

NORTHERN VIRGINIA WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Summary Minutes

March 4th, 2011

10:00 am

Members Present:

Kathy Allan, City of Falls Church
Jane Tatum, Loudoun County
John Snarr, MWCOG
Scott MacDonald, Prince William County
Michael Clem, Arlington County
Tom Mason, Town of Leesburg
Sue Lhotka, City of Manassas
Jeff Smithberger, Fairfax County

Staff Present:

Debbie Spiliotopoulos, NVRC
Sam Kinzer, NVRC
Sue Rowland, Legislative Liaison

Invited Guests:

Richard Doucette, DEQ

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Kathy Allan called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Ms. Allen introduced Tom Mason of Leesburg as the new Vice-chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Jane Tatum moved approval of the corrected minutes of the December 10, 2010, meeting. Scott MacDonald seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE Sue Rowland provided the Legislative Update and clarified HB1521 and HB1522. She provided an update that the progress of the bill regarding permit fees for solid waste is on the way to the Governor's desk. The group discussed the recent elimination of the recycling marketing council, which stemmed out of the JLARC report. Ms. Rowland proposed a "plan B" which would be to fold recycling markets into ongoing job market groups, which was embraced by the patrons at the House. She also recommended getting the issue on the agenda of the VRA. The Board decided to write a letter to the VRA.

ROUND TABLE Each member gave quick updates regarding on going work within their jurisdictions.

- Falls Church is moving to 65-gallon carts for recycling and considering charging per bag for excess trash. They are considering this an interim step to a variable rate system.
- Prince William County is in the middle of recycling reporting process. They are also working on opening a new cell, and capping an old landfill area. The county is short on soil, and several possible connections were established within the group to provide the needed soil.
- The City of Manassas is conducting a recycling survey, recognizing a big disparity between the recycling habits of single-family homes and multi-unit homes. Ms. Lhotka requested advice on motivating specific populations and heard many suggestions from around the table.
- Loudoun County is in the midst of budget deliberations and Solid Waste Management plan review. They are looking in particular at co-location opportunities and recommending best practices for HOAs.
- MWCOG just completed the GoRecycle campaign and John Snarr provided an updated on Montgomery County, Maryland proposing a 5c bag fee.
- The Town of Leesburg is also in the middle of budget deliberations and is at risk of losing several positions. A positive note is that their recycling is up to 36%.
- Fairfax County is in the process of proposing to buy a WTE plant currently owned and operated by Covanta. There is a variety of benefits associated with County ownership of the plant.

- Arlington County is in the middle of a reorganization. It was able to drop the refuse charge to residents -- seen as a positive. Arlington is also considering pay-as-you-throw options.

WASTE REPORT Ms. Spiliotopoulos reminded the board that 2011 is a report year. The group noted a few clarifications they would like made in the next regional waste report, including the definitions of comingling and yard waste. Ms. Spiliotopolous said she would get the spreadsheet out shortly and expect responses by the end of May.

KNOW TOXICS The board discussed the current website visitation statistics and possible strategies to improve viewership. The group affirmed that it was best to target what type of outreach it wishes to focus on and then look for grant opportunities.

NEW BUSINESS There is no new business.

ADJOURNMENT Ms. Allen motioned to adjourn the meeting and all present were in favor.