

**Summary Minutes  
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)  
November 21, 2013  
Lazarus Government Center  
50 West Town Street, Suite 700  
Columbus, OH 43215**

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

Erv Ball, Health Departments  
Jean Byrd, Public  
Terrie TerMeer, Ohio EPA  
John Bayliss, Counties  
Thomas Ferrell, Counties  
Gary Sims, Private Recycling Industry

**Review of the August 15, 2013 meeting minutes**

The August 15, 2013 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with a voice vote.

Terrie mentioned the possibility of having the next SWAC meeting at Goodwill Columbus to allow for a tour of their facility and potentially their warehouse where electronics are deconstructed.

**DMWM General and Legislative Update**

Andrew Booker, Ohio-EPA DMWM, provided a brief update on the legislative review. He mentioned that progress is being made on the facility oversight piece of the review. They are working closely with a group of 19 health departments. Referring to the larger project, they are focusing on timing issues and it looks like there will be two bites at the apple. They will identify what proposals can move forward and which issues will require more time and research. These decisions should be made by the end of the year.

Andrew also mentioned that Ohio EPA is starting the early stakeholder outreach process for OAC 3734.27.90, the statute that takes the State Plan and puts it in rule. There will be some clean-up of the rule for the five-year rule review, but it should not be changed substantively.

Deb Hoffman, Ohio-EPA DMWM, provided information on a new pharmaceutical webpage available. Changes are being made to allow for pharmacies to take back drugs and place in temporary boxes for removal, but for now only law enforcement can handle these materials. The webpage contains a list of permanent pharmaceutical drop-offs at local law enforcement offices on a county-basis. Other information is available on the webpage as well.

Terrie gave an update on the Statewide Glass Initiative. She discussed two meetings that have been held, first in the southwestern part of the state and the second in the

northwestern part of the state. The processors (Rumpke and Strategic Materials), SWMDs and Ohio EPA attended these meetings. Terrie also talked about some of the programs already under way, such as the glass recycling pilot on High Street in Columbus. Additional regional meetings will be held soon.

Terrie also mentioned that a pulping machine for food waste was installed at a prison and then fed into a “Big Hanna” for composting. Ultimately there is significant savings and prisoners are learning a trade. It was very successful and the Department of Corrections is looking to add nine additional programs in the state.

Another update referred to the Environmental Workshops that are being offered by Keep Ohio Beautiful. An additional grant was provided to offer these workshops throughout the state to help law enforcement and attorneys better understand litter laws and how to enforce them. Attorneys, sanitarians, representatives from health departments and local law enforcement have all attended these workshops.

### **Columbus Zoo Sustainability Programs (Barb Revard and Mike Long, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium)**

In 2008, the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium’s (Zoo) Executive Board made a commitment to develop a world class sustainability program leading to the meaningful reduction of its carbon footprint. This commit the zoo to develop programs and initiatives that would reduce energy consumption, resources, and water consumption as well as increasing the use of alternative energy sources and increased diversion from the landfill.

The Zoo has converted three million traditional holiday lights to LED bulbs, resulting in an 85 percent decrease in electricity consumption. Additionally, their lighting system was upgraded to use energy efficient bulbs and integrated an active day-lighting system. The return on investment was 2.4 years and the Zoo has seen an \$11,000 per year reduction of their electric bill.

The Zoo also utilizes many other energy-saving technologies in its operations. A geothermal system is used to provide geothermal heating and cooling to three buildings, eliminating the need for traditional air-cooled chillers, gas-fired boilers and heating units. Flux drives are used to save energy on all applicable motors. Compressed natural gas (CNG) or hybrid vehicles are identified to reduce gasoline consumption – one CNG vehicle has been purchased so far. They are developing an integrated animal waste and increased food scraps recycling program - a feasibility study is underway for on-site composting.

The Zoo is also providing conservation outreach across the globe. They are assisting partners with development of solar project at Bisate library in Rwanda and organizing a cooperative project with the Ubumwe Center in Rwanda to allow participants to produce and sell supplies related to water for distribution. They are also investigating a joint project between the Zoo and a local partner which will make available water backpacks for the local people as well as providing technical assistance and brainstorming for

opportunities to bring solar power and an anaerobic digester or composter to the Lola ya Bonobo Sanctuary in the DRC.

**2014 Recycling and Litter Prevention Grants (Chet Chaney, OEPA-OEEF)**

Chet handed out four grant sheets, the 2014 Community Grant, the 2014 Market Development Grant, 2014 Litter Clean-up & Tire Amnesty Grant and the 2014 Scrap Tire Grant. There were some notable changes for the grants based on discussions with SWMDs. The Community Grants added environmental crime taskforces, outreach, training, and a renewed focus on pay-as-you-throw programs. There was discussion of paying for Keep Ohio Beautiful memberships and how it opens up the potential for more partnerships and avenues for grants.

**2013 BioCycle Conference Recap**

The 2013 BioCycle Conference was held at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus from October 21-23. After three years of courting them, BioCycle finally made its way to Ohio largely due to all the inroads we have made on food scraps recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion and our nationally recognized leadership on regulatory approaches. The conference featured academic and practice-based presentations and workshop sessions focused on organics recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion, urban agriculture, bio-solids, and sustainability. Prior to the conference a community composting conference was held on October 20 at the Franklin Park Conservatory. The third day of the conference included tours to various sites around central Ohio, including anaerobic digesters and food-de-packaging operations. The conference attendance was maxed out with 525 participants.

**Agenda items for the February 20, 2014 meeting**

It was mentioned that the February meeting could potentially be held at Goodwill Columbus and involve a tour of the facility as well as the warehouse. It was also mentioned that it would be useful to see examples of successful recycling grant projects.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vice Chair

Minutes approved on: \_\_\_\_\_

Certified by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary