pollution abatement).

Some potential collaboration opportunities were outlined. SWCDs are partnering with health districts, watershed groups and ODNR on projects targeting such things as pharmaceuticals and mercury-containing devices. A systematic approach for collecting those materials will be developed including take-back programs and education/outreach. There are many examples of collaborative outreach and education related to recycling, composting, and litter prevention. Many SWCDs assist local and state

planners and owners/operators of C&DD and MSW facilities in the areas of erosion and sediment control, stormwater, and related issues at and around the facilities.

Other topics during the discussion included:

- Funding sources for SWMDs, and
- Recycling of agricultural plastics projects.

Overview of the Cuyahoga County SWMD (Diane Bickett, Director)

Ms. Bickett started by describing the demographics and main function of the Cuyahoga SWMD. The District contains 1.3 million people, 59 individual communities, 3,700 manufacturers and 43,000 businesses. The District has an approach that is a private-sector, market driven system, allowing the focus to be on education and outreach, special waste collections and municipal services.

Within the Cuyahoga SWMD is a municipal solid waste landfill, one captive landfill, nine transfer stations, four C&DD disposal facilities, and numerous private and public waste hauling services. The recycling infrastructure includes a material recovery facility, 55 curbside recycling programs, 29 compost facilities, and 99 public and private recycling drop-offs. Most of the District's waste is sent to landfills outside its borders. The District indicates a residential/commercial recycling rate of 26 percent and an industrial recycling rate of 87 percent. Notably, the Cities of Cleveland and Lyndhurst are changing to automated collection services, increasing the efficiency significantly.

There are some unique education and outreach programs that the Cuyahoga SWMD implements. The District annually provides "residential recycling reports." These reports allow the recycling information of the many different political subdivisions to be compared. Also invoking the competition incentive are the Trash Oscars offered to businesses and institutions that made notable recycling efforts. The District also provides services to help businesses recycle and works closely with the Chamber of Commerce in order to reach the numerous businesses.

There are many services offered to the District's municipalities. These include contracting assistance, litter collection, community recycling awareness grants, trash talk lunches, and a paper marketing co-op. Also offered throughout the county are special waste collection events, which include phone book recycling, household hazardous waste round-ups, scrap tire round-ups and tire sweeps, mercury collection programs, and computer round-ups.

Current initiatives that the District is undertaking include:

- Food Waste Composting;
- Zero Waste Northeast Ohio;
- Contracting Consortiums (Waste and Recycling);
- Re-Trac and Annual Surveying; and,
- Special Waste Convenience Center.

Pharmaceutical Collection Guidance (Deb Hoffman, OEPA-DSIWM)

Ms. Hoffman referred to a Ohio EPA guidance document titled "Requirements for a Pharmaceutical Collection in Ohio." With pharmaceutical waste being in the news lately, many SWMDs have been considering collection programs for the materials. As a result, DSIWM has received a number of questions on what requirements would be necessary to hold a special collection event. The guidance document was developed with cooperation from the Ohio Pharmacy Board, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), and Ohio EPA's office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention as well as the Division of Air Pollution and Hazardous Waste Management. Outlined in the document were DEA's requirements including having an officer on site and destruction options available for the material collected.

SWAC 2010 Planning (Andrew Booker, OEPA-DSIWM)

Mr. Booker referred to the quarterly SWAC meetings scheduled for the upcoming year. The agendas for the meetings are being sketched out and any suggestions or input will be appreciated. He indicated a number of topics that were being considered, including:

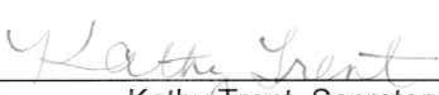
- SWMD presentation at each meeting;
- Municipal representatives;
- Recyclebank and toter collection systems;
- Waste-to-energy projects;
- Curbside data from Ohio EPA;
- ODNR grants Ohio Glass Initiative;
- Food waste composting/residential collection;
- Governor's Energy Plan; and,
- Recycling Markets.

Agenda Items for the February 18, 2010 SWAC meeting

ZeroWaste was mentioned as a future topic as well as early consideration of what to include in the next State Solid Waste Management Plan. Terrie Termeer MOVED to adjourn the meeting and Erv Ball SECONDED the motion.

Respectfully submitted: 
Erv Ball, Vice Chair

Minutes approved on: March 25, 2010

Certified by: 
Kathy Trent, Secretary