

APPROVED

Minutes of the Northern Virginia Waste Management Board Meeting
June 5, 2009
Page 1

NORTHERN VIRGINIA WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD
Summary Minutes
June 5, 2009
10:00 am

Members Present:

Erik Grabowsky, Arlington County
Victoria Greenfield, Arlington County
Alton Weaver, City of Alexandria
Jane Tatum, Loudoun County
Gwen Kennedy, Loudoun County
Jeff Smithberger, Fairfax County
Charlie Forbes, Fairfax County
Pamela Gratton, Fairfax County

Staff Present:

Marshall Popkin
Debbie Spiliotopoulos
Sue Rowland

Invited Guests:

Del. Patricia Ticer (via conference call)
Richard Doucette, VADEQ
Kathryn Perszyk, VADEQ
Bernard Caton, City of Alexandria Legislative Liaison
Tom Reardon, Covanta

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Erik Grabowsky (Arlington County) called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

WELCOME Tom Reardon (Covanta Energy) welcomed the Waste Board to Covanta's Lorton Facility. Mr. Reardon presented a 15-minute video on Covanta and waste management practices.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Sue Rowland (NVRC) requested a minor edit to the minutes from the March 2009 meeting; the first full paragraph at the top of page 2 should indicate that the Waste Board will work through conventional legislative processes in achieving its goals. Jane Tatum (Loudoun County) motioned to approve the minutes from the March 2009 meeting. Jeff Smithberger (Fairfax County) seconded this motion. The Waste Board unanimously approved the corrected minutes.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDTABLE Virginia State Senator Patsy Ticer joined the Waste Board via conference call. Senator Ticer discussed her vision for a 20-year strategic plan for waste reduction and increased recycling within the Commonwealth. The lack of a strategic statewide plan for waste reduction puts Virginia at a disadvantage compared with other states in the Mid Atlantic. Pennsylvania and North Carolina are examples of states that have implemented successful programs; North Carolina, for example, employs 5 FTE on its State recycling business development staff. By comparison Virginia only has 1.5 FTE. The Senator's bill did not pass the House of Delegates. Sen. Ticer encouraged the Waste Board members to promote the development of a statewide plan for waste reduction through the local legislative process. Ms. Ticer also pointed out the efficacy of using other states programs as success stories.

The Board discussed funding for solid waste and recycling. Sen. Ticer discussed a \$10,000 budget amendment she obtained for the City of Alexandria toward a demonstration project that improves opportunities for recycling plastic bags. Sen. Ticer suggested that \$50,000 would be sufficient for VADEQ to fund an additional FTE. Local staff should continue to encourage the procurement additional funding for programs. The Senator emphasized that the legislature is more receptive to generating revenue through 'fees' rather than 'tax' increases. The Senator discussed Virginia's low tip fees, which promotes the import of waste into the state. Raising tip fees will make it less likely that other states will continue to use Virginia's landfills.

(Ms. Ticer hangs up.)

Ms. Rowland provided the Waste Board with an abbreviated legislative update. Ms. Rowland encouraged the Waste Board members to educate their local elected officials on their 'wish lists' and desired programs. If all local legislators are hearing similar messages, it will lead to an increased voice for the Waste Board in Richmond.

DRAFT SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Minutes of the Northern Virginia Waste Management Board Meeting

June 5, 2009

Page 2

Bernard Caton, Legislative Liaison for the City of Alexandria, described the difficulty convincing local governments to change tip fees. Mr. Caton also noted that any changes to the staffing of DEQ will require additional funding. Lastly, Mr. Caton encouraged the Waste Board members to make recommendations to legislative liaisons nearly a year in advance of when they will be proposed at a State level.

**2011 BUDGET
and 2010 WORK
PROGRAM**

The 2010 Work Program covers the period of time from July 2009 until June 2010. Dues will be \$8,310 for large jurisdictions and \$1,731 for the small jurisdictions. Debbie Spiliotopoulos (NVRC) requested that the Waste Board members review the proposed work plan and budget and provide feedback at the September 2009 meeting.

**2010 WASTE
BOARD
CHAIRMAN**

Ms. Tatum nominated Mr. Smithberger as Chairman of the Waste Board for FY 2010. Alton Weaver (City of Alexandria) seconded the motion, and Mr. Smithberger was unanimously appointed as Chairman of the Waste Board. Mr. Smithberger will assume the position of Chairman starting with the September 2009 meeting. Kathy Allan (City of Falls Church) will hold the title of Deputy Chair, and will assume the chairmanship in FY 2011. Ms. Tatum motioned to approve Ms. Allan as the Deputy Chair of the Waste Board for FY 2010; Mr. Smithberger seconded the motion, and Ms. Allan was unanimously approved as Deputy Chairman for FY 2010.

**FOOD
COMPOSTING
FEASIBILITY
STUDY**

The Board discussed the possibility of pursuing a food composting feasibility study with money obtained through EPA; \$15-20,000 may be available to fund the study this year. Ms. Spiliotopoulos suggested that the study could involve a guidance committee that includes individuals from the following communities: hauling, agriculture, generator, and waste management.

**KNOW TOXICS
UPDATE**

Ms. Spiliotopoulos distributed data on visits to the Know Toxics website.

The tables for the 2009 Waste Report will be distributed to members within the next week.

NVRC recently put together information for an e-waste bill for U.S. Congressman Gerry Connolly.

LOCAL UPDATES

During this segment of the meeting, no minutes are kept of information exchanged among the board members.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Spiliotopoulos reported that Tom Smith (Prince William County) offered to hold a future Waste Board meeting at the Prince William County Yard Waste Facility.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m. Following the meeting, Waste Board members toured the Covanta Fairfax waste to energy facility. The next meeting will occur on September 11th.