

**Summary Minutes as Approved on 4/20/2022  
Ohio Materials Management Advisory Council (MMAC)  
February 16, 2022  
County Commissioners Association of Ohio  
209 E. State St, Columbus OH 43215**

**The following members were present:**

Michael Dinneen, Private Sector  
Steve Sargent, Private Sector  
Kimberly McConville, Private Sector  
John Daly, Private Sector  
Paul Wise, Townships (via phone)  
Marcie Kress, Environmental Advocacy Organizations  
Beth Biggins-Ramer, Solid Waste Management Districts  
Jennifer Fenderbosch, Municipalities  
Alex Boehnke, Private Sector  
Brian Winter, Private Sector (via phone)  
Matthew Old, Counties  
Chuck DeJonckheere, Health Districts

Absent: Kelly Bensman (General Public)

Also in attendance were Chet Chaney (Ohio EPA-DMWM), Jeff Montavon (Ohio EPA-DMWM), Matthew Hittle (Ohio EPA-DMWM), Ernie Stall (Ohio EPA-DMWM), Jon Bernstein (Ohio EPA – DEFA), and April Stevens (Ohio EPA-DEFA). Attending virtually were Marie Barnett (Ohio EPA-DEFA), Dave Foulkes (Ohio EPA-DEFA), Travis Limbert (Ohio EPA-DEFA), Ryan Bourgart (Ohio EPA-DEFA), Brad Mitchell (Ohio EPA-DMWM), Erin Oulton (GT Environmental), Emily Freeman (Ohio EPA-DEFA), Jill Martin (The Recycling Partnership), Julie Riley (Lucas County SWMD), Jessica Langdon (Ohio EPA – Directors Office), Michelle Mountjoy (Ohio EPA – DMWM), Steve Tharp (STW Joint SWMD), Kathy Trent (Waste Management), Elisa Yoder-Mann (Sierra Club), Gage Bradford (Hamilton County SWMD), Kari Willard (Ohio EPA – DEFA), Megan Richwine (Ohio Assembly), and Peggy Berry.

**Approval of October 20, 2022 Minutes**

Alex Boehnke moved to approve the minutes for the October 20, 2021. Jennifer Fenderbosch seconded the motion. Motion was passed on voice vote.

**Ohio EPA Updates**

Jon Bernstein was introduced. Jon is the new Chief for the Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance. He provided his background and offered his support to MMAC however needed. He answered a question about the monies that should be coming in from the Federal Infrastructure Bill. They should be funneled through the revolving loan fund, but the details are unclear at this point. It was suggested that a member of the committee could be available to sit in on the conversation or a summary could be sent to the group at a minimum.

Brad Mitchell was also introduced. Brad is the new Assistant Chief for the Division of Materials and Waste Management. He provided his background and indicated he looks forward to working with MMAC in the future.

Ernie Stall mentioned that many individuals on MMAC have terms that expire this summer. He will send information directly to those who are potentially up for reappointment.

There was a legislative update. A House Bill is currently being debated that would reestablish the ability to hold meeting virtually. This would allow those attending virtually to be counted towards a quorum. It was mentioned that MMAC would likely continue to meet in person.

### **Ohio EPA Recycling and Litter Prevention (R&LP) Grants**

April Stevens, Supervisor for the R&LP Grant program, provided a summary of the applications received for the 2022 grant round. A total of 103 applications were received totaling over \$7.5 million in requests. Highlights included two curbside contamination projects, market development applications for material recovery facility (MRF) expansions and other processing equipment as well as six scrap tire processing/manufacturing applications. Funding announcements are expected in late May. There was discussion about the possibility of getting additional funding authority from the Controlling Board.

April also provided a summary of Ohio EPA's progress on the MMAC subcommittee recommendations for Director Stevenson. These include grant sponsor feedback, outreach to potential grantees, grant responsiveness, and priorities.

### **Drop-off anticontamination campaign**

Matthew Hittle, Ohio EPA-DMWM, provided an overview of the potential project that would focus on reducing contamination at drop-off recycling locations. Matt shared results from a survey sent to solid waste management districts about at the existing infrastructure.

Erin Oulton, with GT Environmental, provided an overview of efforts her company facilitated in the Adams Clermont Joint SMWD and the Lucas County SWMD. These projects both looked to reduce contamination at drop-off sites. The education project in Clermont County accompanied new surveillance cameras and an electronic sign that were purchased with grant monies. The project resulted in significant reduction in contamination. The Lucas County project utilized Ohio EPA grant monies and was started in 2016. That project tracked the contamination rates before and after an extensive education campaign. Take-aways include the benefits to direct engagement as well as the need for branded campaigns and consistent messaging.

Emily Freeman, with Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and, Energy (EGLE), provided an introduction for the anti-contamination efforts that were done in Michigan over the past couple years. Jill Martin, with The Recycling Partnership, provided an overview of those efforts, which included curbside and drop-off programs. Jill provided data that showed the improved percent change in contamination for the various programs. She provided examples for the various communication methods that were rolled out in communities involved in the project. Jill also showed the application used to track the contamination using visual waste audits. More specific data and information was provided for the anti-contamination efforts done in Novi, which included pre and post sorts of the materials. Follow-up activities included installation of new site signage, interactive and monitored cameras, as well as distribution of additional printed and electronic educational material.

After the presentation, a call was made for members of a subcommittee to look at this project further. The potential members will be contacted soon to help review the application that will be used move the project forward.

**Rumpke's beverage cup collections initiative**

Rebecca Reichenback, with Rumpke Waste and Recycling, gave an overview of the new MRF Rumpke has planned in Columbus as well as the recent addition of beverage cups to its acceptable recycling materials list. The plant will be the fifth largest recycling facility in the US and will be the most technologically advanced. Rebecca provided plant details, including the Resource Center that has a research and career development partnership with Ohio State. The cups that have been added to their acceptable materials including all cups besides styrofoam, k-cups and solo cups. Coffee cups (paper and plastic) and aluminum will be accepted through programs that collect materials that are processed by Rumpke MRFs.

**Public Comment**

None

**Next Steps and Wrap-up**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 20,2022.

It was mentioned that hearing from materials processors could be beneficial. Conversations about Organics and the subcommittee could be continued as well.

Beth Biggins-Ramer moved to adjourn the meeting. Alec Boehnke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Minutes approved on:

04/20/2022  
\_\_\_\_\_

Certified by:

1st Jennifer Fenderbosch  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary