

**Summary Minutes  
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)  
May 17, 2012  
Lazarus Government Center  
50 W. Town Street  
Columbus, OH 43215**

**The Following Members Announced Their Attendance at Roll Call:**

Erin Miller, Municipalities  
Thea Walsh, ODOD  
Jean Byrd, Public  
Steve Hill, Industrial Generators  
Terrie TerMeer, ODNR  
John Bayliss, Counties  
Anne Fiehrer-Flaig, Single County SWMDs  
Thomas Ferrell, Counties  
Chris Jacobs, Joint County SWMDs  
Joseph Denen, Municipalities  
Gary Sims, Private Recycling Industry  
Matt Trokan, Statewide Environmental Advocacy Organizations

Timothy Lynch (Townships), Christopher Valerian (Private Solid Waste Management Industry) and Belle Everett (Townships) arrived after roll call.

**Welcome and Introductions – Pam Allen, Chief, Ohio EPA - DMWM**

Pam Allen called the meeting to order and indicated she would be sitting in for Dan Harris to chair the meeting.

Pam related to the seven SWAC seats that are set to expire on June 23, 2012. Ohio EPA has sent its recommendations to the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions. Six of the seven seats were recommended for re-appointment. The seventh seat is held by Chris Jacobs, who is not seeking reappointment. Mr. Jacobs was thanked for his four years of contributions to SWAC. Since Mr. Jacobs is the current secretary for SWAC, motions were sought for new candidates. John Bayliss MOVED to nominate Matt Trokan as the new secretary and Gary Simms SECONDED the motion. Matt Trokan was elected the new secretary for SWAC by voice vote.

**Review of the February 16, 2012 meeting minutes**

John Bayliss MOVED to accept the February 16, 2012 meeting minutes presented today. Timothy Lynch SECONDED the motion and the minutes were approved on voice vote.

## **DSIWM General and Legislative update – Pam Allen, Ohio EPA – DMWM**

Pam referred to several DMWM rule packages. The compost rules became effective in April, which included the local government financial assurance test and an exemption for community garden sized operations. The new C&DD rules affecting existing facilities will become effective in June. Changes to the C&DD rules include a five year post-closure care requirement, financial assurance requirements as well as more realistic closure cost estimates. Also, early stakeholder outreach has begun for DMWM's transfer facility rules and rules relating to household hazardous waste (HHW) collections. Relative issues include how transfer facilities conduct recycling and organics operations and the potential for HHW collections to accept waste from conditionally exempt small quantity generators.

Relevant legislation, discussed in detail at the February 16, 2012 SWAC meeting, included Senate Bill (S.B.) 290 and Senate Bill 294. Ohio EPA has since met with the interested parties and communicated with the sponsor of S.B. 290 and the bill is currently on hold. S.B. 294, the Omnibus Regulatory Reform bill, passed the Senate on April 24, 2012.

House Bill 487, the mid-biennium budget review, passed the House in April and includes a number of provisions relevant to Ohio EPA. The bill would clarify air program funds, the authority to enter into consensual administrative orders and Ohio EPA's authority to develop drinking water rules for conditioning and denying licenses and license renewals. It also increased the opportunities for certified operator testing and consolidated ODNR's Division of Litter Prevention and Recycling and scrap tire programs into OEPA's Division of Material and Waste Management.

## **Update on the Ohio Solid Waste Management Review - Andrew Booker and Christopher Germain, OEPA-DMWM**

Andrew referred to Ohio EPA's webpage for the review process, <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/hb592.aspx>. The information on the webpage was reviewed and members were encouraged to check back periodically because updates are happening regularly.

Christopher indicated that the review process has been moving forward since the last SWAC meeting. Ohio EPA has almost completed Phase I, the information gathering portion of the review. An introductory webinar was held and numerous meetings have occurred with a broad cross section of interested parties. A list of the interested parties was provided.

The overall themes discussed were Ohio EPA's role, solid waste management districts (SWMDs), infrastructure, funding, and recycling in general. Relating to Ohio EPA's role, comments were received pertaining to beneficial reuse of materials, definitions of waste streams, and the planning process. Topics relating to the planning process included

issues with data collection, reporting, the State Solid Waste Management Plan (State Plan), SWAC, the planning process, and different approaches to the State Plan Goals.

Regarding the topic of recycling, most comments reiterated the need for more and better recycling in Ohio. Some of the discussions advocated for mandatory recycling, having a density trigger for curbside programs, bars and restaurants, multi-family dwellings, and pay-as-you-throw programs. Comments were also received pertaining to individual waste streams and programs, such as HHW, electronics, and paint. Approaches discussed included extended producer responsibility requirements, deposit programs, and landfill bans.

For the theme of funding, most comments revolved around solid waste fees. The state fee was discussed. Regarding disposal and generation fees, there were groups advocating raising as well as lowering them, as well as discussions about simplifying the fee structure and the process used for changing fees. Other revenue streams discussed included taxes, recycling profits, host community fees, and contract/designation fees. The ability to fund specialized activities was included, such as health departments, enforcement programs, and recycling and litter prevention offices.

There were many comments regarding SWMDs. The ability for SWMDs to enforce rules and other authorities was discussed including flow control and siting criteria requirements. Many comments related to planning and reporting, the ratification process, the structure of SWMDs' plans, and data collection. District expenses were discussed as well as the structure of SMWDs including the number of SWMDs, boards/policy committees, the separation process, and authorities vs. districts.

For the theme of infrastructure, topics included specialized facilities and requirements for landfills. Recycling market development was discussed as well as approaches to industry service including contracting practices and bundling of services.

A schedule for the next steps in the review process was provided:

- June – August 2012: Phase II meetings
  - Facilitated discussions held across Ohio
  - Seek consensus on contentious issues
- August – December 2012: Phase III
  - Development of a formal proposal
  - Public comment period
  - Revisions, final proposal
- 2013: Phase IV
  - Legislative initiative

The group was tasked with the question of SWAC's current relevancy. It was noted that SWAC provides a diverse and broad representation to discuss the issues. It was also related that SWAC should be more central to the review process as well as development of the State Plan. Further discussion praised the variety of views

represented on SWAC and how the council serves as a vehicle for interaction with Ohio EPA and each other.

It was related that more time should be allocated during meetings to allow for SWAC members' interaction. The contentious issues should put on the table for members to discuss and that there should be more focus on challenges, not just the success stories. Adding a section for comments at each meeting was suggested as a means to allow for more interaction.

### **City of Columbus Recycling Update (Erin Miller, Environmental Steward)**

Ms. Miller related to the significant amount of effort the city put into the public relations and information gathering prior to implementing a curbside recycling program. Much of the focus was on the economic and environmental benefits of recycling. The program positions the central Ohio region for more efficient recycling programs and creates and retains jobs in Columbus. It was noted that 80 percent of the material recycled will be marketed within 150 miles of the city. Extending the life of SWACO's landfill tops the list of benefits the program brings to the area.

The more Columbus recycles, the more it saves. Program costs are projected to be offset by \$13-\$15 million savings in tipping fees over 5 years. The cost of the program equates to one-third of 1 percent of the city's budget. The per household rate is \$1.44/month, without taking into account tipping fee savings.

The contract was awarded to Rumpke Recycling for 227,000 homes. The recycling and yard waste services will alternate every other week and the recycling pick-up will be in alleys or at the curb, consistent with the location of refuse collection. No direct fee will be assessed to residents. Program efficiency has increased the truck trips through neighborhoods has been reduced. Residents' trash collection remains unchanged.

Households will be provided 64 gallon wheeled carts with lids for their recyclables. The carts will be provided at no charge. Acceptable materials for the program are paper, plastic bottles, glass containers, steel and aluminum cans, milk cartons and juice boxes. All recyclables go into one cart. Many of the 200 plus drop off recycling containers currently found throughout the city will be relocated for increased convenience.

The new curbside recycling service will be implemented in five phases:

Phase One: Monday – June	45,662 homes
Phase Two: Tuesday – July	65,000 homes
Phase Three: Wed – October	21,000 homes
Phase Four: Thurs – December	36,000 homes
Phase Five: Fri – February 2013	48,000 homes

Yard waste and subscription recycling services continue until new services begin. Extensive education and outreach programs will be implemented throughout the process to communicate the schedule and changes. Curbside Value Partnership provided \$100,000 of in-kind design work for these programs. Murphy Epson also

provided pro-bono work and ODNR provided a grant to offset some of the costs of the carts.

Additional regional collaborations have started since the process began, including pursuing shared service contracts. Additionally, cooperative procurement language was included in the contracts.

For more information, visit the website [www.RecycleColumbus.org](http://www.RecycleColumbus.org).

### **Aluminum Recycling: An Industry Perspective (Beth Schmitt, Alcoa Recycling)**

Ms. Schmitt started by providing an overview of Alcoa. Alcoa is the world's leading producer of primary aluminum and fabricated aluminum, as well as the world's largest miner of bauxite and refiner of alumina. The company employs approximately 1700 people worldwide. In addition to inventing the modern-day aluminum industry, Alcoa has been behind major milestones in the aerospace, automotive, packaging, building and construction, commercial transportation, consumer electronics and industrial markets for more than 120 years. Ohio facilities include Alcoa Forging and Extrusions Cleveland Works, Alcoa Power and Propulsion's Howmet facility, Tempcraft (Cleveland) and Alcoa Wheel and Transportation Products has facilities in Cleveland, Barberton and Chillicothe. Additionally their business unit headquarters is located in Independence, OH.

The company recently announced a \$21 million Green Expansion at its Barberton facility that adds advanced recycling and casting to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. The facility is the first of its kind in North America. It uses innovative new technology to produce billet for new wheels from re-melted scrap aluminum.

The presentation provided a material profile of aluminum. Aluminum has many desirable traits making it desirable for many different applications. This has earned the metal the moniker of "miracle metal". Aluminum can be recycled an infinite number of times. Because of the strength obtained from a relatively lightweight material, Alcoa has advanced the efficiency of so many aspects of society. The fuel savings associated with Alcoa's advancements in wheel hub designs was highlighted.

Alcoa has invested in Electronic Recyclers International, the largest E-Waste shredding and recycling system in the world. This company was one of the founders in the Basel Action Network. Alcoa has an expanding E-waste recycling network in the U.S. as well.

Aluminum cans have the highest recycled content and recycling rate. Half the world's cans are consumed in the U.S., yet only 42 percent of them are still going into the trash. In Ohio 4.2 billion cans are used annually, with almost 3 billion of those trashed, the equivalent of \$50 million. The U.S. has the largest market for cans, but one of the lowest recycling rates among developed countries. Recent studies were cited showing the employment advantages of recycling, indicating seven full time jobs are created for

every metric ton of beverage container material recycled. Alcoa's policy support is imperative for deposit programs, disposal bans, mandated or incentivized recycling, enhanced incentives and pay-as-you-throw programs.

**Agenda items for the August 16, 2012 meeting at Ohio EPA Central Office**

A presentation on the LEED certification program is likely. There will also be further discussion regarding H.B. 592.

The meeting was declared adjourned.

Most of the group travelled to Rumpke Recycling's newly renovated materials recovery facility in Columbus for guided tours.

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vice Chair

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

Certified by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary