

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING SUMMARY

JOHNSON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT
OLATHE, KANSAS
WEDNESDAY, November 12, 2008
6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm by Cindy Kemper due to the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Committee members present: Randy Alewine, Floyd Danner, Dave Greene, Elaine Giessel, Betty de Wit, Mike Clagett, Tom Ireland, Cheryl Scott, Bob Tully and Maril Crabtree. Others present included: Lisa Danbury and Nidine Bafna, MARC Solid Waste District; Cindy Kemper, Betsy Betros, Phil Askey, Julie Coon, and Maureen Deeds, Johnson County Environmental Department (JCED).

MINUTES APPROVAL

Ms. Kemper entertained a motion to approve the September 10, 2008, Solid Waste Management Committee (SWMC) minutes as written. A motion was made and seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

MARC REGIONAL SOLID WASTE UPDATE

Ms. Kemper introduced Lisa Danbury, Planner for the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Solid Waste District, to give updates on solid waste issues in the MARC District which includes Jackson, Clay, Platte, Ray and Cass counties.

Ms. Danbury focused on three areas during her presentation: The One KC Voice's landfill community engagement project; the Analysis of Sustainable Solid Waste Management Alternatives project; and MARC's long term vision for solid waste management in the District.

MARC used One KC Voice to facilitate a series of citizen discussions on solid waste. Over a period of nine months in 2008, these events reached about 650 people in the 8-county bi-state MARC region. Trained facilitators guided each dialogue using a script formatted to obtain public input on the question of "what motivates one to recycle?" The effort was designed to engage citizens about their values and interests, and how these may affect their participation in recycling programs. The project revealed four major factors important to citizens that affect their willingness to recycle: personal reward; convenience; leadership of local government; and citizens' education.

The purpose of the MARC Sustainable Alternative Analysis project was to provide a snapshot of the region's current waste management system, to predict future waste management patterns and to offer strategies for improving waste reduction habits. A final report will be completed in early 2009.

The MARC District has recommended waste diversion goals of 40 percent by 2013 and 80 percent by 2023. The current waste diversion rate is about 25 percent in the District. The waste diversion goals are consistent with the Climate Protection Plan recently adopted by the Kansas City, MO City Council.

JOHNSON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Plan Consistency Criteria

Betsy Betros presented revised draft criteria for making Solid Waste Management Plan consistency determinations. Kansas law requires the county to certify that solid waste grants and permit applications are consistent with the County's Plan.

Committee discussion led to agreement to make some additional clarifications and modifications to the draft criteria. Staff will incorporate those changes and present the revised document to the Committee for approval at the January 2009 meeting.

Plan Implementation Update

Julie Coon summarized recent staff efforts to implement the Plan, working from an updated implementation table which was shared with the Committee. Staff is scheduled to provide a Plan implementation progress report to the Board of County Commissioners later in November and will focus specifically on moving forward with yard waste disposal restrictions.

Ms. Coon also mentioned that in honor of America Recycles Day, the Environmental Department is partnering with the Johnson County Park and Recreation District and Deffenbaugh Industries on a recycled art competition project.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Ms. Kemper stated the County will be seeking a change to Kansas state law clarifying that the County Commission may charge a fee to property owners to cover the costs to implement approved Solid Waste Management Plans.

OTHER BUSINESS

A proposed meeting schedule for 2009 was presented by staff and approved by the Committee.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the SWMC is scheduled for Wednesday, January 14, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. JCED will provide a light dinner served at 6:00 p.m. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

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Prepared by: Maureen Deeds
Date: 11-12-08