

**Summary Minutes as Approved on 10/20/2021
Ohio Materials Management Advisory Council (MMAC)
August 18, 2021
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
Chuck DeJonckheere, Health Departments
Paul Wise, Townships
Marcie Kress, Environmental Advocacy Organizations
Brian Winter, Private Sector
Beth Biggins-Ramer, Solid Waste Management Districts
Jennifer Fenderbosch, Municipalities

Absent: Kelly Bensman, John Daly and Alex Boehnke (all private sector) and Matthew Old (counties)

Also in attendance were 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), Rachel Reedy (CCAO), Bonnie Martens (Clark County SWMD), Chuck Bauer (Clark County SWMD), Marie Barnett (Ohio EPA-DEFA), Dave Foulkes (Ohio EPA-DEFA), April Stevens (Ohio EPA-DEFA), Julie Riley (Lucas County SWMD), Michelle Balz (Hamilton County SWMD), Elissa Yoder-Man (Ohio Sierra Club), Emily Obringer (Sierra Club), Evelyn Kennedy (Byer Minton and Associates), Janalee Stock (Byers Minton and Associates), Kinsey Kandray (River Valley Organizing), Phoebe O'Conner (U.S. EPA), Ted Hollingshead (Waste Management), Kathy Trent (Waste Management), Steve Tharp (STW Joint SWMD), Mary Beth Sheridan (U.S. EPA), and Peggy Ann Berry (Ergonauts Performance Technology).

Approval of June 16, 2021 Minutes

Steve Sargent moved to approve the minutes for the June 16, 2021. Kimberly McConville seconded the motion. Motion was passed on voice vote.

Ohio EPA Updates

A few updates for Ohio EPA were provided. House Bill 110 proposes to increase the number of tires that can be included for a no-fault clean up. Also, Ohio EPA is planning a contamination intervention project that will focus on drop-offs. Ohio EPA has been collaborating with The Recycling Partnership to see what was accomplished in Michigan hoping to implement something similar in Ohio.

Relating to the Grant Subcommittee, Ohio EPA forwarded a briefing memo regarding the recommendations to the Dan Sowry, Assistant Chief of DEFA.

Lithium Batteries in the Waste Stream

Steve Sargent and Jerry Peters, with Rumpke Waste and Recycling, provided the first presentation on the topic of lithium-ion batteries (LIB) in the waste stream. Battery incidents are the fastest growing safety category. The combustive nature of LIB pose increased risk to staff and first responders as the threat of fire can quickly destroy equipment & buildings. The resulting service disruptions can have regional and statewide impacts. The presentation provided several examples from Rumpke's facilities including a truck that caught fire as recently as August 6. Rumpke's plan to address LIB includes awareness and training to identify, respond and control. Rumpke also partnered with Retrieval Technologies (Lancaster, OH) for LIB recycling options.

Kathy Trent and Ted Hollingsworth, with Waste Management (WM), reported that 333 unique fire incidents involving LIB have been reported in the past 12 months. Those incidents have resulted in 48 reported injuries and 5 deaths. The scope of the problem was discussed as well as the prevention methods being used. Additional training for the fire professionals has been part of the process to prepare them for the best chance of a successful outcome.

Phoebe O'Conner and Mary Beth Sheridan, with US EPA's Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery, provided the final presentation on LIBs. Their presentation started by focusing on the emerging prevalence of LIB in products. This includes consumer electronics (headphones, cell phones, tablets, etc.), electric vehicles and energy storage. LIBs are also a growing component of the waste stream, especially smaller LIBs from consumer devices. They indicated that battery recycling will provide much of the raw material for future battery manufacturing. There was information provided on the infrastructure currently in place to facilitate the recycling of LIBs. Cobalt is the biggest economic driver for LIB recycling. The amount of cobalt used in each battery is decreasing, thus making the economics of recycling more difficult.

The presentation also focused on end-of-life battery management and recycling challenges. The first aspect was education, since consumers may be unaware of the presence of batteries in some products and of best practices for recycling batteries. The second aspect was the logistics of recycling the batteries since they are not accepted in curbside programs. The third aspect was the expense of recycling the batteries since some recyclers charge to accept them.

US EPA's also provided information on the increase in fires at waste management facilities. US EPA also has a report called *An Analysis of Lithium-ion Battery Fires in Waste Management and Recycling* available on its website.

There was discussion about the need for extended producer responsibility laws since the public is unlikely to know about best practices for recycling the products mentioned, let

alone pay to dispose of them properly.

Clark County Solid Waste Management District (SWMD)

Chuck Bauer, Director, and Bonnie Martens, Program Manager, provided an overview of the Clark County SWMD’s operations and programs. The SWMD’s general demographics were provided and, and there are no landfills or transfer facilities in Clark County. An overview of some of the SWMD’s programs was provided. These include a specialty recycling center that accepts electronics and paint/household hazardous waste (HHW). The SWMD used to have temporary HHW events but changed to a weekly collection. The SWMD also charges fees to offset costs. Other materials collected at the center included carboard, Styrofoam (using a densifier), and bulky items. An overview of the SWMD’s education programs was provided as well as programs provided through Keep Clark County Beautiful which the SWMD supports. The SMWD also contracts with the county health department to provide inspections and licensing and with the sheriff’s office for litter and dumping enforcement.

Association of Ohio Recyclers (AOR)

John Woodman, President of AOR, provided a quick overview of Ohio’s recycling trade organization. The non-profit was founded in 1989 and works to promote and advance the viability of waste reduction, reuse, and recycling through statewide leadership, partnerships, communication, education, and networking opportunities. The board of directors was reviewed as well as aspects of AOR’s strategic plan. AOR is the state affiliate for the National Recycling Coalition. Starting in 2021, AOR hopes to resume in-person education and networking opportunities.

Next Steps and Wrap-up

The next meeting is scheduled for October 20. The group indicated that presentations from more SMWDs would be welcomed. Other ideas included a presentation from Retriev Technologies, other industries, or other trade organizations.

Paul Wise moved to adjourn the meeting. Jennifer Fenderbosch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted: Michael Dinneen
Chair

Minutes approved on: October 20, 2021

Certified by: Jennifer Fenderbosch
Secretary