

**Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC)
of
Bartholomew County Solid Waste Management District (BCSWMD)
Minutes – September 11, 2013**

Attendees:

Title	Name	Present
Chair*	Lou Renshaw	x
Vice Chair*	Barry Kastner	x
Secretary*	Dennis Baute	
Member	Dan Arnholt	x
Member	Jan Banister	x
Member	Roger Brandt	x
Member	Max Lemley	x
Member	Greg Littleton	x
Member	Darrell McLemore	
Member	Dennis Tibbetts	x
Member	Todd Swingle	x
Guests:		
BCSWMD Director	Jim Murray	
BCSWMD Education Coordinator	Heather Siesel	
BCSWMD Board Member	Carl Lienhoop	
BCSWMD Board Member	Chris Ogle	

Opening: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lou Renshaw at 7:00 PM.

Minutes: It was moved and approved to accept minutes from July 10, 2013, meeting.

Old Business:

Lou Renshaw reported that she sent an email to Mayor Brown using the wording approved from our last meeting regarding the Mayor's curbside recycling proposal. (See attachment.)

We discussed the Umbaugh report which was recently presented to the BCSWMD. We noted that BCSWMD's tipping fees are below the median of the seven Indiana landfills cited by the report. We expressed interest in putting the fees in context with national averages. Our members expressed interest in understanding the sensitivity of demand of changes to tipping fees. There was also interest in understanding the mechanics of fixed versus variable costs of operations as trash volumes vary. There was also interest in understanding the economic value of the landfill as a community asset. These price, cost, and asset value considerations were not discerned in the report. It was noted that the report concludes that the current cashflow from operations could support the debt service of a \$2 million bond obligation which could conceivably serve as a means of funding waste management investments.

New Business:

Jan Banister reported that the Advance Columbus program has an Environmental Sustainability initiative and that Waste Management is one of this initiative's three main themes. The mode of operation of the Advance Columbus Environmental Sustainability committee (of which Jan is chairperson) is to motivate existing interests groups, such as the BCSWMD CAC, to help set goals and drive progress toward meeting those goals. Jan asked that we consider the CAC participating among the vanguard of people driving the Waste Management initiative. She requests this item to be discussed further at a future meeting.

Discussion on Role of the SWMD Citizen Advisory Committee:

The following points were discussed by the CAC members as possibly characterizing our role *vis a vis* the SWMD Board:

1. To be informed advisors to the SWMD Board
2. To be broadly representative of the community
3. To be informed advisors to the community about solid waste issues
4. To gather and synthesize community input
5. To help set and communicate a vision for solid waste management in our community
6. To help set and pursue priorities for solid waste management
7. To help set and apply criteria for decision-making around solid waste management
8. To help achieve the Board's objectives
9. To help the Board set objectives
10. To review and advise on the SWMD budget

Discussion of Objectives:

The following topics were discussed by the CAC members as possible objectives that we might focus on with the Board. They are organized by the interim Secretary into high-level categories:

HIGH LEVEL OBJECTIVES	TOPICS	
1	Manage Waste Stream	
	1	Updated Comprehensive Plan for Waste Stream Management
	2	Reduce Reuse Recycle Dispose
	3	Develop Action Plan for Every Type of Waste
	4	Develop Wide Range of Diversion Strategies (e.g., Deposits on Bottles)
	5	Seek Out Best Practices and an Integrated Approach
	6	Long-Term View with Short Term Achievements
2	Provide Excellent Customer Service	
	1	Address the Demand for Greater Recycling Services
	2	Maximize Value of Composting
	3	Provide Fair Tipping Fees and Volume Thresholds
	4	Balance/Optimize Hours of Operation
	5	Serve City and County Residents
	6	Decide whether/how to serve (avoid serving) non-Bartholomew County Residents
	7	Increase Utilization of Services Through Effective Marketing
	8	Provide Community Education to Influence Behaviors
3	Conserve Resources	
	1	Get the Economic Model Right to Drive Conserving Behaviors
	2	Recognize the Real Value of the Landfill to Community So It is Not Frittered Away
	3	Provide Services in a Cost-effective Manner
	4	Drive right behaviors with Pay As You Throw
	5	Ensure Competitive Bidding
	6	Do not waste energy or materials
	7	Evaluate Waste-to-Energy Opportunities
	8	Generate Feedstocks for Industries
	9	Create Economic and Employment Opportunities

Discussion of Time Horizons:

Various topics were discussed by the CAC members (in this and prior meetings) in relation to short-versus longer-term time horizons. There was discussion about a need to get things done in the short-term to establish credibility, while keeping an eye on long-term objectives. The topics are organized by the interim Secretary into a table of possible short, medium, and long-term initiatives with comments:

Initiatives		Comments
Long Term (10 + Years)		
<i>a</i>	Never Site a Landfill Again	As land in the county becomes more scarce and expensive and as population density increases, securing the next landfill site will be impractical. Best practices are to achieve broad waste reduction, diversion, and waste-to-energy conversion to aggressively forestall new siting.
<i>b</i>	Top 10 in America for Waste Diversion	As the best community of its size anywhere, we should strive to recycle at the highest rates achievable.
<i>c</i>	Waste-to-Energy Facility	Rather than invest in a future landfill, invest in a regional waste-to-energy facility to provide new economic opportunities.
Medium Term (5-10 Years)		
<i>a</i>	Methane Gas Capture and Energy Conversion	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfill and convert gas to energy.
<i>b</i>	Pay-As-You-Throw System	Create the right incentives to reduce waste and increase diversion of reusables and recyclables.
<i>c</i>	Recycling Everywhere	Recycling containers and collection methods should be ubiquitous—e.g., wherever a trash container exists.
<i>d</i>	Construction Waste Diversion System	Construction waste should be segregated on site, allowing for proper diversion.
<i>e</i>	Plastics Waste Reduction System	Full range of plastic types should be diverted. Substitutes for unnecessary plastics should be encouraged.
<i>f</i>	Zero-Landfill Industry Model	Recognize Zero-Landfill industries. Economic development incentives should promote waste reduction.
<i>g</i>	State (or Local) Returnable Bottle Bill	Glass recycling is problematic in single stream collection. Return to point-of-purchases is practical.
<i>h</i>	Other	
Short Term (0-5 Years)		
<i>a</i>	Landfill Operations Contract Competitively Bid	Provide highest value of services at competitive pricing.
<i>b</i>	Expanded Business Cardboard Recycling	Expand successful City program to businesses in county.
<i>c</i>	City Curbside Recycling Program	Develop a program that ensures high participation..
<i>d</i>	Revised Comprehensive Plan	Revise now out-of-date plan to guide next 20 years.
<i>e</i>	Revised Schedule of Tipping Fee	Adjust fees to influence waste stream management by users.
<i>f</i>	Waste Reduction Six Sigma Projects	Conduct one project every year.
<i>g</i>	Out-of-district Tipping Enforcement	Develop effective policy and enforcement mechanism.
<i>h</i>	Municipal Cost / Revenue / Investment Model	Address influence of tax revenue and expenditures in decision-making. Is district financially separable from City and County?
<i>i</i>	Other	