

<p>Carroll County ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES Sandra Zebal, Chair Kim Petry, Vice Chair Tuesday, September 13, 2011, @ 3:00 p.m. Room 003, Carroll County Office Building</p>		<p style="text-align: right;">Brenda Dinne, Special Projects Coordinator Bureau of Land Use, Planning and Development 225 N Center Street, Westminster, MD 21157-5194 Telephone: 410-386-2145 Fax: 410-386-2924 mailto:bdinne@ccg.carr.org</p>
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Members Present:

Sandra Zebal, Chair
 Robyn Gilden
 Karen Leatherwood
 Kim Petry, Vice Chair
 David Pyatt
 Brian Rhoten
 Chris Spaur

County Government:

Cindy Myers-Crumbacker, Recording Secretary
 Brenda Dinne, Special Projects Coordinator

Members Absent:

None

Other Attendees:

John Richardson, CC Health Dept.
 Ellen Cutsail, Town Council of Union Bridge

CALL TO ORDER - Ms. Sandra Zebal, Chair, officially called the September 13, 2011, meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Ms. Zebal then asked for approval of the August 9, 2011 minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MOTION NO. 137-11: Motion was made by Robyn Gilden, seconded by Dave Pyatt, approving the August 13, 2011 minutes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS –

1. An e-mail was received from the Weed Warriors thanking us for the support we wished to extend. However they are receiving help from the Recreation & Parks Department.
2. Commissioner Howard sent a letter outlining the Environmental Principles that he proposed to the other Commissioners. He would like comments from the EAC on these principles.

PRESENTATION-

John Modica, President of First Global Visions gave a talk about what his company does and offered to help update the 2007 Gas Emissions Inventory. Mr. Modica is certified as a Building Performance Auditor. He could assess electrical consumption, not gas and oil. Interns from McDaniel College could collect the data and then use a computer program to compare which building is using the most energy, which is making the most improvement from the 2007 study and which building has the least savings, as well as other comparisons. Mr. Modica offered to create forms that could be filled in by building managers for the survey. Goals could be set to cut energy use by 7-10% per year.

Chris Spaur commented that he is not sure if the current commissioners seem to be interested in greenhouse gas emissions. He feels the emphasis should be on energy savings. The council wanted to find out if there is still a contract with Johnson Controls for an energy contract savings program. Previous county staff, including Scott Moser and Rich Shelton, have been speakers for the EAC. Robyn Gilden asked how long we should expect to wait before we see results from the information collected. Some of the areas to look in for savings are: insulation, light bulbs, computer equipment, HVAC and heating

systems. Kim Petry commented that if the county does not have an Energy Savings Performance Contract, they should have a back-up plan.

Sandra Zebal would like to go before the Commissioners to request this update of information be collected by some volunteer interns. The title of the report needs to be changed to “Energy Audit & Cost Savings.” Brian Rhoten suggested they could collect data and compose a report, then collect again and compose another report to compare with the first. He also suggested to name the report “Energy Consumption Analysis”. Karen Leatherwood asked when the first data was collected and recorded. Sandra Zebal answered that it was 2007 and would like to get copies of the 2008 and 2009 data to compare.

MOTION 138-11 was made by Robyn Gilden and seconded by Dave Pyatt to have someone go before the Commissioners to request permission to perform a follow-up Energy Consumption Analysis. Motion carried.

Dave Pyatt asked how far in advance we need to get the briefing paper to the commissioners to be included on their agenda. Brenda Dinne answered 2 ½ weeks and advised the Council to carbon Steve Powell and John Modica.

OPEN FORUM

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS –

1. Tree Committee – Brian Rhoten

The committee meeting was cancelled. Due to Hurricane Irene, Brian was not able to hold a meeting this month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 5, at 10:00 in Room 205 at the County Office Building.

2. Solid Waste Management – Dave Pyatt

This committee is down to one member. Dave Pyatt handed out a Draft Revised Plan of Action (September 2011). (See attachment). Karen Leatherwood and Brian Rhoten volunteered to be on this subcommittee with Mr. Pyatt. Mr. Pyatt would like to invite Wendi Peters to come speak at the next EAC meeting. He will invite her.

3. The Council would like to get an update on the Incinerator.

NEW BUSINESS-

1. Environmental Principles

Dave Pyatt stated that the Council acknowledges that these are the Commissioners’ Principles and the language needs to be worked out in detail.

Sandra Zebal said regarding the letter from Commissioner Howard the language was confusing.

Robyn Gilden asked “What is the role of the EAC? What do the Commissioners want the Council to do?”

Brian Rhoten feels the Commissioners must promote and encourage people to be good environmental stewards and be rewarded for the good things they do.

MOTION 139-11 was made by Kim Petry and seconded by Dave Pyatt to send comments with changes to the Environmental Principles to Commissioner Howard. Motion carried. (See Attachment)

2. Environmental Awareness Awards

Kim Petry would like to change the questions used in the application process. She handed out the new questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Sandra Zebal announced the next meeting will be held Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 003/004 of the County Office Building.

ADJOURN: MOTION NO. 140-11: Motion made by Karen Leatherwood, seconded by Kim Petry, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Please inform the secretary if you are unable to attend

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EAC Solid Waste Subcommittee
Plan of Action
Revised September 2011

DRAFT

The solid waste subcommittee was formed several years ago to address how recycling could be jump started and be dovetailed with efforts to address shortfalls in available landfill capacity in the County and the need for a Waste to Energy (WTE) joint project with Frederick County. More specifically, the expectation several years ago was that a very aggressive recycling program might eliminate the need for either enhanced transport out of the County or the need for a WTE facility. The long-term problem with landfill capacity is largely unresolved and is currently being re-assessed. There may be additional efforts including the possibility of burning some solid waste at the Lehigh Cement facility at Union Bridge.

Challenges of “Quantum Jump” approach in Recycling vs “Evolutionary” improvement

Although Carroll municipalities offer some advantages since they generally have a single trash hauler (two do their own trash hauling), the large bulk of the County residential pickup is from a diverse group of about 23 private contractors with no clearly marked territories and generally no multiple dwelling arrangements. The County has not been successful to date in getting these trash haulers to buy into an enhanced recycling program.

It is worth noting that the Town of Mount Airy (just recognized this year for its efforts) spent over fifteen years getting to the point where it is today. Having a Town Recycling Committee and spokesman specify contract provisions to Key Sanitation, the contractor, was crucial. Soon, at a future EAC Meeting, we should ask Mount Airy Councilman Wendy Peters to give a presentation.

Suggested Approach for EAC.

The County has been given reasonably high marks in the past two years for its recycling program and has shown steady improvement, albeit slower than some EAC members would prefer. On the other hand, the evaluation of need for or hauling trash is a very highly politicized decision, and appears to be decided without too much input from the EAC. Thus, recycling goals should be addressed regardless of the WTE decision.

Things recommended we should do (or continue to do):

- Start to maintain a dialog and relationship with private County-wide trash hauler contractors.
- Contact Municipalities and request they identify a recycling coordinator. Hold meetings with the objective of boosting recycling--either via the Maryland Municipal League County Chapter or the County “association” of Town Managers.
- Continue to work with Maria Myers on an outreach basis—this could be a joint effort.
- Continue looking into obtaining large recycling bins.
- Provide input into WTE or long term trash options as they become available.
- Invite Wendy Peters soon to speak at an EAC meeting.

Draft of Carroll County Environmental Principles

As proposed by: Commissioner Doug Howard
To be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on July 14, 2011

Vision

We believe that the environment is important and must be carefully maintained. The air we breathe, the land we tend and **the food** and water we ~~drink~~ **consume** must be clean and safe in order to ensure that we maintain our health, safety and quality of life.

We believe that people **must be part of** ~~are not the problem, they are~~ the solution. We must be wise stewards of the environment and thus we must provide opportunities for locally-based, people-driven solutions designed for the long-term.

We believe **we must promote and encourage** an economy based on free-market principles **that can** produce innovative technologies and solutions **which** ~~that can~~ conserve natural resources and promote environmental quality.

We believe that growing awareness and free enterprise will recognize businesses that are good environmental stewards. Individuals and businesses that provide solutions should reap the rewards for conservation and environmentally sound practices. Market-based solutions to protect the environment can be ~~more~~ effective **when** and implemented **properly**. ~~with fewer economic side effects than a centrally planned~~ Government **initiatives** approach to **address** environmental problems **have a place when private solutions are not undertaken and may be necessary**.

Goals

The Board of County Commissioners has the following environmental goals:

1. Maintain **and improve** environmental quality and encourage economic prosperity **while preserving the County's rural character**
2. Promote land use, planning and development concepts and practices that support citizens' health, safety, well-being, individual rights and the economic viability of Carroll County
3. Maintain safe and adequate drinking water and other water supplies including efforts to protect and restore Chesapeake Bay
4. Strive to protect our natural resources for future generations

Implementation Methods

The Board of County Commissioners work with the EAC, local municipalities, state agencies, other counties and our county departments, business leaders and citizens to develop and promote strategies that allow for continued economic progress while pursuing good environmental stewardship. We will engage these partners in the formation of sound, balanced and reasonable environmental policies.