

**Summary Minutes as Approved on 6/16/2021  
Ohio Materials Management Advisory Council (MMAC)  
April 21, 2021 Meeting  
Microsoft Teams**

**The following members were present:**

Michael Dinneen, Private Sector  
Steve Sargent, Private Sector  
Kimberly McConville, Private Sector  
Jennifer Fenderbosch, Municipalities  
Chuck DeJonckheere, Health Departments  
Paul Wise, Townships  
Alex Boehnke, Private Sector  
John Daly, Private Sector  
Marcie Kress, Environmental Advocacy Organizations  
Brian Winter, Private Sector

Absent: Kelly Bensman, General Public and Matthew Old, Counties

Also in attendance were Vlad Cica (Ohio EPA-DMWM), Chet Chaney (Ohio EPA-DMWM), Jeff Montavon (Ohio EPA-DMWM), Matthew Hittle (Ohio EPA-DMWM), Kevin Zacharyasz (Ohio EPA-DMWM), Ernie Stall (Ohio EPA-DMWM), Marie Barnett (Ohio EPA-DEFA), Dave Foulkes (Ohio EPA-DEFA), April Stevens (Ohio EPA-DEFA), Mike Kelly (Ohio EPA-DEFA), Jerry Rouch (Ohio EPA-DEFA), Evelyn Kennedy (Byers, Minton and Associates), Leanne Greenlee (Ohio EPA-DMWM), Kelsey Heyob (Ohio EPA-DEFA), Julie Riley (Lucas County SWMD), Jim Shaw (Lucas County), Michelle Balz (Hamilton County SWMD), Steve Tharp (Stark Tuscarawas Wayne Joint SWMD), Erica Wright (Stark Tuscarawas Wayne Joint SWMD), Elissa Yoder (Ohio Sierra Club), Jill Martin (The Recycling Partnership), Cassandra Ford (The Recycling Partnership), Jamie Zawila (RRS), Mike Mennett (Keep Ohio Beautiful), Hannah Lubbers (Adams Clermont Joint SWMD), Greg Bennett and Josie Montoney.

**New Members**

Commissioner Matthew Old, with Erie County, has been appointed to the MMAC position representing Counties. He was unable to make it to the meeting today.

There is still one vacancy for the board. It is for the position representing solid waste management districts.

**Approval of February 17, 2021 Minutes**

Marcie Kress moved to approve the minutes for the February 17, 2021. Alex Boehnke seconded the motion. Motion was passed on voice vote.

**Ohio EPA Updates**

Ernie provided a few updates for Ohio EPA. He mentioned that a new coordinator training is being planned by the end of year because there are several new coordinators. He also mentioned a recording of the April 8, 2021 Ohio EPA/OSWDO Workgroup meeting is available on Ohio EPA's website, and there was a good session on plastics recycling in Ohio.

### **2021 R&LP Grant Update**

April Stevens, Supervisor for the Recycling and Litter Prevention Grant program, provided an update regarding the 2021 grant round and program parameters. This included the different grant categories, eligible projects, and funding limitations for each. Ohio EPA received 117 applications totaling over \$7 million in requests. It was indicated that a total of \$6,500,000 is available for grant awards, which includes an additional \$2,000,000 of spending authority for money not awarded during the FY2020 grant round. Award announcements are expected in late May or early June.

Ernie provided a quick recap of MMAC's role as an advisor to Ohio EPA regarding the grant program (as defined in Ohio law).

Jerry Rouch, Chief for Ohio EPA-DEFA, addressed MMAC and participated in an open discussion on outstanding needs and future priorities for the program. He started by providing an overview of his division (outside of the grant program). Jerry encouraged his division and MMAC to keep engagement happening throughout the year. Some of the areas of discussion included looking at areas that may be overemphasized in the program, looking at new technologies as they become available and ensuring the funded programs are sustainable. Also included in the program's focus were the need to reduce contamination in the recycling stream and the need to increase the number of market development applicants. It was mentioned that workgroups need to be utilized to further facilitate these discussions. Steve, Kimberly, and Marcie all indicated they would like to be part of workgroup/subcommittee.

Regarding the litter aspect of the program, it was referenced that a Litter Summit is being planned in partnership with ODNR and ODOT. Also discussed was the need to engage the producers of litter more.

### **Keep Ohio Beautiful**

Mike Mennett, Executive Director for Keep Ohio Beautiful, provided an overview of his organization. The organization, founded in 1979, has garnered 1.3 million volunteer hours since inception and collected over 3.8 million pounds of litter in 2019. He provided a list of the many partnerships the organization has utilized to implement numerous program and initiatives to improve communities in Ohio. He also cited a 12:1 return on community improvement initiatives for litter prevention, litter cleanup, beautification/community greening programs, and waste reduction and recycling. The clean-up and zero-waste supplies purchased through the R&LP grant, coupled with donations from Glad and DOW, were valued at \$141,173.

### **Contamination Reduction Efforts in Ohio**

Jill Martin, with the Recycling Partnership (TRP), provided an overview of the upcoming second phase of Ohio's anti-contamination reduction project. The presentation started with an overview of TRP and its efforts and projects performed across the US. She also provided a recap of Phase 1 of the Ohio project which was funded by the R&LP program and matching funds. There were five communities (86,500 households) that participated and four were able to demonstrate over 40 percent contamination reduction. Phase 2 will include three communities with a total of 64,000 households and will start this spring. The final steps for the project will be to build a toolkit and develop a short video for community recycling coordinators.

Cassandra Ford, also with the Recycling Partnership, discussed efforts in Michigan to address contamination at drop offs and in curbside recycling programs. Michigan allocated \$2.1 million to replicate the project performed in Ohio, but also included drop-offs. There are 14 grantees that are looking to reduce contamination by 25-35%. The grant budgeted \$3 per household which covers tagging staff, printing and mailing costs, digital communications, signage, and security solutions (fencing, cameras, etc.). There will be a Phase 2 for this project when additional funding becomes available. They are anticipating 5-10 additional grantees.

Hannah Lubbers, with the Adams-Clermont Joint SMWD, presented an overview of the SWMD and its efforts to reduce contaminants in the recyclables collected at the SWMD's drop-off recycling locations. The SWMD is the only non-contiguous SWMD in Ohio and the program summary included educational efforts, tire and litter management strategies, and waste and a recycling facility located in rural Adams County. A summary of the drop-off program was provided, and the SWMD closed nine locations between 2012-2018 because of contamination and dumping. The methodology used for the SWMD's contamination project included a pre- and post-audit and a revamped educational campaign including signage at the sites. A 19 percent decrease in contamination was achieved as result of the program. Also provided was a summary of the SWMD's surveillance program for illegal dumping.

**Next Steps and Wrap-up**

The next meeting is scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup>. The Grant subcommittee will meet in the interim.

Jennifer Fenderbosch moved to adjourn the meeting. Brian Winter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

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Michael Dinneen, Chair

Minutes approved on:

June 16, 2021

Certified by:

*Jennifer G. Fenderbosch*

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Jennifer Fenderbosch, Secretary