



## Carroll County Environmental Advisory Council

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Karen Leatherwood, Chair  
Melvin Baile, Jr., Vice Chair

Brenda Dinne, Staff Liaison  
Department of Land Use,  
Planning, & Development

### Meeting Summary for March 11, 2015

#### Members

Karen Leatherwood, Chair  
Melvin Baile, Vice Chair  
Curtis Barrett  
Ellen Cutsail  
Josh Hatkin  
David Hynes  
George Schooley - Absent  
Frank Vleck  
Sandy Zebal

#### County Government

Brenda Dinne, Special Projects Coordinator / EAC  
Staff Liaison  
Jennifer Quick, Recording Secretary  
Glenn Edwards, NPDES Compliance Specialist

#### Other Attendees

None

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER –**

Ms. Leatherwood officially called the March 11, 2015, meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. in Room 105 of the County Office Building.

#### **2. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS –**

No public comments were offered. No members of the public were in attendance.

#### **3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES –**

No corrections or additions were offered for the draft minutes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Motion 220-15:** Motion was made by Melvin Baile and seconded by Curtis Barrett to approve the February 18, 2015, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

#### **4. CHAIR AND COMMITTEE REPORTS –**

##### **a. Solar Energy Subcommittee:**

Ms. Dinne shared that meetings of the committee were tentatively to be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in April and May. This has not been confirmed.

Mr. Baile added that a bill passed last year that allows solar facilities on some portion of properties for which Maryland Agriculture Land Preservation Foundation holds easements. He felt, therefore, that taxes should be based on use, not just the general agriculture use tax category.

**b. Solid Waste Subcommittee:**

Ms. Leatherwood stated that the Solid Waste Advisory Council (SWAC) will be briefing the Commissioners on the SWAC next Thursday in the afternoon session. Ms. Leatherwood said the SWAC was created based on the original Solid Waste Work Group that Commissioner Howard had previously formed to make recommendations on the future of solid waste in Carroll County. Many of the core members of that group are now members of SWAC. They have only met a handful of times.

The SWAC members will introduce themselves and give some background about the committee and the goals. They would like the Commissioners to give them direction on where to go from here. There are many solid waste issues to be addressed at this point, and direction from the Board would help focus the group on the Board's needs and priorities.

**5. TREE COMMISSION –**

Nothing to report.

**6. STAFF LIASION REPORT**

The April meeting agenda will continue to include updates from the committees on the workshop. Ms. Dinne also will provide another legislative update. If anyone has anything to add in the next week or so, please let Ms. Dinne know.

Updates to materials in the member materials packets were provided.

Ms. Dinne provided the EAC members with two flyers. The first flyer is titled Tick Talk. Steve Allgeier, with the University of Maryland Extension office in Carroll County, asked that it be passed along to the EAC members. He is doing a talk on ticks at the Community Media Center on April 18<sup>th</sup>. The second flyer was from Maria Myers for the compost bin and rain barrel sale. The sale actually starts May 2<sup>nd</sup> but you may pre-order online. Mr. Barrett asked if the EAC needs to do anything with the flyer. Ms. Leatherwood stated that this for informational purposes, not necessarily something we need to promote. Ms. Leatherwood also shared a flyer from Maria Myers about the household hazardous waste at Meadow Branch to be held on June 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. She noted that they also provide shredding for personal papers and take batteries. Ms. Dinne will e-mail the flyers to the EAC.

**8. OLD BUSINESS –**

**a. *Business Community MS4 Workshop***

Facilities Committee – Ms. Quick is coordinating with the Facilities Committee to visit Room M-157 at the community college. Ms. Quick proposed April 23 at 3:30 p.m. All committee members present indicated this date is available for them.

Refreshments Committee – The College will make an exception and allow us to have refreshments for the workshop. We just need to inform them when we know what the food will be. Ms. Quick is working with the Comptroller's office to confirm the process for collecting a monetary donation and/or food donation.

Mr. Vleck was contacted by a gentleman whose business is located in Baltimore. He is interested in the workshop and having his business present. Mr. Vleck told Mr. Mathias that he would bring it up at the EAC meeting. Mr. Vleck wanted to know the EAC's thoughts on this, as it appears he is interested as a vendor rather than a participant. Ms. Leatherwood stated we should focus on the seminar/workshop. Mr. Mathias is welcome to attend the workshop as an attendee. Also, his business is not in Carroll County, and this workshop is specifically for businesses in Carroll County. Ms. Dinne indicated that there may be a future event or venue that may be more appropriate for vendors to attend or display materials since the EAC did not feel this was the appropriate event and venue at this time.

Registration & Materials Committee – Ms. Dinne asked the committee members to think about information they would like from the attendees when they register. She requested the committee provide her with the information in the next couple weeks. She will then be able to begin coordinating with the IT staff to create a webpage for the workshop and get a registration form posted. We also want to be able to link the registration form to Facebook or other social media outlets. The committee indicated they would meet directly after the meeting to discuss information needed from registrants.

Staff – Glenn is working on the workshop content. Once that is nailed down, the agenda can be put together. Ms. Dinne will provide the EAC with the draft agenda for review.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS –

### a. *Overview of Maryland Zero Waste Plan*

Ms. Leatherwood gave an overview of the Zero Waste Plan that was released by the State in January. Just before the end of his term, Governor O'Malley issued an executive order zero waste, which was followed by the release of the 71-page plan. This executive order could be rescinded by the new Governor, but no action has occurred yet. Ms. Leatherwood contacted Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). She was told that, after the legislative session is complete, MDE staff may provide an analysis to the Governor. Under the executive order and plan, no permits would be issued for construction of new landfills.

Ms. Leatherwood shared additional highlights from the document:

- By 2040, the waste stream diversion rate would have to be 85 percent, and the recycling rate would have to increase to 80 percent.
- Of the 24 landfills in the State, 22 are owned by local governments. MDE will work with local governments to develop alternatives to landfills, as the State only has 36 years of life left in its landfills collectively. Carroll County's landfill has the longest life, projected by MDE to last until 2059. However, much of Carroll's waste is currently hauled out of the state.
- Counties use tipping fees to pay for maintenance and operations. If they no longer accept waste, this funding stream will not be available to cover these costs.
- The plan indicates that small landfills are not cost effective and seeks to regionalize.
- Credit is given for public education, but it is hard to quantify.
- Three counties were studied to identify the distribution in the solid waste stream of food scraps, paper, yard waste, plastics, etc. The rates did not vary much between counties.
- The plan includes 8 categories of specific objectives and calls for more opportunities to be created for people to reuse materials

The plan can be viewed on the MDE website at <http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Marylander/Pages/ZeroWastePlan.aspx>.

**b. Legislative Update**

Ms. Dinne provided the EAC members with an update on legislation proposed by the 2015 Maryland General Assembly that is relevant to the EAC. She provided a handout with an overview. She summarized as follows:

- SB 588/HB 481, SB 42/HB 874, SB 36 – All 5 stormwater fee repeal bills on the first page received an unfavorable report from committee. They will not move forward.
- SB 863 – Rather than repeal the entire law, this bill proposes to revise the law. It would make the fee voluntary. However, it would add reporting requirements for the stormwater permit that are outside of the permit process.
- SB 257/HB 381 – Just before the end of Governor O'Malley's term, draft regulations for the phosphorus management tool were released in the Maryland Register. Governor Hogan pulled them back when he took office. Therefore, the General Assembly introduced the same requirements as legislation in the House and Senate instead.
- SJ 1 (Senate Joint Resolution) – The purpose of this resolution is to urge Congress to authorize a study be done by the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the sediment behind the Conowingo Dam and how to address it.
- HB 326 – This bill would require the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB) to develop and implement a water resources plan for the Maryland portion of the Monocacy River watershed. Staff opposes it because there was no provision in the bill for local participation, no indication on how they would implement the plan in our counties, including its impact on our stormwater permits.
- SB 919/HB 1268 – Prohibits the jurisdictions from implementing a State Watershed Implementation plan until the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) completes and publishes the 2017 Chesapeake Bay Midpoint Assessment.
- SB 258/HB 514 – These bills would create the Maryland Commission on Climate Change. While this Commission already exists, legislation to create the Commission would ensure the Commission continues and specifies who would be a member.
- SB 620/HB 551 – These bills would prohibit stores from distributing plastic bags at the point of sale. Stores would be required to pay customers 5 cents for each bag the customer provided. The store would collect 10 cents for each paper bag they provide.
- SB 684/HB 982 – These bills would establish the Maryland Redeemable Beverage Container and Litter Reduction Program. Beverage container recycling would have to increase from 25 percent to 70 percent by 2022. An organization and board of directors would be established. After January 1, 2017, bottles would have to be marked for a 5-cent deposit and refund. Unredeemed fees would be used to pay loans, establish new redemption centers, etc.
- HB 603 – Requiring a person to ensure yard waste is recycled in a specified manner; requiring a person to ensure food residuals are diverted from the solid waste stream in a specified manner.

Ms. Dinne stated that Sine Die (the end of the legislative session) is April 13. She will provide another update on the final status of this proposed legislation at the April 15 meeting.

**c. Phosphorus Symposium Overview**

Mr. Baile attended a phosphorus symposium in January at Chesapeake College in January, speakers for which were among the best phosphorus specialists in the world. Mr. Bailed shared that more is known about nitrogen than phosphorus. Phosphorus changes forms; it is rock then soluble then grain. Phosphorus is a necessary nutrient. Phosphorus is measured by FIV #. This number represents the amount of phosphorus in the soil. A small amount of phosphorus in water is good for growth. Mr. Baile shared some of the origins of phosphorus and how it moves through a cycle to reach our water bodies. He indicated that the speaker videos were available online at [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL27-Q8yeZ7-4meDURqI138LSxrofq3y\\_y](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL27-Q8yeZ7-4meDURqI138LSxrofq3y_y).

**10. OTHER –**

Nothing additional.

**11. ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING –**

**ADJOURNMENT - MOTION 221 -15:** Motion was made by Ellen Cutsail and seconded by Curtis Barrett to adjourn the March meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 003 of the County Office Building.