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***Carroll County Department of Public Works  
Solid Waste Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes for July 31, 2014***

**Members**

Charles E. Hughes  
James D. Marcinko – Absent  
Bruce B. Holstein  
Don H. West  
Charles Robert Ernst  
Karen M. Leatherwood  
L. Ellen Cutsail

**County Government**

Scott Moser, Deputy Director  
Maria Myers, Recycling Manager  
Sheree Lima, Budget Office

**Introduction**

1. Don West opened the meeting.
2. Introductions were made.

**Approval of 5/27/2014 Minutes**

1. Motion to Approve – Karen Leatherwood
2. Second – Bruce Holstein
3. All voted to approve

**Discussion**

1. The Solid Waste Advisory Council bylaws state, the Solid Waste Advisory Council will meet quarterly. There was discussion about meeting more often at first, since there is a lot going on with solid waste right now.
  - a. KCI Report
  - b. State of Md. has lot of issues, Zero Waste Initiative and increased recycling goals
  - c. Proposal for privatization
2. Don West encouraged dialog and the use of e-mails to communicate in between meetings.
3. The question came up if this type of communication violated the State of Maryland Open Meeting Act.
4. Scott Moser should be copied on all correspondence between members acting on behalf of the Solid Waste Advisory Council.

5. Don West suggested sub-committees as a means of getting things done between meetings to conduct research and investigate various areas of interest. The sub-committees would report to the group.
6. Scott Moser gave an update of where solid waste is now.
  - a. Proposals to privatize all or part of the solid waste operations. There were five submissions and three will get further consideration. This is currently on hold. Charles Ernst asked about the time window of the proposals and Scott responded the end of the year and later stated the proposers are aware of the County's situation and believes they will be patient.
  - b. The Bureau of Solid Waste has engaged a consultant KCI to evaluate the best options for solid waste management. The role of the Solid Waste Advisory Group was discussed and it was determined that KCI would come in and speak to the group at some point. There was further discussion that the KCI study should not take place at all and should the Council make comments to the Commissioners? Some members of the group decided to make personal comments to the Commissioners and that after all members had a chance to read the Solid Waste Work Group report decide if the Council agreed to comment as a group. Bruce Holstein volunteered to e-mail the members a copy of the report as well as the MD State Zero Waste report.
  - c. Karen Leatherwood suggested that the Council use the Solid Waste Work Group report as a spring board for the Council.
7. The Multi-dwelling Recycling Legislation was discussed
  - a. Changes to the Ten Year Solid Waste Plan were taken before the Carroll County Board of Commissioners and they determined that the owners of multi-dwelling properties needed additional notification of the Recycling requirement and another Public Hearing. The first letters were sent from The Maryland Department of the Environment and second Letters were sent to owners from the County. An informational brochure and FAQ's will be made available to owners and residents of multi-family dwellings.
  - b. Scott Moser stated that the biggest issue with the legislation is the tracking and funding of the initiative.
  - c. Maria Myers is working on a formula to estimate the recycling tonnages from multi-family dwellings to satisfy the reporting requirement.
  - d. Next meeting to present to the Board for approval is August 21. Don West recommended that members attend this function and to check the Commissioner's agenda regularly, on the County's web site, for solid waste issues.
  - e. Concerns brought up by members of the Council included:
    - i. Owners have no room for dumpster or they need to be enclosed
    - ii. Fear that tenant's won't recycle or put trash in the recycle bins and the hauler may face fines.
    - iii. Questions arose about policing and Maria Myers stated the County does not have the staffing to impose fines for non-compliance.
  - f. Maria Myers said the Council could play a role in the education portion of the initiative. And Don West suggested using the newspaper, letters to the editor or encouraging an article.
8. There was a discussion concerning recycling bins and questions on whether providing citizen's bins would increase recycling.

- a. Don West questioned how to attract the people on the post about recycling to recycle? Will giving people bins help them make that decision?
  - b. Charles Hughes stated educating the children is effective in getting people to recycle.
  - c. Bruce Holstein suggested that County give haulers interest free loans to be repaid over 48 months. They would pay less in tip fees if recycling increases.
    - i. Input from the haulers was requested.
      1. Charles Hughes: County should not subsidize trash haulers and it would be too expensive. He would not be interested.
      2. Karen Leatherwood: Would not do it.
    - ii. Charles Ernst stated pay-as-you throw would encourage people to recycling. People would pay less for recycling and more for waste.
9. Don West brought up current issues
- a. The current Ten Year Solid Waste Master Plan has a goal of 35%. Don West thought the Council should think and talk about what the goal should be in the upcoming update.
    - i. Maria Myers said the 2012 MRA rate for Carroll County was 41% including the 5% diversion credit
    - ii. Scott Moser said the State's Zero Waste initiative's goal is 80% by 2050.
    - iii. Charles Ernst commented that MDE changes it's mythology in calculating the MRA rate with no rhyme or reason and Maria Myers supported this.
    - iv. Discussion continued and included:
      1. Possibly not using the MDE calculation,
      2. Setting the goal high or low.
      3. Should the goal be set before programs are put in place?
      4. The Solid Waste Advisory Council setting their own goal
      5. Business reporting or not
      6. The discussion was ended until a future date
  - b. In the interest of time discussion of a Resource Recovery Park was put off to another time.
  - c. KCI study and what the Council wants to talk to them about.
    - i. Each member will read the Solid Waste Work Group report.
    - ii. Each member should come up with three important issues and submit them to Karen Leatherwood to summarize, in preparation of meeting with KCI late Sept. early Oct.
10. Scott Moser suggested that the Council develop a mission statement and goals for the Council.
- a. Motion Karen Leather
  - b. Second L. Ellen Cutsail
  - c. All voted to approve
11. Next meeting tentatively scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014