

SUSSEX COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2011

The meeting was opened at 7:35 p.m. by Chairman Landrith. The meeting was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 of 1975, as amended, and notice has been forwarded to the newspapers and posted on the bulletin board maintained at the Sussex County Administrative Center for public announcement.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Landrith, Andover Borough, Chairman
Bob Smith, Andover Township
Jason Doyle, Franklin Borough
Howard Baker, Hopatcong Borough
Jo-Ann Williamson, Sandyston Township
Richard Fenimore, At-Large
Eleanor Mensonides, At-Large, Vice Chair

EXCUSED MEMBERS: William Koellhoffer, Byram Township
Dennis Haff, Fredon Township
Eric Powell, Sparta Township
Kathy Little, Sussex Borough
John Armeno, At-Large

STAFF MEMBERS: Eric Snyder, Planning Director
Neal Leitner, Program Manager
Antoinette Wasiewicz, Recording Secretary
Adam Boltz, Health Department
Reenee Casapulla, Recycling Coordinator
Tom Varro, SCMUA

MINUTES CORRECTION/APPROVAL:

Some corrections were noted for Page 4, D, first paragraph. Change the word, "metals" to "materials" in two places; change the word, "removed" to "stored." A motion was made by Jason Doyle to approve the Minutes of April 12, 2011, as corrected. The motion was seconded by Eleanor Mensonides. All were in favor, with abstentions from Bob Smith and JoAnn Williamson. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Howard Baker to approve the Minutes of May 10, 2011 as presented. The motion was seconded by Eleanor Mensonides and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bob Smith to approve the Minutes of June 14, 2011 as presented. The motion was seconded by Jason Doyle and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Jason Doyle to approve the Minutes of July 12, 2011. The motion was seconded by Bob Smith and carried unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

None

REPORTS:

A. SCMUA UPDATE:

Tom Varro reported that through September 3, 2011, the tonnage year to date is 80,178 tons, a daily average of 335 tons per day. The tip fee revenues are a little over \$1 million.

The MUA came through the hurricane and storm event without structural issues, however there was an issue with excessive storm water. They had a situation where contact storm water in the active Phase 3-A went up over the berm and intermingled with non-contact storm water in 3-B. He spoke with DEP regarding this situation and the Environmental Action Line was called. He talked to DEP enforcement and it was agreed that they would continue to pump 3-A into containment, 3-B is going to the storm water detention basin. They took an extra water quality sample from the storm water detention basin to ensure there were no issues. The data came back and showed no adverse impact to the water quality; the sample was within the normal limits. Adam Boltz, from the County Health Department concurred with the conclusion. A DEP Enforcement Inspector also came out and came to the same conclusion. They continue to pump 3-A down to containment and 3-B is going to the storm water detention basin. The hydraulic connection over the top of the berm should probably cease at some point this week.

Mr. Varro said he was contacted by Michael Gerchman, the Section Chief of the DEP Solid Waste Section. The MUA has been providing him with daily reports. The report included information on operating hours and whether they were asking for any

extensions due to the storm. Mr. Gerchman called last week and asked if the Sussex County MUA would be willing to help out the State by accepting out-of-county waste. Mr. Varro talked with his Administrator and Chairman and they did not have any problems with trying to help out the State. He then contacted John Eskilson. Mr. Varro said the Solid Waste Management Plan and a contract with the County prohibits the MUA from taking out-of-county waste. Mr. Eskilson polled the Freeholders by phone and found that they did not have any problems with helping out the State in its time of need. They all have similar concerns in that this has to be done the right way. For the MUA the issue is if they voluntarily do it, they want assurances that a rate schedule will be followed and that the MUA and the County would reserve their rights to refuse waste if they get overwhelmed. If the State decided to redirect on a mandatory basis, Tom Varro explained that under the approved rate schedule they have rates established that are much higher just to discourage that type of action. Mr. Varro said it is the County's decision whether or not to take the out-of-county waste. He asked for SWAC's input.

A length discussion followed regarding how much additional waste the MUA is capable of accepting, whether a limit could be imposed on the tonnage, limiting the number of days to collect the out-of-county waste, the types of trucks coming into the landfill, impact on traffic, etc. Tom Varro suggested that the MUA agree to accept out-of-county waste as long as the State of Emergency with regarding to the storm event is deemed to be in effect, but for not longer than two weeks. The Freeholders can determine at their meetings whether or not to continue. SWAC felt this was a good idea.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Eleanor Mensonides to direct Eric Snyder to communicate to the Freeholders that SWAC recommends they authorize the MUA accept the out-of-county waste for a rolling two week period. The issue will be revisited at two week intervals, at the Freeholder meetings, with input from the MUA. The motion was seconded by Jason Doyle and carried unanimously.

Tom Varro said tomorrow he will request something in writing from DEP. He does not want SWAC and the Freeholders to make a decision based on what he "heard" from DEP.

B. RECYCLING COORDINATOR:

Renee Casapulla said there are some events coming up for recycling at the MUA. Paper shredding will be held this Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. This is a monthly event held on the third Friday of the month. This Saturday, September 17 will be the fourth and final E-Waste collection day for the year. There is a limit of five units per vehicle. A computer system (tower, monitor, printer, keyboard) is considered one unit. Municipalities and schools have been notified. They will be allowed to come in on Friday with advanced notice.

There is a new state of the art single stream processing facility in Mine Hill. The Company's name is Recommunity and they will be having a Grand Opening Ceremony for municipal officials on September 30 at 11:30 a.m. and for the general public on October 1. Ms. Casapulla said she toured of the facility and it was pretty amazing.

C. STATE LIAISON:

Neal Leitner said he asked Ross Hull for a clarification on the gasification facilities. Mr. Hull said they are deemed incinerators. Mr. Leitner read Mr. Hull's letter to SWAC. Mr. Hull said DEP no longer has a policy against the citing and construction of new solid waste incinerators. As for gasification, facilities employing the technology would be considered a thermal destruction facility, which is a defined as a non-hazardous, solid waste facility which utilizes a thermal device to either burn waste or chemically decompose the waste by heating it in an oxygen deficient atmosphere. Energy recovery systems may be utilized in conjunction with thermal device. As a result, such a facility would be required to be included in a district Solid Waste Management Plan and to obtain a Solid Waste Facility Permit prior to construction and operation. Mr. Hull also said that questions regarding the permitting of a gasification facility should be directed to Robert Confer, Chief of Department Bureau of Landfill and Hazardous Waste Permitting.

Mr. Leitner reported that RGGI responded that they are still working on answering SWAC's questions. Ms. Rifkin's husband passed away and she has not been able to get back to us. She plans on responding to SWAC's questions by next month. Mr. Leitner said when SWAC receives the responses, they should be forwarded to Robert Confer for his input.

D. SWAGER REPORT;

Eleanor Mensonides said the SWAGER meeting was cancelled this evening but they will meet next month. She hopes that Ross Hull will attend the meeting and that SCMUA will provide the cost analysis for the transfer station by then. Tom Varro said the only thing holding the report up is the issue of State aid and how that will be addressed in the post closure care plan and in the current budget.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:

A. ERIC SNYDER:

Mr. Snyder did not have a report.

B. HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Adam Boltz of the County Health Department said to date they've done 122 container investigations. They've received 94 solid waste complaints with a result of 31 enforcement activities. When asked if the County's handling of waste flow issues have been resolved, Mr. Boltz said that it had. He was also asked what the most common

complaints are. Mr. Boltz said the most common complains are about solid waste on residential properties.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. JUNE & JULY GRINNELL FIGURES:
- B. MODIFICATIONS OF CAO FOR COMPOSTING PROGRAM TO PROCEED FOR AG CHOICE:
- C. MONTHLY REPORT FOR SCMUA:
- D. TOTAL 2009 NJ MSW DISPOSAL SUMMARY:

Neal Leitner said the summary shows that Sussex County moved up in terms of its recycling rates. The County is now at 33.8% recycling.

- E. SCMUA REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS REPORT – JULY 2011:

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

All business having been completed, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Howard Baker. The motion was seconded by Eleanor Mensonides and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.