

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD****Summary Minutes**

December 8, 2017

**Members Present:**

Alton Weaver, City of Alexandria  
 Mike Clem, City of Alexandria  
 Erik Grabowsky, Arlington County  
 Pamela Gratton, Fairfax County  
 Renee LaFollette, Town of Leesburg  
 Jessica Wessel, Loudoun County  
 Monica Boehringer, City of Manassas

John Snarr, Metropolitan Washington Council of  
 Governments

Thomas Smith, Prince William County  
 Scott MacDonald, Prince William County  
 Dan Demers, Virginia DEQ

**Staff Present:**

Debbie Spiliotopoulos, NVRC  
 Sue Rowland, SRC Incorporated

- CALL TO ORDER** Pamela Gratton, Fairfax County, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Introductions.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Monica Boehringer, City of Manassas moved to approve the minutes of the June 2017. Alton Weaver, City of Alexandria, seconded the motion, the board unanimously approved
- 2019 WASTE BOARD BUDGET** The budget, first presented to the Board in September, was voted for adoption. The 2019 budget represents the same amount requested for 2018. Tom Smith, Prince William County, moved to adopt the 2019 budget, Erik Grabowsky, Arlington County, seconded the motion, and the 2019 budget was adopted.
- E WASTE FACT SHEET** Erik Grabowsky moved to adopt the E-waste fact sheet with the change to the subhead to "Virginia jurisdictions pay to ensure the safe recovery and disposal of electronic waste and the management of wastes containing hazardous components." Renee LaFollette, Town of Leesburg, seconded, and the fact sheet was approved.
- CHINA POLICY AND RECYCLING MARKET DISCUSSION** Monica Boehringer, City of Manassas, discussed China material bans, resulting market changes, and how localities should respond to and communicate impacts. SWANA, NRC, and others have developed messages. John Snarr, MWCOG, outlined an ad hoc working group that met with some key MRFs in the region...they reported that at this point dual stream (Montgomery County) has not been affected except for the lower market rates. Arlington noted that as of the last quarter, the county remained within its estimated budget.
- At the MWCOG meeting, Republic recommended the message "Clean, Dry, Empty" to ensure better collection. Waste Board members noted that the best approach at this time is to reinforce the basics of what to recycle. Recycling represents a local issue, with significant benefits, as the ISRI economic analysis shows.
- The board discussed the contamination levels that may have contributed to the bans and restrictions on international recovery, and how mrf's have reported a residual contamination rate of over 25 percent of materials collected for recycling. Others report that up to 30 percent contamination. DC has reported that Elkridge (WM) rejects up to 80 percent of loads. Arlington noted that though markets are down, but according to recent earnings reports, WM and Republic still show profits from their recycling sectors. In addition, the tax plan may include significant financial benefits for improvements and reinvestment to improve the sorting and additional processing to provide better product. Prince William noted that 30K tons are coming in daily as residue from current facilities, a larger amount of contamination than in the past.
- VA DEQ does not track or maintain a definition of a MRF or state-defined "recycling facility" compared to a transfer station, which is regulated as Permit By Rule (PBR), but localities have the ability to address the quality of recycling through contracting processes. For example, localities can determine processors other outlets for

materials, increase quality standards, inspect and ensure compliance with contracts. DEQ recommended sharing any recommendations for definitions with DEQ for reference.

The board will review current regulations and codes, review current definitions and local authorities. DEQ will provide code and regulatory summary as well as a history related to current laws. Pamela noted that there is a list of what is taken and recycled from an earlier meeting with MRFs. They will review markets, and messages to develop recommendations, perhaps update the current MRF fact sheet, and develop messaging and materials to promote on proper recycling to the public.

#### LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Sue Rowland, SRC Incorporated, noted that she'd have the policy platform by early the week of December 11 for review. She requests edits and prioritization for developing the platform. This will not need to receive NVRC approval, but should be shared and reviewed by

Senator Lewis' office did not respond to requests to discussion recycling, and it seems that the bill was not yet posted for the GA 2018.

#### TIRE FUND

VA DEQ asked if jurisdictions had noted changes in tire piles in the region. The original tire fund was designed for older tire piles and fires. DEQ has discovered newer stockpiles in parts of the state. Have localities noted more tires entering the waste stream, or new tire piles appearing, especially as the recycled value remains very low. Little data is collected on what might be now entering disposal streams, or on current tire data. Localities were not aware. DEQ will share recent tire report data for the Waste Board.

#### PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

Scott MacDonald, Prince William, provided a draft fact sheet on extended producer responsibility. He recommended pursuing two key elements: paint and electronics because of the statewide survey and legislative groundwork and examples from other states. Both items have model legislation, an electronic takeback law, and paint legislation supported by paintcare, a consortium of paint and coatings association businesses adopted in a number of states. Both bills could offer relief to localities paying for collection, and could benefit downstream businesses involved in recovery.

Scott will share sample legislation and analysis with the waste board. The Board agreed to reach out to Sen Plum, Bulova, and Hugo to review and improve their original electronics legislation in light of newer findings.

In addition, the survey developed for interest on Product Stewardship will be distributed to HHW and other local sectors for their perspectives on EPR.

#### KNOW TOXICS HAZARDOUS WASTE TRAINING

NVRC just completed website upgrades. The Know Toxics section will be shared with committee members to update once this portion of the site is complete. NVRC will post all fact sheets on NVRC website pages related to the NV waste board.

#### BIENNIAL REPORT

NVRC is producing the report, putting the tables together and shared some preliminary analysis. The maps are not yet in place. This year, NVRC plans to use professional editing proofing for the report.

#### LOCAL ROUNDTABLE

Minutes are not taken during the local roundtable.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

**Next Meeting Friday, March 9, 2018**