

NORTHERN VIRGINIA WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD
Summary Minutes
September 7, 2007
10:00 am

Members Present:

Thomas Smith, Prince William County
Jane Tatum, Loudoun County
Christine McCoy, City of Alexandria
Joyce Doughty, Fairfax County
Jeff Smithberger, Fairfax County
Chip Goyette, Arlington County
John Snarr, MWCOG
Rosemary Byrne, Clean Fairfax Council

Staff Present:

Doug Pickford
Marshall Popkin
Debbie Spiliotopoulos
Laura Grape
Sue Rowland

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Thomas Smith (Prince William County) called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.

INTRODUCTIONS Meeting participants introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Waste Board members reviewed the June minutes. Mr. Smith recommended changing the third sentence in the fifth paragraph of page three to read, "Ms. Tatum noted that the governor might be interested in initiatives related to waste to energy." Mr. Smith recommended that a copy of the summary minutes should be sent to Mark Polhemus (CB Richard Ellis), who participated in the June 2007 meeting.

Jeff Smithberger (Fairfax County) moved to approve last meeting's minutes, with the one revision. Jane Tatum (Loudoun County) seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the June 2007 minutes.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE Sue Rowland (NVRC legislative liaison) provided the legislative update to the Waste Board. The legislative subcommittee met July 17 and earlier in the morning on September 7. The subcommittee agreed to focus on potential impact of the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision on flow controls.

The Waste Board recommended the following general policy stance:

"Oppose any legislation which will reduce the authority or inhibit the ability of local governments to manage solid waste in accordance with mandated local solid waste management plans, and to implement mandated recycling programs and reporting requirements."

Mr. Smithberger reported that the SWANA Executive Committee recently held a national meeting. The SWANA legislative subcommittee is developing a brief policy statement related to Flow Controls and the Supreme Court ruling to be posted on VA's SWANA website. The Fairfax County Board is in the process of reviewing the SWANA policy. This policy statement provides a reference for Ms. Rowland and Waste Board members when presenting to legislative liaisons and elected officials.

JLARC PRESENTATION Erik Messick, Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) lead on the upcoming waste and recycling study, spoke with the Waste Board via telephone. Mr. Messick described the structure and function of JLARC. The JLARC initiative consists of three phases: scoping, research, and report writing. During scoping, JLARC will contact DEQ and interested stakeholders to better understand the waste management process. During the research phase, JLARC staff will identify key issues and available research. Mr. Messick noted that JLARC would receive comments from interested parties (including the Waste Board) during the research phase.

Mr. Messick addressed the question of how the scope of the report is developed. JLARC will begin the scoping phase no later than mid-October with DEQ interviews and data

collection. Each interview will conclude with a request for additional contacts.

Christine McCoy (City of Alexandria) noted that the Virginia Recycling Association (VRA) membership meeting that is scheduled for November 9 in Charlottesville, VA. Ms. McCoy suggested that this meeting would offer JLARC the opportunity to find interviewees for its report. Ms. McCoy also stated that she is working with Virginia Tech to map all Virginia compost facilities.

Mr. Messick stated that he would be willing meet with the Waste Board again if there is an interest. Mr. Messick's e-mail address is emessick@leg.state.va.us. The phone call ended at 10:39.

Ms. Rowland encouraged the members of the Waste Board to contact Delegate Callahan and State Senator Colgin (both members of JLARC) to emphasize the importance of JLARC.

JCOTS

The Virginia Joint Commission on Technology and Science has established an advisory commission to examine e-cycling. Pamela Gratton (Fairfax County) is an advisory commission member. Ms. Tatum reported that although the JCOTS group met once, the advisory commission would examine a number of options including take-back programs with an upfront fee.

The Waste Board discussed the tire fund and lead acid battery programs in Virginia as prototypes for e-cycling. Mr. Smithberger described how under this program, battery sellers require that new battery purchases require the return of a used auto battery. He suggested that a similar approach might work with electronics. The Waste Board discussed recent North Carolina electronics legislation and Fairfax research on Maine's special tax and landfill ban.

NVRC UPDATE

Doug Pickford (NVRC) encouraged the Waste Board to consider opportunities for working with other green groups such as NVRC's Energy and Environmental Policy Committee. The Energy and Environmental Policy Committee has commented upon the State Corporation Commission programs recommending initiatives related to energy efficiency, and the development of a public benefit fund.

Mr. Pickford discussed NVRC's Cool Schools initiative as a parallel program to the Cool Counties and Fresh Air Initiatives. Mr. Smithberger asked if a forum exists for regional school meetings; Mr. Pickford responded "no." Mr. Smith suggested that the Waste Board invite a school that exemplifies effective energy usage to the next Waste Board meeting. Chip Goyette (Arlington County) mentioned a white paper on energy usage for schools in VA Beach. Mr. Smithberger suggested that school accreditation could be tied into its energy usage.

2007 ANNUAL REPORT AND 2009 BUDGET

Mr. Pickford summarized the costs for the various solid waste program areas at NVRC. He noted that there was a budget overrun due to the significant work in revising the annual survey. Outside of the additional survey work, however, the budget numbers track close to normal.

Mr. Pickford asked for Waste Board member opinions on the new survey format. Mr. Smithberger approved of the new format. Mr. Smith suggested that the new survey provide the previous year's data with a "no change" option.

Mr. Pickford discussed the FY 2009 program; the 2009 program reflects many of the initiatives that will be ongoing in 2008. The Know Toxics program will continue. Large jurisdictions rates increase by \$182, while small jurisdictions' rates increase \$77. Mr. Pickford suggested that the Know Toxics' program outreach efforts should be coordinated with similar efforts in storm water management.

Debbie Spiliotopoulos (NVRC) discussed the work of the Know Toxics subcommittee. Activities include general enhancements to the website and expanding the website to include the Household Hazardous Waste information for residents.

Ms. Tatum moved to approve the new budget. Mr. Smithberger seconded this motion.

The new budget was unanimously approved.

REGIONAL
STORMWATER
EDUCATION
CAMPAIGN

Laura Grape (NVRC) gave a Power Point Presentation on the NVRC Coastal Program's stormwater education campaign. Ms. Grape described this year's emphasis on proper waste oil disposal. The Waste Board expressed an interest in working together on outreach efforts.

APPRECIATION
OF FORMER
CHAIRMAN
TATUM

Mr. Smith presented Ms. Tatum with a certificate of appreciation for her service as Waste Board chair Fiscal 2007.

LOCAL UPDATES Information exchanged during local updates is not recorded.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.