



*Carroll County Department of Public Works
Solid Waste Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes for September 4, 2014*

Members

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

County Government

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

Introduction

1. Don West brought the meeting to order.

Approval of 5/27/2014 Minutes

1. Meeting Minutes from July 31 meeting approved.

Previous Discussions(new comments in bold)

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 – **A copy of the RFP was sent to the group. KCI will meet with the group at the next scheduled meeting.**
 - b. Proposal for privatization – **these are proprietary until one is awarded or all dismissed. These are on hold until the Study is complete.**
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.

- a. No committees set up at this meeting.**
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.
 - i. The Commissioners were given these for review.**
 - 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.
 - d. KCI will be presenting information before the Board of Commissioners in Oct.**
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.
 - g. This was approved by the Board of Commissioners after the hearing and 10 days waiting period was complete. Maria has sent the changes to MDE for**

review and the Law takes place Oct. 1, 2014. No more work on this topic. Delete for next time.

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.
 3. **No change. Unless the group comes up with a plan to make this work at no cost to the County, this can be dropped.**
 - 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

New Discussions

1. 3 Main Priorities of this Board?
 - a. Take Action
 - b. Increase Recycling
 - c. Undecided?
2. Jim talked about the need to have this group's plan and the County's vision in line.
3. Don talked about the group be proactive and the need to communicate ideas and information often.
 - a. Just looking into the issues of SW during these meetings is not enough.
 - b. Once this Board gets comfortable, meetings will be quarterly and the need to communicate becomes more.
4. ALFA Energy
 - a. Article in paper noting that the Comprehensive Plan will allow for an industrial use near Taneytown.
 - b. What does this mean for WTE? There was one firm interested in this. Jim feels it is too far to haul.
 - c. Scott advised group to go to the Public Meetings and discuss this issue. This is not a done deal at this time.
5. Bruce mentioned that the WTE would have raised taxes. We also talked about implementation of new strategies will also have to raise taxes.
6. Sheree asked why the haulers don't charge extra for recycling. It was stated that they could but they did not want to hear the backlash.
 - a. It was noted that all residential customers have the means to recycle but the County cannot make them.
7. Waste Stream Composition
 - a. There was talk of reviewing the Richard Anthony Study of 2008.
 - b. KCI will complete a small evaluation of the waste stream as part of their study.
8. Scott talked about making the Enterprise fund self sufficient.
 - a. One of two things have to happen; raise taxes or have a system benefit surcharge on the tax bill.
 - b. The group did not favor either but knows something has to happen.
9. Goals were established:
 - a. Waste Diversion
 - b. Recycle Commercial
 - c. Financial Requirement
10. These need to be reviewed and adopted. This can be discussed at the next meeting.
11. Dan Andrews had a couple of comments:
 - a. He believes County resources are needed to make this happen.
 - i. There are none at this time.
 - b. Wanted to know the actual Costs at Northern Landfill.
 - i. The County is in the process of determining that.
 - c. The group needs to do more community outreach.
12. There was talk of Blaine Young and Frederick and some teaming opportunity.
 - a. Can someone fill this in?

- b. It has to do with a Resource Recover Park.
 - i. Keep in mind that we do not bring MSW or Recycling from other Counties.
- 13. Mission Statement: In the best interest of the citizens of Carroll County advance the sustainable, responsible and cost effective practices of Solid Waste Management and Recycling. Keeping the best interest of the citizens of Carroll County in mind.
Recommended change to Mission Statement:
In the best interests of the citizens of Carroll County and the environment provide assistance to County staff to advance the sustainable, responsible and cost effective practices of Solid Waste Management and Recycling.

Keeping the best interests of the citizens of Carroll County in mind

- 14. Puzzle pieces
 - Carroll and surrounding counties have long-term waste disposal needs
 - CC has a report recommending a Resource Recovery park requested by then President of the Board of Commissioners – advocates a Regional approach
 - CC has 3 proposals re: privatization of Northern Landfill
 - Landowner has approximately 300 acres surrounding the County landfill which he would like to sell to the County
 - Howard County has a compost facility up and running since April 2013
 - Frederick County appears interested in talking about the RRP possibility
 - Long haul contracts – Frederick has multiple options which they are evaluating with
 - Decision likely on Oct. 9th
 - Need to pick them up and put them together for the RRP to become a reality

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2014 p.m. in Room 105