Summary Minutes
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)
November 14th, 2001
Horace R. Collins Laboratory
3307 South Old State Road
Delaware, OH 43015

Members in Attendance:

Erv Ball, Health Departments
Sally Beals, Municipalities
Tom Davis, (Designated by Mike Canfield, ODNR Director’s Designee)
Steve Hill, Industrial Generators
Dan Harris, EPA Director’s Designee
Phillip Palumbo, Joint County Districts
Antoinette Starkey, Private Recycling Industry
Joe Sykes, Townships
Richard Williams, Townships

Update on Legislative Issues
Dan Harris introduced and welcomed Antoinette Starkey, the new representative for the private recycling industry. Ms. Starkey explained that she currently works for Gateway Recycling and described how her business operates.

Dan Harris explained issues related to ongoing legislation. Ohio EPA is monitoring the following bills which have been introduced:

• SB 37 (Oelslager) and companion bill HB 83 (Schurring) would require solid waste districts to be in arbitration prior to the withdrawal of a county from a solid waste district.
• SB 41 (Carnes, DiDonato) would establish a two-year moratorium on licensing new C&DD facilities that are planning to accept out-of-state waste.
• SB 71 (Couglin) would establish a 2-year moratorium on the issuance of permits for landfills.
• SB 105 (Hottinger) would establish statute of limitations for civil actions under certain environmental laws.
• SB 151 (Coughlin) would require a local election before Ohio EPA and health departments can approve a landfill permit.

Erv Ball asked about the Director Jones testimony regarding proposed federal legislation that would provide states with tools to address out-of-state waste receipts. Mr. Harris and Andrew Booker explained that there had not been any follow-up on the Federal level and that a second set of hearings may be possible in the future.
Update on DSIWM Issues

Mr. Harris gave an update on the Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management’s (DSIWM’s) budget in relation to the Agency’s budget. He reminded everyone that the DSIWM program is funded by fees, as opposed to general revenue funds, and therefore is not greatly affected by the budget cuts. In contrast, the Agency’s budget is funded by user fees and federal grants with a small portion of the budget funded by GRF which has been cut several times. The Agency will absorb cuts through cuts to specific programs and existing vacancies probably won’t be filled.

Mr. Harris also explained the status of rules to the members of SWAC. The proposed scrap tire rules have been filed with JCARR and are on the agenda for next week. The C&DD rule package will be re-filed next month after addressing minor comments. The landfill rules have received comments that address issues including design and construction which are very technical and engineering specific. These comments may take time to address and the rules should be re-filed early next year. The financial assurance rules passed through JCARR yesterday on the consent agenda. In addition, the rules for licensing for facilities and health departments are out for interested party comments, as well as miscellaneous landfill rules.

Mr. Booker gave an update on the planning unit’s personnel status. He announced that Jamie Zawila had resigned to stay at home with her infant and Channon Cohen, a new planner, was introduced. Mr. Booker also said that another new planner, Michelle Kenton, would be starting soon.

Mr. Booker also updated SWAC members on the status of the State Plan. He announced that tomorrow (November 15) is Ohio Recycles Day which is when the Director will sign the State Plan. In the spirit of Ohio Recycles Day, Mr. Booker encouraged everyone to take a moment tomorrow to recommit themselves to recycling and also said that several organizations such as AOR, ODNR, etc. have sponsored events for this day. The adopted and approved State Plan will be available at the next meeting.

On a different topic, Mr. Booker spoke briefly about how the recent anthrax scare has impacted SWMDs in Ohio. Mr. Booker stated that the Portage County SWMD MRF recently found a suspicious letter and had to quarantine the facility. Mr. Booker also clarified that this was a letter that was being processed with the recyclables and not a letter that was directly mailed to the facility. The letter tested negative for anthrax. Mr. Booker said that several agencies including CDC, FBI, SWANA, and OSHA have published guidance documents addressign suspicious mail, mail handling safety, and potential exposure to anthrax.

Terry Kent, Lake County Health Department, West Nile Virus

Mr. Kent presented information on the transmission cycle for the West Nile virus, which includes mosquitoes as vectors, birds as hosts, and how it can be transmitted to humans and horses. He also explained the migration of the virus and predicted how the virus will
have an impact in the future. Mr. Kent identified areas that may be mosquito breeding sites, such as scrap tire piles, and also different ways to control mosquitoes and their larvae including larvicide and adulticide. Public education, surveillance, and maintenance are important areas of focus to protect citizens and residents and help them understand the virus.

Overall, Mr. Kent provided information to SWAC members from a historical perspective, as well as predicting possible outcomes and ways that these problems are dealt with locally and nationally. Steve Hill asked about the bird sampling and verified that two types of samples, both live and dead, are collected for testing. Mr. Booker confirmed the history of the virus with the first bird with West Nile Virus discovered in Ohio in 2001. Many SWAC members had questions regarding how this is related to previous outbreaks of malaria and encephalitis. Several other SWAC members asked about the treatment for storm drains and aerial spraying including issues related to application and effectiveness.

Annette DeHavilland, Ohio EPA, Bioreactor Landfills

Ms. DeHavilland presented an overview on the differences between traditional landfills which meet the Subtitle D requirements and “bioreactor” type landfills. The primary difference is that while traditional landfills are designed to minimize liquids, bioreactor landfills are dependent upon liquids which aid the natural breakdown of organics. Ms. DeHavilland described the process of how liquids are added and the concepts of leachate recirculation. The chemical reactions and products that result from this type of landfill were also discussed and presented to SWAC members.

An explanation of the benefits, risks, and design of bioreactor landfills was included in the presentation. Benefits include accelerated waste stabilization, decomposition, and degradation of waste which results in extending the life of the landfill. The biological and chemical processes can be compared to a compost pile and may also enable the “reuse” of landfills. In addition, this type of landfill may be less expensive long term than a Subtitle D landfill and also may result in reduced methane migration. Currently, there are not any bioreactor landfills in Ohio, although Waste Management has expressed interest in the past. Mr. Harris added that the siting criteria may need to be adjusted in order to accommodate this type of facility in Ohio. Collection and use of methane were also discussed as well as the impact of organic materials, metals and liquids that would possibly be accepted at this type of facility.

Tom Davis, ODNR, Electronic Recycling / Earth 911 Project

Mr. Davis presented information on electronic collection events and how the ODNR will assist communities by helping them find an outlet, such as Ohio Prison Industries. ODNR also plans on providing financial assistance in 2002 for these types of events. Mr. Davis also described the Earth 911 program which is a national database of recycling outlets and opportunities. More information can be found at www.cleanup.org. This Earth 911 system will require the SWMDs to update their own information on a local level. In addition, Mr. Davis said that ODNR is currently in the process of creating profiles for each of the
districts using a GIS system which will also be available on the internet.

**Andrew Booker, Ohio EPA, Scrap Tire Update**

Mr. Booker informed SWAC members that the increase of the tire fee from 50 cents to $1.00 (on the wholesale of tires) is now effective and as a result, Ohio EPA is in the process of bidding for two new sites that will begin clean-up next year. These two sites should be cleaned up with in one year. In a discussion about the Kirby tire site, Mr. Harris told SWAC members that arrests had been made for arson charges in relation to this site. Mr. Booker also suggested that the issue from the previous meeting regarding tire retailers assessing fees on consumers should be tabled until next meeting to seek further information.

**Logistics for Upcoming Meetings**

Possible conflicts with meetings were discussed in regards to scheduling upcoming meetings. The next meeting may be held in the afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00 depending on the flexibility of the meeting facility.

**Agenda Items for February 20, 2001 Meeting**

- Waste Management Representative for Bioreactor Landfill Project
- SWACO Dual Collection Pilot Program Results (Tina Redman)
- Ohio EPA’s SIIMAN Database
- Prioritizing state strategies from Chapter III of the State Plan
- ODNR’s Executive Order to Governor Taft
- Medina’s refuse derived fuel (RDF) projects
- Lima’s Coal & RDF pellets
- ODNR Market Development Grants
- First Energy projects

Respectfully submitted: __________________________________________

Erv Ball, Vice Chair

Minutes approved on: ____________________________________________

Certified by: ___________________________________________________

Kathy Trent, Secretary