

Summary Minutes
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)
May 9th, 2002
High Banks Metro Park
9466 Columbus Pike
Lewis Center, OH 43035

Members in Attendance:

Erv Ball, Health Departments
Brad Biggs, ODOT's Director's Designee
Dan Harris, EPA's Director's Designee
Ron Kolbash, ODNR Director's Designee
Mike Long, Single County SWMDs
Reed Madden, Counties
John Rininger, Municipalities
Joe Sykes, Townships
Kathy Trent, Private Solid Waste Management
Richard Williams, Townships

February 20th Meeting Minutes Approved

Erv Ball MOVED to approve the minutes from the meetings held on February 9th, 2002.
Ron Kolbash SECONDED the motion. The minutes were approved on voice vote.

Update on Legislative/DSIWM Issues

Dan Harris briefly discussed the state budget shortfalls which has resulted in a hiring freeze and purchase restrictions for most agencies including the EPA. Mr. Harris also explained that since DSIWM is not funded through the General Revenue Fund (GRF) that the budget would not directly impact the Division.

Mr. Harris described his experience in participating with the Ohio Environmental Council's (OEC) Lobbying Day which allowed Mr. Harris to interact with citizen organization and share opinions and interest in solid waste and policy issues. Mr. Harris took the opportunity to explain to the OEC members what the purpose of SWAC was and how SWAC is involved with various issues related to solid waste.

Mr. Harris explained the status of various rule packages and several have recently finished with public hearings. Most of the rule packages received comments and DSIWM will be giving JCARR a notice of intent to re-file. More information is available on the website http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsiwm/pages/draft_rule.html. Mr. Harris said that the comments contained suggestions which will be considered but that no major changes would occur as a result of the public comments received.

A guidance document regarding the slope stability of landfills will be released in the near future. The technical manual will go out for a 60 day public comment period before the landfill rule package. Several SWAC members had questions regarding the content of this document. Mr. Harris explained that the document is intended to be used for any facility which may have concerns with slope stability using various engineering methods. In addition, the document is based on several publications and

the purpose of the guidance document was to consolidate many of the various works into one. The technical manual does not address any specific rules and is expected to be used by consultants or industries which have expressed their interest and are eager to see this document.

Tiffani Robinson, Ohio EPA, Clean Ohio Fund

Ms. Robinson provided a summary of the Clean Ohio Fund's history, who serves on the the Clean Ohio council and the cycle of the fund. The \$400 million Clean Ohio Fund is divided into different categories based on the project.

Fifty million dollars is designated for brownfields and that is further divided into two different categories; the Revitalization Fund (\$40 million) and the Assistance Fund (\$10 million). For the Revitalization Fund, the state is geographically divided into 19 Public Works Districts with 6 projects per district for a maximum of 114 projects each year.

Ms. Robinson explained who eligible applicants may be and described eligible sites through the definition of a brownfield. The site may be more than one parcel although the parcels must be contiguous. Eligible costs includes the cleanup or remediation which is any action to contain, remove, or dispose of hazardous substances or petroleum at a brownfield.

The applications are reviewed using categories which include: economic benefit, environmental improvement, benefit to low-income households, project viability, combination of uses, loans, and match. Each category may receive a certain amount of points and has various components to determine the amount of points. Ms. Robinson finished the presentation by demonstrating the scoring process and explaining how the final selection is made.

Mike Long, SWACO, The Search for a Smarter Recyclables Collection System

Mr. Long presented the results of a study which involved the City of Columbus's dual collection pilot program. Currently, the city has a 13% diversion rate with 13% of households having subscription recycling service. The dual collection system would require a special truck that would use special bins in which residents would place recycling in one half of the bin and garbage in the other half of the bin.

The findings showed the costs of the current program and compared the projected costs and savings with the dual collection program. One of the main expenses upfront is the increased cost of the modified truck which enables this type of system. It appeared that over a ten year projected timeframe, the system would save the city a substantial amount of money even when the added costs have been phased in over the next 20 years. The system would depend on a MRF to do the separation of the materials and would only work optimally if the MRF was located in the same area as the transfer facility. It appears that in the long run this system would cost about the same as a program that collects only garbage and would cost less than a system that collects garbage and recycling separately.

The results of the study showed an increase in diversion from 13% to 38% which would be equivalent to approximately one year of increased life to the landfill. Consultants surveyed 1000 of the participants to determine if residents were satisfied with this system. Some of the comments from residents were about the size of the container and how it was divided. The study also showed that approximately the same amount of contamination occurred in both of the systems. However, the contamination rate was considered to be well within industry standards.

Several SWAC members had questions about various aspects of the study and everyone was able to reach a consensus that this type of program may not be ideal for every type of community and will be difficult for the city of Columbus to incorporate in some areas, particularly the alley collections where it is very narrow. The dual collection system would work best for suburban, high density areas. Many members also pointed out the study's compliance with several of the State Plan strategies. Kathy Trent expressed that many private companies are also interested in this type of system.

Potential Future Agenda Topics

- Fee Issues
- District recycling rates
- Economics
- Health Department Discussion
- Reporting Requirements (Surveys)
- Success stories/studies

The next meeting is scheduled for August 15th, 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