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**Summary Minutes
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)
February 16, 2012
Lazarus Government Center
50 W. Town Street
Columbus, OH 43215**

The Following Members Announced Their Attendance at Roll Call:

Erv Ball, Health Departments
Erin Miller, Municipalities
Jean Byrd, Public
Terrie TerMeer, ODNR
Dan Harris, Ohio EPA
John Bayliss, Counties
Anne Fiehrer-Flaig, Single County SWMDs
Chris Jacobs, Joint County SWMDs
Joseph Denen, Municipalities
Matt Trokan, Statewide Environmental Advocacy Organizations
Belle Everett, Townships

Steve Hill, Industrial Generators, arrived after roll call.

Welcome and Introductions – Dan Harris, Ohio EPA - DMWM

Regarding the required Ethics Training for SWAC members, the URL was provided for an online training session developed by Ohio EPA.

Review of the November 17, 2011 meeting minutes

Erv Ball MOVED to accept the November 17, 2011 meeting minutes presented today. Belle Everett SECONDED the motion and the minutes were approved on voice vote.

DSIWM General and Legislative update – Dan Harris, Ohio EPA - DMWM

Mr. Harris indicated that Ohio EPA will be updating guidance and training for health departments and facility owners and operators. The Agency is also working with stakeholders on the C&DD rules and has initiated early stakeholder outreach for residual and industrial waste landfill rules (as part of the common sense initiative requirements from S.B.2).

S.B. 294 is an omnibus bill sponsored by Senator Schaffer that makes changes to a multitude of agency statutes. The changes involve general streamlining efforts, needed housekeeping, and adjusting statutes to match federal law. The Director's testimony is available on Ohio EPA's website. Solid waste related changes include allowing temporary storage of low-level radioactive waste at landfills (when authorized by the

Ohio Department of Health), exempting coal combustion waste from SWMD generation fees, increasing the threshold for use of scrap tire funds for small tire site clean-ups, changing construction and demolition debris fee language, revising the environmental background check requirements, eliminating the "consent to service" requirements for solid waste transportation, modifying the infectious waste statute to remove dual regulation, and prohibiting the co-disposal of secondary aluminum production waste at MSW landfills.

City of Cleveland Waste and Recycling Program (Ron Owens, Commissioner of Waste Collection)

Commissioner Owens started by providing an operational history for the City of Cleveland. The City's Division of Waste Collection serves approximately 152,000 households weekly collecting 230,000 tons on an annual basis. Services include residential collection, curbside recycling, commercial collections, and transfer station operations. The Division is funded \$26.2 million annually from the City's general fund budget.

Cleveland has been recycling since 1991. Various programs were established through 2003 when the curbside recycling program was eliminated and the drop off recycling program was implemented. The drop off program began with seven locations where residents, non-residents and businesses could drop off recycling. Currently, there are over 130 recycling drop off locations.

In 2006, a task force developed goals to improve the waste collection services to residents, gain operational efficiency and to re-instate curbside recycling. In 2007, the automated waste collection and curbside recycling pilot program was established. 15,000 households received one 96 gallon cart for trash and one 64 gallon cart for recycling. Providing residents with free carts allowed for easier, more efficient collection and cleaner neighborhoods. The automated collection gained operational efficiency, neighborhoods were cleaner, and the curbside recycling program actually increased revenue to the City's general fund. In 2010, the automated waste collection and curbside recycling program was offered to an additional 25,000 households and a planned expansion to an additional 30,000 households will happen in June 2012 (reaching 46 percent of the City's population). A five year roll out plan to the remaining households is planned pending available funding. Notably the areas currently serviced are scattered throughout the city so each ward is represented. So far, the City has purchased nine automated trucks and an additional nine will be delivered in May 2012. A total of 40 trucks will be purchased.

The City made recycling and cart utilization mandatory. Detailed set-out guidelines were distributed, carts were affixed with a RFID tag to track who was recycling, and enforcement policies and procedures were established. Enforcement officers were hired and an automated citation program mails citations directly to the homeowners. Regulations/codes are enforced by civil penalties via the clerk of courts. The City also has a dual system for criminal penalties enforceable by the housing court. Infractions

include setting out excessively large quantities, automated waste collection and recycling infractions, early set out of waste and failing to remove a waste container after collection.

As of December 31, 2011, Cleveland had recycled 11,774 tons of glass, plastic, metal, paper and cardboard. This included a three percent increase from the drop-offs (4,461 tons, a 81 percent increase from residents (2,970 tons) and 4,343 tons from the commercial sector. This generated \$507,345 in revenue, an 87 percent increase compared to 2010. Avoided disposal cost savings were \$252,654, totaling the savings and revenue at \$759,999 in 2010. These savings were generated with only 10 percent of the city receiving curbside recycling service. As the program expands, so does the potential for revenue generation. In addition, other municipalities participate in this program and received over \$128,990 in revenue and avoided disposal costs of \$182,406.

During 2011, the curbside program yielded a 16 percent recycling rate. An increase in the recycling rate was realized when the program expanded to an additional 25,000 households in September 2011. The program's recycling rate is expected to increase as the program is expanded, mandatory recycling is enforced and additional education and awareness is provided to the residents. The stated citywide recycling goals is 25 percent, but it is expected that the goal will be exceeded. For every ton of material that is recycled through the City's current recycling program, savings average \$80/ton.

The current contract that allows for revenue sharing from sale of recyclables is for two years. The material is processed and marketed by the contractor with the cost for transportation and processing being deducted from revenue from the sale of recyclables. The result has shown an average of \$47/ton rebate from sale of recyclables. Other cities have benefited from this type of recycling contract including a seven city consortium with the Cuyahoga Solid Waste District, the City of Akron and other municipalities that contact the City of Cleveland Services.

The City has also proposed developing a recycling and energy generation facility that would allow for the curbside recycling expansion to be rolled out sooner. The facility would include a material recovery facility as well as waste to energy gasification facility that would produce steam and electricity.

Waste Legislation (Andrew Booker, Ohio EPA-DMWM)

Mr. Booker started by providing an overview of Senate Bill 253, the recently proposed electronic devices recycling legislation. The bill was introduced on November 9, 2011 by Senator Lehner. The bill's sponsors, Dell, and Sims Recycling both testified in support of the bill on January 10, 2012. Ohio EPA testified in support on Feb. 14, 2012. If passed, the bill would make Ohio the 26th state to pass e-waste legislation.

S.B. 253 would require manufacturers of computers and televisions to establish free take-back and recycling programs. Manufacturers would be required to register with

Ohio EPA and have to accept products from consumers and very small businesses. The bill would also prohibit manufacturers from selling in Ohio unless they were registered. It would also prohibit retailers from selling unregistered brands.

Ohio EPA identified improvements to the bill. Currently, the bill contains no performance or convenience standards. Experience in other states has demonstrated that standards result in dramatically improved recovery rates, from 0.5-1 lb/per/capita without standards and as high as 6–6.5 lb/per/capita with standards. The bill's sponsor has advocated for performance standards in other states. Ohio EPA would like to see reasonable, flexible performance standards in Ohio.

Some clarifications were made concerning the electronics legislation. The requirement to take back orphaned products (manufacturers that no longer exist) is included only for televisions. Mr. Booker explained that the price Ohioans pay for electronic products already includes the cost of the take back programs for other states. It would be prudent for Ohioans to benefit from such a program as well.

Mr. Booker also addressed the recently proposed Senate Bill 290. S.B. 290 was introduced on Feb. 7, 2012. The sponsor testimony was held Feb. 8, 2012, and Rumpke, Waste Management, Republic, and Kimble testified during the proponent testimony on Feb. 14, 2012. S.B. 290 exempts source separated recyclables from the definition of solid waste and also states that SWMDs can't spend money to "acquire or operate assets for the collection or processing of recyclable material if two or more privately owned entities offer to provide or provide collection or processing of recyclable material that is generated in the district."

Ohio EPA has not taken a formal position on S.B. 290, but has traditionally considered recyclables, including source separated recyclables, to be solid waste and believes that there are sound public policy reasons for doing so. An example would be an individual that is "open dumping" scrap tires and claims to be recycling the material. Ohio EPA is hopeful that it can move the issue into the H.B. 592 review process.

H.B. 592 Evaluation Update (Andrew Booker, Ohio EPA-DMWM)

Mr. Booker provided an update on Ohio EPA's evaluation of the state solid waste management laws. A kick-off webinar is planned in early March to start phase one (information gathering) of the evaluation. Mr. Booker shared the recently developed webpage that will be used throughout the evaluation process.

Disposal of Drill Cuttings (Aaron Shear, Ohio EPA-DMWM)

Mr. Shear started by providing a video detailing the horizontal drilling process, known as fracking. He then provided details on the recently developed fact sheet, "Drill Cuttings from Oil and Gas Exploration in the Marcellus and Utica Shale Regions of Ohio". He clarified that drill cuttings managed on the drill site are regulated by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). Further, drill cuttings coming into contact

with drilling muds, oils or other sources of contaminants that are sent off-site for disposal are classified as a solid waste under Ohio EPA regulations. Cuttings sent off-site for disposal in Ohio must be sent to a licensed solid waste landfill. Anyone wanting to use drill cuttings off-site for fill or other beneficial uses, must first obtain approval for these uses from Ohio EPA's Division of Materials and Waste Management.

There were questions relating to the potential for the drill cuttings to have radioactivity. It was explained that the levels have not exceeded the low levels that would be expected from naturally occurring material. It is safe and protective to bring this waste stream to landfills.

Overview of the Butler County Solid Waste Management District (Anne Fiehrer-Flaig, District Coordinator)

Butler County's population is 368,000 with a mix of rural/agricultural communities, industrial cities and expanding suburban townships. From 2010 census data, Butler County is the eighth largest county in Ohio and is the seventh fastest growing county. Notably, it is home to Miami University in the City of Oxford and the City of Hamilton is the county seat. Liberty Township is the fastest growing township in Ohio; from 2000 to 2010 it grew by 63 percent to 37,259 people. Also, West Chester Township is the largest township in Ohio with a population of 60,958.

For the District's Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan), the recycling goals were met by meeting the 90 percent access requirement. This was accomplished by combination of curbside recycling in all of the larger municipalities and through subscription curbside and drop box recycling programs. On average, city residents pay \$12.45 for trash collection and recycling services whereas the township residents serviced by the drop boxes pay \$17.93 for trash collection only. Only 27 percent of residents participate in the subscription curbside recycling program. The result is a residential recycling rate of nine percent.

Also, the District's Recycling Incentive Program provides funding to communities. The funds are awarded based on recycling performance (total tonnage collected and diversion rate). The District also implements the Recycle to Win Challenge every year. As a community increases its recycling rate and moves into a higher performance category, the community can receive a greater share of incentive dollars. The District also develops a scorecard that compares communities to promote competition between them.

Since 2006, the District has spent over \$593,000 in recycling incentive funding to political jurisdictions and recycling performance has only modestly improved (less than one percent increase per year). The most effective strategy for increasing diversion rates were identified: increase the number of residents with access to NS curbside recycling programs (townships), and enlist contracted communities to enact PAYT trash collection (cities). In the District's next Plan update, further incentives are included to promote non-subscription curbside recycling and contracted service in our populous

townships. It also promotes volume based billing to cities and townships. Further data was provided indicating how volume based billing and contracted services result in higher recycling rates, as well as the benefits of switching to recycling carts versus bins.

The new incentives developed in the Plan include one-time grants to help offset start-up costs and revisions to the District's Recycling Incentive Program to favor those communities that opt to upgrade the recycling services to their residents. Additionally, the District will provide technical assistance to any community awarded funds under the one time grant incentive program. This assistance includes contract and bid specification development and surveying of residents to determine level of support. The District will also assist with program promotion and education/awareness programs and assistance with recycling customer service operations.

The District has many additional programs as well. The District provides information and technical assistance on recycling through its website, direct mail, and advertising. It also implements strategies for managing scrap tires, household hazardous waste and electronic waste. The District provides waste assessments to local businesses and a pollution prevention intern has saved local businesses a combined savings of more than \$620,000 in 2009 and 2010. Other programs include waste tire collections, a battery recycling program, Freon appliance curbside collection, special events recycling and a roadside litter collection program through the Butler County Sheriff.

All of these programs are funded by a two dollar generation fee. The total annual revenue is around a million dollars and equates to about \$2.66/resident/year.

Columbus Curbside Recycling Update (Erin Miller, Environmental Steward)

This presentation was postponed due to time constraints. Ms. Miller should present on this topic at the next SWAC meeting to be held May 17, 2012.

Paper Recycling: an Industry Perspective (Mike Biasi, Valley Converting) **Agenda items for the May 17, 2012 meeting at Ohio EPA Central Office**

Mr. Biasi started by giving a brief overview of Valley Converting. The company was started in 1973 by his father Gina Biasi in Toronto, OH and initially had only two employees. The converting process involved purchasing rolls and sheets of chipboard from the Toronto Paperboard Mill and converting them into smaller sizes, pasted, tied, scored, and long sheets. The converting operation grew to over 10 employees working six days a week. The manufacturing operation started when the Toronto Paperboard Mill was purchased in 1988. The company started making chipboard on the #1 paper machine in July 1988 and on the #2 paper machine in 1990. Due to economic conditions the #2 paper machine was shutdown in November 2000 and Valley Converting currently manufactures over 84 tons a day and 21,600 tons annually on the #1 paper machine.

Chipboard is made up of 100% recycled fiber. The majority of the recovered fiber is

sourced from paper scrap dealers, but they also purchase from local business and regional waste programs. Notably, the company has received two grants from ODNR (2004 and 2007) for a total of \$500,000. These grants enabled the company to build the recycling center and purchase the necessary cleaning equipment for the recovered fiber.

The recovered fiber purchased includes old corrugated containers (OCC), newsprint, mix, and boxboard cuttings and is sourced from brokers, county recycling programs, local businesses, and the general public. The makeup of the chipboard is 15 percent OCC, 15 percent news, 20 percent mixed, and the remaining 50 percent is the boxboard cuttings. The recovered material comes generally from Ohio, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania and within a 200 mile radius of the plant. In 2011, 21,700 tons of scrap was purchased with most being sourced from scrap brokers. The cost of scrap can vary significantly. In 2010 the cost averaged \$89/ton (\$1,730,000 total), whereas in 2011 the cost averaged \$125/ton resulting in \$2,700,000 total cost.

The biggest expenses for the company are scrap paper, wage and health benefits, and utility costs. The chipboard market is currently maturing and not a lot of new innovations are being created that require the use of chipboard. The goal will continue to be manufacturing quality chipboard in the most cost-effective manner and increasing this production on a yearly basis.

Agenda items for the May 17, 2012 meeting at Ohio EPA Central Office

A field trip is planned for newly renovated Rumpke MRF in Columbus. Alcoa will likely present another end user perspective on recycling and Ms. Miller will provide the update on curbside recycling in Columbus that was postponed today. There will also be further discussion regarding H.B. 592.

The meeting was declared adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: 
Vice Chair

Minutes approved on: May 17, 2012

Certified by: 
Secretary

