

NORTHERN VIRGINIA WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Summary Minutes

June 7, 2013

Members Present:

Sue Lhotka, City of Manassas
John Snarr, MWCOG
Pamela Gratton, Fairfax County
Jessica Wessell, Loudoun County
Michael Fairbanks, Loudoun County
Mike Farr, Town of Herndon (via phone)
Eric Grabowsky, Arlington County
Deborah Campbell, Prince William County
Christine Hobbs, Prince William County

Alton Weaver, City of Alexandria (via phone)
Mike Clem, City of Alexandria (via phone)

Staff Present:

Debbie Spiliotopoulos, NVRC
Linda Summerall, NVRC

Invited Guests:

Daniel Demers, Virginia DEQ
Sue Rowland, NVRC Legislative Liaison

Alton Weaver, City of Alexandria (via phone)

CALL TO ORDER Mike Fairbanks, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Introductions were made around the table.

STORMWATER & CHESAPEAKE BAY UPDATE Normand Goulet, Sr. Environmental Planner and NVRC's Occoquan Watershed Program Manager, provided an overview on these programs and their new regulations. DCR is transferring watershed monitoring to DEQ as of the new fiscal year; DEQ is already approved for enforcement, and it is an enforcement-oriented department.

Mr. Goulet reviewed the difference between Phase I (for jurisdictions with large populations) and Phase II (less populated jurisdictions) permits. Arlington, Fairfax and Prince William counties are Phase I jurisdictions.

The general permit will now be tied to the entire jurisdiction. It will list nutrient removal by jurisdiction and each jurisdiction must describe how it will meet that removal. EPA will follow up closely on how the jurisdictions handle this.

Ms. Gratton noted the MS4 permit requires Fairfax County to have a household hazardous waste plan. She urged the members to use the Alice Ferguson plan to meet that requirement. Mr. Goulet pointed out that the jurisdictions also participate in NVRC's Clean Water Partners, which provides a public education campaign via media and social media; this will satisfy the public outreach component of the permit.

Ms. Gratton asked about enforcement. Mr. Goulet noted it is directed at large developers. Jurisdictions need to walk between the political reality of issuing a stop work order and being fined by EPA for not addressing the issue. It is important to educate the political leaders on this point. The way the permit is written, jurisdictions are open to law suits by outside third parties.

Ms. Rowland inquired if other Chesapeake Bay states could serve as a role model. Mr. Goulet did not think so, although Montgomery County, Maryland, is slightly ahead in its program development.

Ms. Rowland noted Sen. Warner and Rep. Wittman are co-sponsoring a bill (so new it has not been assigned a number) that will test to see if these TMDL strategies really provide their "money's worth." She will forward this information to the board members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Sue Lhotka moved approval of the minutes of the March 1, 2013, meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE Ms. Rowland provided an overview of Virginia's legislative process, adding that with the offices of Governor, Lt. Governor and the Attorney General up for election, now is a good time to get important issues before them.

Ms. Gratton pointed out it is important the state not eliminate the requirement of a solid waste disposal plan. She suggested that allowing local staff ticket writing authority for littering would be beneficial. Ms. Rowland said that would not pass in 2014.

Mr. Grabowsky suggested considering regulations to support organics recycling. The members decided this should be a presentation at a future meeting.

TIRE FUND

Ms. Lhotka reported Virginia is one of a few states (there may be only one other) that has a fee to clean up waste tires. Currently, there are a little over 100 tire piles around the state. The fee is collected at the retail level; sometimes a disposal fee is also charged. The private cleanup firms are reimbursed on a per ton basis. She noted this fee creates companies that dispose of the old tires.

Mr. Demers reported that most of the large tire piles are gone and the program has shrunk. Steve Coe at DEQ runs this program. The program – and the fee – were not set up to go on indefinitely. The fee is for the cleanup of disposed tires; it was never meant to support tire recycling.

The members decided position statements should be developed on the tire fund; litter enforcement authority; scrap recycling/junk haulers regulation; and funding the requirement of a solid waste disposal plan. Ms. Gratton volunteered to help draft the positions.

KNOW TOXICS

Ms. Spiliotopoulos reported she is working on the budget. She estimates \$25,000 of the Solid Waste Board budget supported Know Toxics (about half the budget); \$3,000 was raised from fees and private sources. She feels the registration fee for the workshop is too low, and suggested increasing the fee and having smaller classes. Several participants commented they would like smaller classes. The need for CRT training was also mentioned. The group recommended that the 2015 budget fund the elements of Know Toxics without reducing other components of the work plan.

2013 WASTE REPORT

The tables have been emailed to all members. Only three jurisdictions have completed their tables. June 24 is the deadline.

FY 2015 BUDGET AND WORKPLAN

Ms. Spiliotopoulos asked the members if they would support a dues increase, or would they prefer to keep the dues rate the same and meet only three times a year. Mr. Grabowsky suggested she email the members with the proposed increase for the large jurisdictions and the small jurisdictions.

LOCAL UPDATES & NEW BUSINESS

Notes are note taken for this item.

ADJOURMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15