

NORTHERN VIRGINIA WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD
Summary Minutes
March 7, 2008
9:30 am

Members Present:

Thomas Smith, Prince William County
Jane Tatum, Loudoun County
Kate Glass, Loudoun County
Scott MacDonald, Prince William County
Tom Mason, Town of Leesburg
Kathryn Moore, City of Manassas Park
Pamela Gratton, Fairfax County
Sue Lhotka, City of Manassas
Christine McCoy, City of Alexandria
Joyce Doughty, Fairfax County
Jeff Smithberger, Fairfax County
Erik Grabowsky, Arlington County
John Snarr, MWCOG

Staff Present:

Doug Pickford
Marshall Popkin
Debbie Spiliotopoulos
Sue Rowland (via conference call)

Invited Guests:

Gary LeFrancois, Transwestern
Rod Kincaid, Esquire Environmental
Rob Eustace, Esquire Environmental
Scott Cassel, Product Stewardship Institute

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Thomas Smith (Prince William County) called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS Meeting participants introduced themselves.

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP INSTITUTE PRESENTATION Scott Cassel (Product Stewardship Institute (PSI)) discussed his organization with the Waste Board. PSI works with its State (43) and local/regional (50) members to take shared responsibility for reducing the health and environmental impacts that result from the production, use, and end-of-life management of the product. Product stewardship emphasizes the internalization of end of life management costs into product purchase prices and the shift of costs from taxpayers to consumers. Producers are given an incentive to reduce waste by making them pay to manage it.

PSI membership costs range from \$150 to \$10,000 annually, depending on population size. Interested organizations can join PSI as an affiliate or a full member, at a State, regional, or local level. PSI provides members with a unified voice, fiscal relief, objective data, and the opportunity to participate in national initiatives. PSI encourages members to reduce environmental impacts during the production, packaging, usage, and end-of-life phases of a product. The organization recognizes the importance of making better products, source reduction, and increasing recovery, reuse and recycling. PSI focuses on products such as paint, mercury thermostats, fluorescent lamps, electronics, pharmaceuticals, radioactive devices, telephone books, gas cylinders, tires, beverage containers, and motor oil.

John Snarr (MWCOG) asked whether Washington, DC, participates as PSI affiliate. Mr. Cassel responded 'no.'

Christine McCoy (City of Alexandria) asked if any state recycling associations are involved as members. Mr. Cassel responded 'no.'

Debbie Spiliotopoulos (NVRC) noted that the Waste Board recently has focused its efforts on outreach to local retailers. Mr. Cassel suggested that the Waste Board focus on small stores such as Ace and True Value.

For more information on PSI, visit their website at www.productstewardship.us or contact Mr. Cassel at scott@productstewardship.us.

- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Erik Grabowsky (Arlington County) motioned to approve the minutes from the December 2007 meeting. Ms. Tatum seconded this motion. The Waste Board unanimously approved the minutes.
- 2008 WORK PLAN** Mr. Smith discussed the goals for the 2008 Waste Board work plan: 1) community education, 2) seeking out regional purchasing opportunities, 3) developing a regional approach to deal with special types of waste, and 4) recycling yard waste. The Waste Board has not prioritized the goals for this two year work plan.
- Mr. Smithberger motioned to approve the 2008 work plan. Mr. Grabowsky seconded the motion. The Waste Board unanimously approved the 2008 work plan.
- LEGISLATIVE UPDATES** Sue Rowland (NVRC Legislative Consultant) joined the Waste Board via conference call. Ms. Rowland summarized the status of existing legislation; 3,301 bills remain in resolution with 1,547 bills passing both houses. Ms. Rowland discussed several pieces of legislation:
- HB 343 was signed by the governor and will go into effect on July 1.
 - A Community Services Landscaping bill sponsored by Senator Stuart is awaiting the governor's decision.
 - A used motor oil bill sponsored by State Senator Tycer would require DEQ to have a website and toll free number to assist VA residents in disposing of used motor oil. This bill is on the way to the governor.
 - HB 1398 and SB 665 have been extended through 2011.
- KNOW TOXICS UPDATE** Ms. Spiliotopoulos updated the Waste Board on the status of Know Toxics. The subcommittee most recently met on February 27 and focused on outreach and takeback efforts with retailers. The Know Toxics website received 231 unique visitors in February 2008; nearly 5,000 total unique visitors have viewed the Know Toxics site.
- COG UPDATE** Mr. Snarr discussed ongoing activities at MWCOG. The Climate Change Steering Committee will soon be releasing information on CFLs. Mr. Snarr distributed a handout regarding ongoing efforts with retailers and utilities.
- SURVEY UPDATE** The survey subcommittee last met on February 29. Members will receive the survey via excel spreadsheet along with accompanying data from all localities. The subcommittee will meet one more time prior to sending out the survey, which will be released in April and due back to NVRC in May.
- LOCAL UPDATES** During this segment of the meeting, no minutes are kept of information exchanged among the board members.
- ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.