

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD OF ALLEGANY COUNTY



Meeting Minutes September 2, 2020 at 3:00

Hybrid Meeting County Office Building, Room 100, 701 Kelly Rd, Cumberland MD, & Via Zoom

Members Present: Raquel Ketterman, Woody Getz, Dick Soderman, Steve Young, Steven Guinn, Jon Ickes, Stu Czapski, David DeWitt, Wally High and Siera Wigfield.

Members Absent: Brian Dicken, Misty Joy, Robert Boyce, and John Wardzinski.

Guests Present: Lee Heavner

Next meeting: October 7, 2020 701 Kelly Rd, Suite 100, Cumberland, MD 21502 – Virtual Option: TBD

- ♻️ Introduction were made.
- ♻️ Lee Heavner, former Ag Teacher for 35 years and Treasurer for Soil Conservation District joined our meeting.
- ♻️ Approval of June 3, 2020 minutes, motion made by Stu Czapksi and seconded by Raquel Ketterman, passed but Woody Getz abstained vote.
- ♻️ Approval of July 3, 2020 minutes, motion made by Stu Czapksi and seconded by Raquel Ketterman, passed but Woody Getz abstained vote.
- ♻️ Agenda addition- “How we got to meeting” under New Business, proposed by Woody Getz.

Old Business

Landfill Closure Sept 2022

- ♻️ Steve Young updated the Board on the Landfill & ADS & WM merger situation, which is fluid. Merger is expected to be finalized in Q3 of 2020. Originally Paul Kahl, Steve Young, Adam Patterson, and Siera Wigfield has been working on finding a solid waste solution for the County beyond September 2022; Lee Beeman, County Attorney and Jason Bennett, County Administrator have been added to the team to find a satisfactory resolution for the County. This is a top priority for the Department of Public Works.
- ♻️ Steve Young reported the technical staff plan to report to the Commissioners on this matter at a Work Session in September, and hopefully more details can be finalized by the next meeting. Since the July meeting of the Board many calls have been made with MDE, DOJ, WM, and Green for Life (GFL).

Curbside Recycling Update

- ♻️ Raquel Ketterman reported in Q2 recycling has seen an increase, possibly due to County plastics recycling suspension, 23T were recycled, up from 15T in a typical quarter. Paper averages 9T a month. Burgmeier’s also mailed annual flyers to attract new recyclers.
- ♻️ Stu Czapski mentioned a possible reason residential recycling increased because more people are at home and consuming more beverages at home instead of at restaurants and at work places. Raquel noted there was also an increase in trash with more people at home.
- ♻️ Woody Getz asked if there has been a decrease in the paper/newspaper recycling with the publication reduction of the Times-News. Raquel said it would be hard for her to tell with mixed paper recycling. Siera Wigfield did notice a decrease, and have switched many recycling bins from 3:1 ratio of newspapers to cans to 3:1 cans to newspapers respectively.

2020 Priorities

- ♻️ **Citizen Pay Tire Event 2020 (fall)**- Siera Wigfield reported event will not take place, the County lacks inmate crew or folks with community service to clean up tires. A winter event would be more likely than a spring event, since the Fairgrounds and Ballfields would be used more heavily.

- ♻️ Ongoing Electronics & Tire Recycling Outreach – No report.
- ♻️ Letter to local cafeterias to encourage composting food waste. No update this month. Draft Letter, mailing list, and considered attachments are attached to the minutes.

MRA 2018

- ♻️ No report this month.

Event Bin Program

- ♻️ No report this month.

Oldtown Refuse Site

- ♻️ Siera Wigfield reported site is under construction on the Oldtown Refuse Site has begun. The site is expected to be completed in the Winter of 2020/2021.

Office Building Recycling – SWMP Update due April 1, 2020

- ♻️ Siera Wigfield reached out to MDE and in the update of the plan she would like to address the resolution to the solid waste disposal in Allegany County beyond 2022, so the update will be turned in later than the due date.

Membership

- ♻️ Lee Heavner may submit a letter of nomination. The Board could use someone to share their perspective from the Agricultural community.
- ♻️ Board is lacking positions for Industry, Citizens advocate group, and Citizens-at-large.

2019 MRA Reports

- ♻️ Currently pending approval 32% +4% source reduction credit.

Styrofoam Ban

- ♻️ Woody Getz reported the Maryland Sierra Club has been working on this issue and trying to determine points of contact for each County. The ban will be enforced starting Oct 1, 2020. The Sierra Club has not made contact with the County's Health Department.

Little Orleans Refuse Site Improvement

- ♻️ Siera Wigfield has been working on a cost benefit analysis for improving solid waste sites in Flintstone and Little Orleans, both sites could have better facilities, compactors or other ADA features, but they must be cost effective. A representative from the communities would be beneficial to future discussions.

Legislative Update/ House Bill 589 – Organics Recycling & Waste Diversion

- ♻️ Siera Wigfield watched a virtual work session about a bottle bill.

Penn Mar Contract expires June 30, 2021

- ♻️ Steve Miller attended the August 6, 2020 Commissioners meeting to pay off his building. He has had some discussions with Siera Wigfield insuring Penn-Mar plans to continue serving the County beyond 2021. Siera hopes to develop a new draft contract in the Spring of 2021.

- ♻️ From Commissioners' Public Business Meeting Aug 6, 2020 Minutes:

Item 5 – Penn-Mar Recycling, LLC/Purchase Agreement Early Payoff and Property Transfer – Board of County Commissioners to accept \$413,304.97 as payment in full and to authorize transfer of the subject property located in Riverside Industrial Park to Penn-Mar Recycling, LLC – Gregory B. Hildreth, Economic Development Specialist with the Department of Economic and Community Development, came forward with

Mr. Steve Miller of Penn-Mar Recycling, LLC. Mr. Hildreth told the Commissioners that he was present to request the Commissioners' approval of the transfer of property in Riverside Industrial Park to Penn-Mar Recycling, LLC per Penn-Mar's option to purchase the property, which they have been leasing from the County.

Mr. Hildreth explained that Penn-Mar Recycling has been leasing about 120,000 square feet at 975 Kelly Road, Cumberland, plus approximately 11 acres of ground surrounding the back side of the building. He introduced Mr. Steve Miller, President of Penn-Mar Recycling, LLC, and pointed out that the County has been working with Penn-Mar since 2011. Mr. Hildreth remarked that Penn-Mar has been a good partner to the County, and then invited Mr. Miller to say a few words. Mr. Steve Miller provided a brief history of his business, which he started in 2011 with 10,000 square feet. He commented that he and his company have had a great relationship with the County and acknowledged the assistance of County personnel in helping the business to grow. Mr. Miller expressed his thanks to the County. Mr. Hildreth then asked the

Commissioners to approve the amount of \$413,204.97 as payment for the purchase of the property by Penn-Mar Recycling, LLC, and to authorize transfer of the property to them. Commissioner Brodie also talked about the great relationship between

the County and Penn-Mar Recycling, and thanked Mr. Miller for his investment in Allegany County and for being a great partner.

Upon Motion made by Commissioner Brodie, seconded by Commissioner Caporale, and duly carried, the Board of County Commissioners approved and agreed to accept \$413,304.97 as payment in full and authorized transfer of the subject property located in Riverside Industrial Park to Penn-Mar Recycling.

TV Trash Prices Revision

- ♻️ No update this month, on-hold after state-of-emergency is lifted.

New Business

Plastic Recycling Fate

- ♻️ Siera Wigfield reported Penn-Mar has had concerns with marketing the plastics. Siera has sent out information to the public that its important to recycle the right things so we can market a high-quality recycled product. Penn-Mar set out a bin for #2 clear HDPE, but they did not let the recycling office know about the change. The #2 clear HDPE fetches ~50¢/lb at the market vs Mixed #2 or #1 plastic fetching 7¢/lb. Siera will post new guidance when Penn-Mar sets out a new trailer.

Bob Boyce Retirement

- ♻️ Bob Boyce sent letters of nomination for folks at FSU. We wish him a happy retirement.

Plastic Film Recycling Wrap up

- ♻️ The pandemic shut the plastic film recycling challenge down at the schools. Siera Wigfield did not get a chance to request funding from sponsors and the program is unfinished for the 2019/2020 school year.
- ♻️ Stu Czapski mentioned he would be happy to suggest new sponsors for the project.

Reduce Reuse Challenge for Students 2021-2021

- ♻️ This summer Siera Wigfield had a capstone project for Environmental Studies graduate students for the University of Maryland Global Campus develop a reduce/reuse challenge for students that can be done in person or virtually. She hopes to polish the materials they developed and roll it out to students soon.

Trash Stickers Walgreens & Compliance

- ♻️ Walgreens has reached out to Siera Wigfield and mentioned they were changing their invoicing system, and it would not be cost-effective for the County to be a one-item vendor for one store. Siera Wigfield is looking for a new location to sell waste stickers in that vicinity.
- ♻️ David Dewitt suggested Savalot, the Pharmacy in the plaza next to Sheetz, the Sheetz, or Weis.
- ♻️ Woody Getz also mentioned the Co-Op may be interested now that they are more established.
- ♻️ Siera Wigfield also brought up that the County spends \$12,000 a year on trash stickers and guidance at the sites says to apply the sticker before coming to the site. Unfortunately, many people throw their trash in and rip up the sticker and throw it in after the bag. How do you change this behavior? Siera Wigfield is looking into rolls of stickers that might be intuitive to stick to the bag or items.

How did we get to this meeting?

- ♻️ Woody Getz wanted to discuss how this meeting came to fruition. Siera Wigfield sent out a poll to see who would be attending and only 5 responded; the meeting was still called to order even though responses did not reach a level to make quorum. Siera Wigfield admitted she was frazzled and did not consider the low response rate and went ahead scheduling the meeting.
- ♻️ Woody Getz responded that it is the Chair who has the responsibility to convene the meeting.
- ♻️ Stu Czapski asked why are we cancelling meetings? Woody Getz responded nothing is to be done on any of the issues.
- ♻️ Members of them meeting reiterated the monthly frequency of meetings keeps the group informed. The bylaws only require quarterly meetings, but they have always had monthly meetings.
- ♻️ Stu Czapski suggested an update to the bylaws to have special vote via email.

October Meeting Format

- ♻️ The Board will continue the hybrid meeting for October and November, using Zoom as the virtual platform.

Committee Reports

Reduce/Reuse

 No report this month.

Recycle/Compost

 No report this month.

Landfill

 See Landfill Closure item above.


Task Force

 No task force this month.

Education/ Public Relations

 No report this month.

Keep Allegany Beautiful


 No report this month.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:39 pm.

Minutes prepared by Siera Wigfield, Recycling Coordinator and reviewed by chair, Steven Guinn.

Attachments

 Draft Encouraging Composting Letter

 Composting Letter Address List