

APPROVED October 29, 2018

Solid Waste Advisory Group Meeting Summary

DATE: August 15, 2018
LOCATION: Solid Waste Administration Training Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: County Commissioner Barry Jacobs, County Commissioner Mark Marcoplos, Carrboro Mayor Lydia Lavelle, Carrboro Alderman Randee Haven-O'Donnell, Hillsborough Commissioner Matt Hughes, Hillsborough Commissioner Mark Bell, Chapel Hill Mayor Pam Hemminger, UNC-Chapel Hill Representative Brad Ives

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chapel Hill Council Member Donna Bell, UNC-Healthcare Representative Mel Hurston

STAFF PRESENT: County Solid Waste Director, Robert Williams, Chapel Hill Public Works Director Lance Norris, Hillsborough Public Works Director Ken Hines, Carrboro Public Works Director Joe Guckavan, County Manager, Bonnie Hammersly, County Solid Waste Staff: Cheryl Young, Allison Lohrenz, Muriel Williman, Blair Pollock, Wanda McCain, Tyler Lunsford, Chapel Hill Public Works Staff Wendy Simmons, UNC-Chapel Hill Solid Waste BJ Tipton

Call to Order

Approval of June 4, 2018 Meeting Summary

Lavelle states that the question regarding why transfer stations close was specifically about the Durham transfer station. Meeting summary approved as amended.

Director Updates

Williams states that regarding China's waste import restrictions, while many of the imports have been restricted, in our region we are working with a processor that utilizes a lot of the material that we deliver to their facilities where they take that material to their mills throughout the US. The processors are investing in new equipment that can process material to make it cleaner. We also have to improve on how we educate the community and how we enforce recycling. We just did a sample study for composition of our recycling came in about 8% trash.

The report received from SCS Engineers is still being reviewed. Once we've narrowed the ideas and concepts and direction we want to go, we will share that with this board.

Interlocal Agreement for Solid Waste Management Presentation

Jacobs asks if the decision made by the SWAG will now be made the managers.

Hammersly states that the intention of the MOC (Management and Oversight Committee) is to have issues that affect the operations go to SWAG as a proposal or recommendation. Everything would go to SWAG before it would go to elected bodies. The MOC is bringing all the managers together to oversee some of the more significant operation issues that involve everyone rather than have the County manger oversee the solid waste operations.

Jacobs states that do we anticipate that we will be changing this agreement once the nonvoting member becomes a voting member. In looking at this the majority is three, the majority would still be three if we added a fifth. Why are we saying a majority instead of three?

Hammersly state that agreement can be amended at any time.

Jacobs states that in regards to drop off sites, should it say that there will be a drop off site in each municipality, currently there isn't one in Carrboro.

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Williams states that we are working on getting one established and can amend the agreement to reflect that.

M. Bell states that it's interesting to have the town managers limit what the county can do.

Hammersly states that this makes it very important for the managers to continue to communicate. If we are seeing issues come up throughout the year, we all will be well informed of what's happening.

Haven-O'Donnell states that the section regarding termination is just the Towns.

Williams states that it includes the county, unincorporated area, as well. The billing units are listed in the appendix.

Hughes states that in the governance section it doesn't appear that SWAG plays a role in setting the fees. It also reads as if UNC-CH and UNC Healthcare could have more of a say on the fees even as nonvoting members than SWAG. How decisions are made should be tweaked.

Hammersly states that the fee will be identified how it is approved showing that it is ultimately approved by the governing boards but that it comes from SWAG. It will identify the role of SWAG. There can be a bullet stating that MOC presents all proposals to SWAG.

Jacobs asks how the agreement will be approved with the changes.

Hammersly states that it could be brought back to you depending on when you meet again. We have been operating without an interlocal agreement for quite some time. We would like to get this done before December. We'll meet before then, so we'll bring it back for your approval and take to the governing boards.

Jacobs states that we should meet in the latter part of October or early November.

Announcements

HHW/Scales Relocation

Lohrenz states that household hazardous waste and the scales will move to the north side of Eubanks Road Wednesday, August 22. Coupled with that there will be a name change which will be Orange County Integrated Material Management Facility.

Marcoplos asks if there is any way to turn the lights down at night or turn half of them off.

Lohrenz states that the contractor was informed of that before we opened. I can check on that.

Recycling Composition Study

Pollock states that we want to take a close look this year at our recycling stream. UNC-CH will collaborate with us. It will give us two data points. If we are lower than everyone else it will give us bragging rights. Secondly we'll know where to focus our efforts programmatically and in terms of particular contaminants.

Hemminger states that there are a lot of businesses in the area wanting to ban plastic straws, and asks would this group be willing to consider making that a desired goal and help with education. Maybe all the Towns could make a proclamation at the same time.

Ives states that we should go bigger, any single use plastic and Styrofoam. Get it out there and see if we can get the retailers and restaurants to think about this.

Jacobs states that we should go for everything we don't want in the waste stream. We want to encourage people who live in Orange County to eliminate these products and to urge the vendors in Orange County to not use them.

Storm Debris RFP Information

Young states that the towns and the county are working together to send out a RFP for emergency storm debris removal.

Next meeting

Doodle poll for October.

Public Comment

None

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Meeting adjourned at: 7:20pm

Name of Minute Taker : Wanda McCain