

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
November 10, 2005**

DATE: November 10, 2005

TIME: 2:00 pm

PLACE: Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services
250 William Howard Taft Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

PRESENT: Policy Committee Members

Tony DiPuccio, Generator Representative
Dr. Carl Evert, General Interest Member
Tim Ingram, Hamilton County General Health District Representative
Todd Portune, County Commissioner, Chair
Larry Riddle, Ex-Officio Member

DOES Staff

Jeff Aluotto, Solid Waste Program Manager
Cory Chadwick, Director
Holly Christmann, Assistant Program Manager
Sarah Dowers, Public Affairs Coordinator
Ken Edgell, Environmental Administrative Coordinator
Christy Kellner, Program Specialist
Ali Khodadad, Operations Coordinator
Harry St. Clair, Monitoring & Analysis Supervisor
Susan Schumacher, Administrative Secretary, Clerk

Others In Attendance

Karen Ball, Aide to Commissioner Portune
Anne Campbell, Sycamore Township Resident
Chuck DeJonckheere, Hamilton County General Health District
Brian DePeel, Environmental Enterprises, Inc.
Martha Hewitt, Sycamore Township Resident
Alice Kennedy, Colerain Township Resident
David Ketterer, Sycamore Township Resident
Bob Orr, CSI Waste
Ryan Peltier, Pollution Prevention Intern
Bruce Schmucker, Shaw Environmental, Inc.
John Silverman, Midland Atlantic
Tom Weidman, Sycamore Township Resident

ABSENT: Policy Committee Members

Bernie Fiedeldey, Township Representative
Deborah Holston, Representative of Largest Municipality/ Tiffany Hardy, City of Cincinnati
Glenn Welling, Public Member

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Portune called the meeting to order at 2:06 pm. Mr. Portune congratulated Mr. Fiedeldey on his re-election for the Colerain Township Trustee position. Mr. Portune stated that Ms. Holston's husband passed since the last meeting and suggested that a moment of silence be observed in memorial to Ms. Holston's loss.

II. CLERK'S REPORT

A. Approval of Minutes – September 1, 2005

Mr. Portune entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Ingram moved; Mr. DiPuccio seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

B. Additions/Changes to the Agenda

Mr. Aluotto suggested tabling the Vision Statement due to three members being absent. Mr. Aluotto also suggested moving the Sycamore Township Yardwaste Site item to the beginning of the Policy Items.

III. DISTRICT REVENUE REPORT

Mr. Aluotto stated that District revenue was below last years revenue by approximately \$37,000 but in-District waste has remained about the same as last year and out-of-District waste has decreased which would explain the decreased revenue. Mr. Riddle explained that this decrease was probably due to a seasonal decrease. Out-of-state waste has slightly increased. Mr. Portune entertained a motion to accept the revenue report. Mr. DiPuccio moved; Dr. Evert seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

IV. PRESENTATION – Ryan Peltier, P2 Intern for Formica

Mr. Aluotto briefly discussed Mr. Peltier’s background and explained the P2 Internship program.

Mr. Peltier discussed the waste reduction and recycling projects he worked on during his internship. Highlights include:

1. Recycling waste paper – diverting 1.2 million pounds per year and saving Formica \$54,000 annually in disposal costs.
2. Identifying a computer software glitch that was misreading the amount of waste resin. By correcting this problem, it has saved Formica \$100,000 in raw material costs.
3. Replacing natural gas with steam in the boiler. This change will save Formica over \$1million in energy costs per year as well as diverting over 22 million pounds of wood per year.
4. Fluorescent bulb recycling

The Policy Committee applauded Mr. Peltier’s work and thanked him.

Mr. Portune asked Mr. Aluotto to send a follow-up letter to Formica regarding Mr. Peltier’s recommendations. The Committee asked Mr. Peltier for a copy of his presentation. Mr. Peltier stated that he would e-mail the final report to Ms. Kellner.

Mr. Portune asked who owned the creative work product created by Mr. Peltier. Mr. Aluotto stated he would find out and let the Policy Committee know.

A brief question and answer session ensued.

III. POLICY ITEMS

A. Sycamore Township Yardwaste Site

Mr. Portune stated that Attachment G of the Policy Packet related to this item as it relates to a yardwaste site that is important to the District regarding tonnages reported.

Mr. Portune stated that at the last Policy Committee meeting, a draft resolution was prepared but held over after this issue continued to percolate. Currently, the pending situation is that there is a proposal for a development to take place at that location and would require the use of property currently owned by Hamilton County. Part of the property is vacant and part of it is being used as the yardwaste site and has been for 20 years. Part of the property is also located in Blue Ash.

Mr. Portune stated that since the last meeting, Sycamore Township has offered to buy the property for \$75,000. Mid Atlantic has offered to buy the property for either \$100,000 or the appraised value of the property less the cost of remediating the yardwaste site and moving it. Mr. Portune stated that Hamilton County currently has an appraisal of the property in the amount of \$800,000.

Mr. Portune stated that the Hamilton County Commissioners have several options: 1) Sell the property 2) Not sell the property and continue it in its current capacity 3) Work in conjunction with Mid Atlantic to allow the development to take place 4) Either insist on the property's present use or to agree to some sort of hybrid arrangement that might permit the yardwaste facility to continue to operate in its existing location or another location.

Mr. Portune stated the issue before the Policy Committee, as he sees it, all relates to the environmental questions. i.e. yardwaste, recycling, etc. and he feels it is important that the Commissioners are provided some comment and a position on those issues.

Mr. Portune stated that Attachment G housed a draft resolution and after discussion, hearing the two speakers, Mr. Silverman, from Mid Atlantic and Mr. Weidman, from Sycamore Township, the Committee can either act on the resolution as drafted, modify it, suggest a new resolution be drafted, or take no action.

Mr. Portune invited Mr. Silverman and Mr. Weidman to speak to the Policy Committee. After hearing each party speak, further discussing the issue, a question and answer session, the resolution was modified as follows:

Now Therefore Be it Resolved that the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District Policy Committee recommends that the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners commit to preserving the property in question for its present use and public purpose, and that no action of the Commissioners shall be detrimental to the quality of life of the adjoining neighborhood or shall cause increased cost or loss of the public purpose for the County or the Host Community and that the opportunity for expansion of the existing level of public purpose shall be preserved.

Mr. Portune asked the Sycamore Township residents if they would like to speak before the Committee voted on the resolution. Mr. Ketterer and Ms. Hewitt, Sycamore Township residents, expressed their opposition towards Mid Atlantic's proposal.

Mr. Portune stated that he thought it was important to advise the Hamilton County Commissioners to do nothing with respect to this property that will result in a loss of a public purpose benefit and use to any degree below the benefit and the utility of what is presently being provided by this property to Hamilton County.

Mr. Portune entertained a motion to support a resolution of the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District Policy Committee recommending the Board of County Commissioners on preserving public use of County-owned land in Blue Ash, Ohio to read as drafted in Attachment G of the Policy Packet to the Agenda in all respects except the final operative paragraph which shall read as written above.

Dr. Evert moved; Mr. Ingram seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

B. Plan Issues

Mr. Aluotto stated that the Policy Committee had been provided a summary of the major Solid Waste District Plan component for the Plan Update (Attachment C of the Policy Packet). The summary

segmented each component out and detailed where there will be a change. Mr. Aluotto discussed the timeline, etc. of the Plan Update.

Mr. Aluotto stated that the primary change was the insertion of a contingency plan for yardwaste diversion. Mr. Aluotto stated that more communities are co-mingling yardwaste with municipal solid waste. The contingency simply states that if that amount would exceed 15% of the amount of yardwaste the District normally sees recycled by communities, that the District would have that ability to discuss that issue with the Policy Committee and recommend changes to the Plan to manage this issue. Mr. Riddle asked if Staff had any ideas for the yardwaste contingencies. Mr. Aluotto discussed several ideas that revolved around the District grant programs.

Mr. Aluotto also discussed the fee increase that was included.

Mr. DiPuccio suggested to include an estimate of how much the fee increase would be on a per person/household basis as well as the total disposal costs are for landfills in relation to that increase. Mr. Aluotto agreed.

Mr. DiPuccio stated that in terms of waste reduction, residents recycling rates may stay the same but the total amount of waste they are actually generating for disposal could go down. Mr. Aluotto stated that Staff would run some scenarios.

Dr. Evert asked if the HHW program would be year-round in the Plan Update. Mr. Aluotto different options that had been discussed with EEL. Dr. Evert also inquired about the paint recycling status. Mr. Aluotto provided the Committee with a brief update.

C. Reduction Assistance Grants

Mr. Aluotto stated that this was a \$100,000 grant program that the District awards communities and non-profit organizations to further the advancement of innovative recycling projects. Fifty-thousand goes to communities and \$50,000 goes to non-profits. District Staff reviewed the grant applications and included as Attachment D of the Policy Packet was the Staff recommendations. Staff is recommending approval for the following communities: Norwood, Green Township, Whitewater Township, Crosby Township, Springfield Township, Forest Park, Greenhills, and Harrison Township. Staff is recommending approval for the following organizations: Gorman Heritage Farm, Crayons to Computers, Millcreek Restoration Project, Work Resource Center, Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Hamilton County Park District, Christ Hospital, and Kettleton Heritage Center.

Mr. Aluotto stated that Attachment D also provided a summary of each grant program as well as how much funding was being recommended by Staff.

Mr. DiPuccio moved to approve. Dr. Evert seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

D. Vegetable Oil Pilot Project Recommendations

Mr. Portune stated that the report (Attachment E of the Policy Packet) discussed different options regarding the vegetable oil program. Mr. Portune stated that the next steps should not be to conduct a pilot program but to empower Staff to meet with the appropriate parties to put together a representative sample of fleet vehicles in order for a true pilot program to take shape. Once that is complete, come back to the Policy Committee and receive final approval around actually conducting a pilot program contingent on cost, timelines, vehicle type, etc.

Mr. Aluotto discussed some potential disadvantages of using vegetable oil as documented in the report but agreed with Mr. Portune regarding approaching other entities.

Mr. DiPuccio suggested that Staff discuss this issue with automobile manufacturers. Mr. Aluotto agreed.

E. Keep Cincinnati Beautiful Tire Grant Award

Mr. Portune stated that this item was tabled from the last meeting due to a quorum not being present.

Mr. Aluotto stated that KCB requested that an amendment be made to their \$25,000 grant package to allow \$1,529 be used for administrative costs. KCB is one of the organizations that was affected by the reduction of the ODNR Recycle, Ohio grant funding which means increased funding pressure over the coming years.

Mr. Aluotto stated that the grant agreement has been updated to reflect this change. By approving this change, the District will be able to forward the \$25,000 to KCB and allow the District to continue funding tire recycling activities in the County.

Mr. Ingram moved to award the grant to KCB as recommended by Staff. Dr. Evert seconded. All were in favor and the grant was approved.

IV. INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mr. Portune suggested accepting the informational items as outlined in the Manager's Memo.

V. TENTATIVE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items at this time.

VI. POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS

There were no Policy Committee comments at this time.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at this time.

VIII. UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETINGS

Regular Policy Committee Meeting - Thursday, January 12, 2006 at the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219 at 2:00 pm.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 4:49 pm.