

**Summary Minutes  
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)  
January 12, 2001  
ODOT, Room A  
1980 West Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43223**

**Members in Attendance:**

Erv Ball, Health Departments  
Arthur Haddad, Counties  
Phil Palumbo, Joint County SWMDs  
Joseph Sykes, Townships  
Richard Williams, Townships  
Reed Madden, Counties  
Steve Hill, Industrial Generators  
John Rininger, Municipalities  
Dan Harris, Ohio EPA

**November 15, 2000 SWAC Minutes approved**

The first order of business was to review and approve the November 15, 2000 meeting minutes. A change was made to the verbiage on page 2 to better clarify Mr. Ball's previous comment. Reed Madden MOVED to approve the minutes, John Rininger SECONDED the motion. The minutes were approved on voice vote.

**Update on DSIWM/Legislative Issues**

Dan Harris presented the following legislative updates:

- HB 540 and HB 644/SB 385 are expected to be re-introduced into this General Assembly.
- HB 700 was introduced into the last General Assembly, however, it is unsure whether this bill will be re-introduced into this General Assembly.
- SB 324 was introduced last session and is expected to be re-introduced into this General Assembly. This bill is specific to lime plant waste, namely proposing to move regulatory authority from Ohio EPA to ODNR.
- HB 807 was introduced late into last session. It is expected that similar legislation will be introduced into this General Assembly.

Mr. Harris also informed SWAC members that the Governor's office was working on coordinating and preparing legislation on the environmental bond fund process. Specifics are unknown at this time but legislation is expected soon.

Mr. Rininger inquired as to the new committee structure and requested that SWAC members be kept abreast of this information. Mr. Harris was unsure of the committee structure at this time but agreed that SWAC members should know this information.

Mr. Harris also provided the following DSIWM rulemaking updates:

- C&DD rules are currently subject to review by interested parties.
- Scrap tire review is complete. These rules will be filed with JCARR sometime at the end of January.
- Infectious Waste Transporter Registration final package is due in March. Training will be scheduled on this rule at the end of March.

### **Tina Redman, SWACO, Columbus Residential Collection Pilot Program**

Mr. Harris introduced Tina Redman, who gave a presentation on the Columbus Residential Collection Pilot Program. The objectives of this pilot project are to increase diversion, appeal to residents, and remain cost effective. The City of Columbus is the first major city to implement this type of project.

The pilot project combines the collection of the solid waste and curbside recycling. The project uses 96 gallon split containers. Residents must sort refuse from recyclables. Five areas were chosen servicing approximately 3,000 households. The five areas were chosen to provide a good demographic representation of the City. The kick-off for the project began December 11, 2000 and will continue through May.

Approximately 89% participation was achieved the first week of the project with a net diversion of 41%. Cross contamination has not occurred as much as was expected. Of the materials recycled approximately 85% are processed, thus demonstrating only 15% contamination. As stated, resident participation has been encouraging. However, a small number of complaints have been received regarding the lack of refuse space in the containers.

Ms. Redman introduced TJ Black, Steve Lenin, Jerry Edwards and John Johnson of the City of Columbus who also helped to explain and field questions regarding the project. SWACO is continuing to track the results and costs of the project to compile a final report.

SWAC members were interested in having Ms. Redman return at the completion of the pilot project with final results. Andrew Booker, Ohio EPA, and Mr. Harris both thanked Ms. Redman and the City of Columbus for presenting this information to the SWAC members and for implementing the project.

### **State Plan Chapter Updates**

Ernie Stall, Ohio EPA, presented the following overview of State Plan Chapters 3 through 9:

- Chapter 3 *Goals for Solid Waste Reduction, Recycling, Reuse and Minimization* - Ohio EPA will present recommendations to the SWAC members on the goals. Little writing has been accomplished in this Chapter. Most progress has been through discussions.

- Chapter 4 *Restrictions on the Types of Solid Waste Disposed in Landfills and Burned in Incinerators* - 1998 progress report comments will be incorporated. There have been no new restriction's implemented since the *1995 State Plan*.
- Chapter 5 *Revised General Criteria for the Location of Solid Waste Facilities* - Discussions have led to a few items to be added to this Chapter such as the history of Ohio's siting criteria, progress update on completing *1995 State Plan* recommendations, discussion of HB473 review team recommendations, and discussion on tools available to deal with local and regional effects of solid waste facilities. At least one more discussion will need to be held to review issues with this Chapter.
- Chapter 6 *Ash Management* - This Chapter is complete at this point. As a result of the review by SWAC members, a few revisions have been incorporated in the draft chapter that was previously distributed.
- Chapter 7 *A Statewide Strategy for Managing Scrap Tires* - This Chapter still needs to have updates to reflect the adopted rules in 1996. Quite a bit of work still needs to be done on this Chapter.
- Chapter 8 *A Program for Managing Household Hazardous Waste* - This Chapter has a strong draft finished.
- Chapter 9 *Recycling Market Development* - Ohio EPA is waiting on reports from ODNR and the Interagency Recycling Market Development Workgroup before updating this Chapter.

Phil Palumbo asked whether the access percentage goal will include permanent HHW collection sites as part of the access equation. Andrew Booker, Ohio EPA, explained to the SWAC members some background information relevant to Mr. Palumbo's question. Mr. Booker stated that we will save this discussion for a future meeting when we discuss the recommendations on Goal 1 for the State Plan Chapter.

### **Statewide Recycling Updates**

Mr. Booker presented data through 1999 showing a flat residential/commercial recycling rate. He presented graphs that illustrated that industrial recycling carries the total recycling rate. The state met the 50% goal for the industrial sector in 1999, but fell short of the 50% goal for total recycling and the 25% goal for the residential/commercial sector.

Mr. Palumbo was interested in the population correlation to the recycling numbers. Mr. Booker explained that Ohio EPA performed a population correlation in 1997. However, the results indicated that there was not as strong of a correlation between recycling rates and population or population density as might be expected.

Mr. Booker presented recycling percentages of surrounding states taken from *BioCycle* magazine. Based on this data it is expected that Ohio will fall somewhere in the middle of the states. Mr. Booker cautioned to keep in mind that the calculation of recycling rates is not consistent between states. In addition, USEPA methodology for calculating recycling drops Ohio recycling percentages by a few points.

Richard Williams was curious as to if any compilation has been performed regarding recycling costs in the state of Ohio. In particular Mr. Williams is looking for a comparison of costs versus returns. Mr. Booker stated that Ohio EPA does not have detailed information regarding the costs of recycling programs. It is a possibility that individual districts have this type of information. Mr. Booker suggested that it is important to include avoided disposal costs as part of any analysis of the cost effectiveness of recycling programs.

Mr. Booker presented the following explanations as to why Ohio is seeing a flat residential/commercial recycling rate:

- Recycling is voluntary in Ohio.
- Reporting of recycling is voluntary in Ohio.
- More Districts are pursuing the access goal.
- Trends in packaging materials.
- Unprecedented economic growth.
- Low disposal costs.
- National recycling trend is flat.

Mr. Booker added a positive note to say that: 1) the overall the industrial sector recycling trend is positive; 2) over 2.4 million tons of residential/commercial waste was recycled; 3) the Solid Waste Management Districts have increased recycling rates, and; 4) recycling remains popular.

Mr. Booker also presented recycling by material through year 1999.

### **Out-of-State Waste Updates**

Mr. Booker presented the 1999 out-of-state waste updates. In 1999 Ohio imported over 1.5 million tons and exported over 1.0 million tons. The imported waste peaked in 1989 and decreased until 1996. It has risen slightly in 1997, 1998 and 1999. In 1999 the single largest source of imported waste came from the state of New York.

SWAC members were interested in the Fresh Kills landfill. Mr. Booker explained that Fresh Kills is still scheduled to close in 2002. However, New York is already diverting a lot of waste to other landfills. As a result, it is difficult to predict if the closure will lead to much more waste being disposed in Ohio.

Steve Hill questioned whether in Ohio truck inspections were occurring as in other states. Mr. Harris explained that Ohio participated in discussions with other states to coordinate inspections as part of the Mid-Atlantic States meetings. These meetings resulted in truck inspections over several days in Ohio in 1999. Ohio participated mainly along the Pennsylvania border. Few problems were found with the incoming trucks as a result of these

inspections. Thus, at this time there are no plans for further participation. All safety inspections are performed by the State Highway Patrol.

**Agenda Items for February 12, 2000 meeting**

Agenda items discussed are:

- Legislative committee appointments.
- Siting criteria discussion.
- ODNR studies.
- ODNR GIS project.
- Goal discussion.
- Chapter review.
- Chapter recommendations on HHW.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

The next meeting scheduled is on February 12, 2001 at the ODOT building.

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Erv Ball, Vice Chair

Minutes approved on: \_\_\_\_\_

Certified by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Trent, Secretary