

**Summary Minutes
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)
February 20th, 2002
High Banks Metro Park
9466 Columbus Pike
Lewis Center, OH 43035**

Members in Attendance:

Dan Harris, EPA's Director's Designee
Dell Heitcamp, Public
Steve Hill, Industrial Generators
Ron Kolbash, ODNR Director's Designee
Sean Logan, Counties
Phillip Palumbo, Joint County SWMD
Antoinette Starkey, Private Recycling Industry
Joe Sykes, Townships
Kathy Trent, Private Solid Waste Management
Richard Williams, Townships

Andrew Booker recognized the absence of a quorum and also announced that Kathy Trent would chair the first part of the meeting since neither the chairperson or vice-chairperson of the Council were present. Mr. Booker also announced that the approval of the minutes would be postponed until Dan Harris arrived due to the lack of a quorum.

An updated member list was distributed and Mr. Booker introduced Ron Kolbash, ODNR's Acting Chief for the Division of Recycling and Litter Prevention. Mr. Kolbash is ODNR's Director's Designee in place of Mike Canfield who recently retired. Mr. Booker also pointed out that the House of Representative had delegated Representative Carmichael to serve on SWAC although he was not present at the meeting.

Andrew Booker, Ohio EPA, U.S. EPA Grant for Drop-off Study

Mr. Booker stated that the Agency planned on submitting a proposal for a grant to the U.S. EPA, Region 5, to conduct a study which would evaluate different properties associated with recycling drop-offs. Characteristics including participation rate, tonnage, and distance traveled would be the primary objectives of the study. Mr. Booker explained that specific methodologies had not yet been decided but provided a general description of various aspects that the survey would include and described different purposes and applications for this type of study.

Mr. Booker stated that many large cities are opting for drop-off recycling in order to meet the requirements of Goal #1 (Access Goal) which is described in the *2001 State Solid Waste Management Plan (State Plan)*. Mr. Booker also said that the final version of the recently approved *State Plan* is now available on the website <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsiwm/pages/stateplan.html>. There are several SWMDs that have volunteered to participate in this type of study and ODNR has agreed to contribute with matching funds or in-kind services.

Mr. Logan asked several questions about the specific details of the study regarding the timeframe, amount of money, scope, parameters that may be considered, and also how the results of the study would affect the formula used for calculating access as described in the *Format* and the *State Plan*. Mr. Booker explained that it is possible for the study to allow a change in the value which is used to determine “access” to the recycling opportunity as currently described in the *Format*. It is possible that the study will consider a per capita value or radius to determine the amount of population with access to a recycling opportunity.

Issues regarding contamination were also discussed in relation to the study. The grant for approximately \$25,000 is not expected to be issued until June or July. At this point, only a pre-proposal draft will be required and no detailed methodology has been determined. Mr. Booker explained that the study may begin in the fall and is possible to extend the study to capture different seasons.

Mr. Booker explained that a representative cross-section of both urban and rural drop-offs would be included in the study, as well as drop-offs that are available full-time and part-time. A member of the audience from the city of Columbus volunteered to participate in the study due to the fact that the drop-offs had been in effect for the past 8-10 years. One of the purposes of the study is to find out why some drop-offs receive higher participation rates or collect higher tonnages of recyclable materials. Factors such as education may be considered in determining whether some sites are more successful than others.

Mr. Williams offered the suggestion that it may be important for the sites to be monitored or patrolled in order to avoid a drop-off from becoming a garbage dump.

Brian Enck, Ohio EPA, Scrap Tire Dump Clean-Ups: Prioritizing the List

Mr. Enck presented information on the scoring criteria developed to implement the scrap tire abatement. The scoring criteria are used to rank the various tire dump sites throughout the state. Information was provided on the enforcement process which is pursued before beginning a state-funded cleanup.

The descending priorities which are established by ORC 3734.85 (B) include: fire hazard or threat to public health; more than one million scrap tires; densely populated areas; sites that constitute a public nuisance; and sites located on premises without a valid license. The recently increased scrap tire fee enables Ohio EPA to initiate new site clean-ups in addition to the ongoing clean-up of the Kirby site in Wyandot County.

For each of the priorities on the list, Ohio EPA has developed an internal standard for scoring each of the priorities using a point system. This allows various quantitative and qualitative measurements to be applied in order to determine the order in which sites should be cleaned up. For example, the presence of disease carrying mosquitoes within a one mile radius is ranked using various standards to determine the level of public health threat.

A summary of the rankings and a list of completed clean-ups were provided with the hand-outs for the presentation. In addition, Mr. Enck explained that two new sites, one in Harrison County and one in Portage County, will be cleaned up this year. He also explained the financial expectations from the increased fee and the impact that this may have on future clean-ups.

Mr. Logan requested additional information regarding the criteria used to evaluate the priority of a “densely populated area”. Currently, the criteria is rated based on whether the site is located in an incorporated area. Mr. Logan pointed out that many townships are more highly populated than some incorporated areas, and suggested that a more precise measure could be developed. Mr. Sykes concurred with his suggestion. Mr. Enck said that he would look further into the standard of using incorporated areas to score this priority and more information will be available at the next meeting. Mr. Enck also added that training for the new scrap tire rules (available on <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsiwm/pages/currentrule.html>) is scheduled for the following dates and locations from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm:

March 19 th	Columbus (James Rhodes State Office Tower)
March 25 th	Akron (University of Akron)
March 18 th	Bowling Green (Bowling Green State University)
March 20 th	Nelsonville (Hocking College)
March 27 th	Dayton (Wright State University)

Gary Hater, Waste Management, Bioreactor Landfills: What’s the Impact?

Ms. Trent introduced Mr. Hater from Waste Management to present information on bioreactor landfill technology. Mr. Hater is responsible for the largest bioreactor landfill program in the country. He described that the main difference between bioreactor technology and traditional Subtitle D landfills is the moisture content of the trash that is contained in the cell. Trash that is in the cell generally is 25% moisture and using bioreactor technology, that level must be increased to 40-45%.

Mr. Hater described the differences in four different types of bioreactor landfills and compared a traditional landfill to the aerobic, anaerobic-aerobic, anaerobic, and facultative bioreactor landfills. Waste Management has determined that aerobic bioreactor technology is not cost effective and that type of research is no longer conducted at their sites. Factors including the time required to decompose, leachate composition, and methane generation are the primary differences in bioreactor landfills. Several benefits include airspace recovery, rapid stabilization, and energy recovery. Waste Management conducts research on various parameters to compare a newly constructed landfill to a traditional landfill that has been retro-fitted for bioreactor technology.

The studies are part of a co-operative agreement with U.S. EPA which requires published material and stringent sampling. A few of the projects are conducted under U.S. EPA’s Project XL, which allows Waste Management some regulatory relief. The studies are conducted on full-scale test cells and are in the second year of a five-year plan. The results from the study may affect the amount of time and money spent for

post-closure care for landfills as required currently. Potential restricted materials and problems were briefly discussed as well as the impacts of an analysis of the landfill's life cycle.

Discussion took place regarding Ohio's role in this type of technology. Mr. Harris explained that Ohio EPA had received a proposal for a pilot project at a specific site in Ohio. However, due to ongoing public concerns regarding the facility, Ohio EPA declined to allow the pilot project. Other sites may have been possible but Ms. Trent explained that financial and geographical restraints prevented any other sites in Ohio from being considered.

September 24th and November 14th Meeting Minutes Approved

Mr. Williams MOVED to approve the minutes from the meetings held on September 24th and November 14th. Mr. Palumbo SECONDED the motion. The minutes were approved on voice vote.

Update on Legislative Issues

Dan Harris briefly explained issues related to ongoing legislation and provided an update for only two bills in an effort to keep the meeting on schedule. Mr. Harris said that Ohio EPA is closely monitoring SB 71 (Coughlin) and SB 199 (Carnes).

Considerable interest was expressed by members regarding SB 71 (creation of the Joint Committee on Solid Waste Management). Mr. Harris explained to the group that the bill creates a "Solid Waste Management Advisory Group," and described who would be members of the Group. Mr. Harris also informed SWAC that the Agency has taken a neutral stance on the bill.

Several SWAC members felt that SWAC should formally communicate to House leadership to let them know that SWAC exists, what it's function is, and possibly to offer to contribute to any discussion regarding landfills in Ohio. Mr. Harris mentioned to them that Rep. Hollister had asked the bill's sponsor (Coughlin) about SWAC during sponsor testimony. After some discussion, SWAC members decided to draft a letter to Rep. Hollister and the Energy and Environment committee. Mr. Harris informed SWAC members that since Ohio EPA is taking a neutral stance on the bill, it would be inappropriate to have the letter issued under Mr. Harris's signature as Chair of SWAC. They decided that the letter would be signed by the Vice Chair of SWAC (Erv Ball, Cuyahoga County Health Department) and possibly other SWAC members that wanted to include their signature. Ms. Trent agreed to draft a letter to represent SWAC. Mr. Harris stated that DSIWM staff would assist in circulating the letter among all the SWAC members prior to it being issued.

Several SWAC members also expressed an interest in supporting SB 199 in some manner, although no specific course of action was chosen. Mr. Harris also shared information regarding federal legislation related to interstate waste and flow control issues. He stated that the Governor's office in Washington D.C. will keep Ohio EPA informed of any progress on this type of legislation.

Potential Future Agenda Topics

- Clean Ohio Fund
- SWACO Pilot Project Results (Dual collection)

The next meeting is scheduled for May 9th, 2002 to be held at High Banks Metro Park from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____
Erv Ball, Vice Chair

Minutes approved on: _____

Certified by: _____
Kathy Trent, Secretary