

Solid Waste Advisory Group Meeting Summary

DATE: October 9, 2014

LOCATION: Solid Waste Administration Training Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: UNC-Chapel Hill Representative Matt Fajack, Hillsborough Commissioner Kathleen Ferguson, Carrboro Alderman Randee Haven-O'Donnell, UNC-Healthcare Representative Mel Hurston, Orange County Commissioner-Chair Barry Jacobs, Chapel Hill Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt, Carrboro Mayor Lydia Lavelle, Hillsborough Commissioner Brian Lowen, Orange County Commissioner Penny Rich, Chapel Hill Councilmember Jim Ward

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: OC Solid Waste Eric Geringer, County Manager Bonnie Hammersley, OC Solid Waste Jennie Knowlton, Chapel Hill Public Works Director Lance Norris, OC Solid Waste Blair Pollock, UNC-CH Recycling Outreach Coordinator Amy Preble, Carrboro Public Works Director George Seiz, OC Solid Waste Paul Spire, Facilitator Michael Talbert, UNC-CH Solid Waste Program Manager BJ Tipton, OC Solid Waste Management Director Gayle Wilson, OC Solid Waste Kristina Witosky, Assistant County Manager Cheryl Young

Meeting Summary approval

- Meeting Summary approved with the following corrections:
 - “Lavelle states that past concerns were based on later dates.” to be replaced with “Lavelle states that past concerns were based on late notification of fees.”
 - “County previously approved 5-year Urban Curbside Service contractual agreement which was shared with Towns.” to be replaced with “County previously approved 5-year Urban Curbside Service contractual agreement. Towns were notified about County’s intent to enter this contract.”

Current Waste & Recycling Practices and Interests for UNC-Chapel Hill

- Tipton presents information on UNC-CH recycling
 - Reviewed how various materials are managed and who provides the service
 - Most contracts are made for one-year with a couple of one-year renewals. Most recent contract was make for 5-years with 2 one-year renewals. Is coming up for bid next year
 - Students in residence hall are responsible for disposing recyclables, trash and compost in outdoor dumpster site
 - Interested in streamlining future collection. Running a pilot program for mixed stream (bottles, cans and paper) currently being brought to OCSW
 - Request was made for staff to distribute copy of slide show to SWAG members

Current Waste & Recycling Practices and Interests for UNC-Healthcare

- Hurston presents information on UNC-Healthcare recycling
 - Over 5,817 tons of waste for FY14
 - Out-dated medical equipment sent to third world counties
 - Have single contract with Stericycle, in first year of three-year renewal

- Stericycle holds individual vendor agreements for MSW, regulated medical waste, confidential document destruction and recycling
 - Mattresses are loaded into dumpsters with non-salvageable bulky items
- Pollock states that Orange County Food Waste program includes UNC-Healthcare. Is collected by Brooks Contractor
- Ward requests that Orange County staff work with UNC-Chapel Hill and UNC-Healthcare to find ways to improve recycling collection and transport. Also investigate possible financial savings by combining contracts

Discussion of County Solid Waste Fee Schedule

- Wilson states that tonnage for the first quarter for the Urban Curbside Collection program is up 29%. While Drop-Off site tonnage decreased only slightly.
 - Kleinschmidt requests information on Drop-Off site participation
 - Lavelle requests tonnage from each individual Drop-Off site
 - Wilson states that participating population would need to be surveyed
- Wilson reviews past 3 years of adopted enterprise fund fee schedules
 - FY 12-13
 - Second year for Convenience Center Fee
 - Increases in Urban Fee, Rural Fee, and Mulch cost
 - Decreases in C&D Fee, Land Clearing Fee and Vegetative Waste Fees
 - FY 13-14
 - Urban, Rural and MF Fees were deleted and funded from Landfill Reserves
 - Increase in Basic Fee and Convenience Center Fees
 - Mattress Fee added
 - FY 14-15
 - Urban, Rural and MF Fees were funded from Landfill Reserves
 - No other changes to fees were made
 - Wilson states that there are no fees for appliances and scrap metal to encourage residents to bring to OCSW; it is highly recyclable and valuable

Discussion of Current Enterprise Fund

- Wilson explains that in 2004, Enterprise Fund Reserves were depleted to the point that Recycling Programs could no longer be funded from landfill revenue, thus, 3R Fees created. Reserves were subsequently restored from landfill revenue.
- Enterprise Fund is impacted by: ILA no longer being in effect, extra hauling costs, elimination of some 3R Fees, landfill closure of +30 years, C&D collection is low to avoid OC strict bans
- Improvements to Eubanks Road Convenience Center will include MSW, recyclables, white goods, tires, metal, clean wood, bulky items, C&D, salvage sheds, compost, cooking oil, plastic film and HHW. Will also include stationary compactors, be a paved site, and have bulk containers at lower level to prevent injury
- Wilson states that Urban Fee was not assessed this year, but was proposed to be \$59. Anticipated to cover over 90% of direct and indirect internal costs with the remaining costs covered by sales of recyclable materials:
 - Urban Collection Contract cost,
 - Materials processing, transfer pad, hauling
 - Environmental Support (including education, enforcement, administration, customer service, operations center, workers comp, insurance, retired health, licensing, County General Fund
 - New roll carts

- The Basic Fee funds specific recycling services, such as, current employee salaries and health
- Fajack asks if Environmental Support costs are allocated equally amongst divisions. Wilson states that it is allocated on a proportionate ratio on each operating budget, minus capital
- Jacobs requests copy of costs included in 3R Fees, in writing, including details and explanation of how environmental support costs are allocated

Revised Draft Interlocal Agreement Language Discussion

- Talbert proposes new ILA version to outline framework. Term is undetermined. Separate MOA will be approved by all parties of ILA
- (II-B) Lavelle concerned with forcefulness. Would like to generate discussion but not commitment
- (II-B) Kleinschmidt states that version is premature. Suggests creating document that includes how recyclables are handled and what the fees will be
- Hurston states that UNC-Healthcare wants to cooperate but agrees that this is premature
- Ward suggests that group focus on recycling
- Jacobs states that ILA should include current programs, including C&D. Asks if OC is solely responsible for new urban carts. Wilson states that the County is liable for urban cart expenses. Expectations were that financing would be resolved by this group and be adopted for a 5-year period to cover investment cost for Urban Recycling program.
- Jacobs states that OC agreed to fund program and recycling fees need to be organized to cover the cost of carts
- Hammersley states that County Attorney will attend next meeting and will present fee options

Assembly of Governments Meeting Topics

- The services currently in progress

Next Meeting

- Discuss recycling fee options
- Ward requests DRAFT (ILA, page13-25) that doesn't include transfer station section
- Lavelle requests that Appendix II (C) and (E) be moved back into the body of the ILA
- Next meeting: October 30, 2014, 6pm, Solid Waste Operations Center

Other

- None

Meeting adjourned at: 8:10pm

Name of Minute Taker: Jennie Knowlton