

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
November 20, 2008**

DATE: November 20, 2008

TIME: 9:30 am

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

PRESENT: **Policy Committee Members**

Joe Charlton, Back-Up for Tiffaney Hardy, Largest Municipality Representative
Wright Gwyn, General Interest Member
Tim Ingram, Hamilton County Public Health Representative
Joe Maas, Generator Representative
Todd Portune, County Commissioner, Chair
Larry Riddle, Ex-Officio Member

Staff

Michelle Balz, Program Specialist
Cory Chadwick, Director
Holly Christmann, Solid Waste Program Manager
Jeanie Cooper, Receptionist
Sarah Dowers, Public Affairs Coordinator
Ken Edgell, Environmental Administrative Coordinator
Ali Khodadad, Operations Coordinator
Susan Schumacher, Assistant Solid Waste Specialist, Clerk
Catherine Walsh, Program Specialist

Others in Attendance

Chuck DeJonckheere, Hamilton County Public Health
Karen Kahle, Findlay Market
Jennifer Lonnemann, CCHMC
Bob Orr, CSI
Tom Turchiano, Rumpke
Mike Wiedmann, City of St. Bernard

ABSENT: **Policy Committee Members**

Bernie Fiedeldej, Township Representative, Vice Chair
Tiffaney Hardy, Representative of Largest Municipality
Dave Meyer, Public Member

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Portune called the meeting to order at 9:37 am and welcomed everyone.

2. CLERK'S REPORT

A. Approval of Minutes – September 18, 2008

Mr. Maas moved to approve the September 18 minutes. Mr. Ingram seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

B. Additions to the Agenda

• Update on Emergency Relief From the Wind Storm (9/14/08)

Ms. Christmann stated that the District had several conference calls with communities to find out what kind of help they wanted and needed from the District and it was very evident that tub grinding was the number one item they needed help with, followed up with disposal of the wood chips.

Ms. Christmann stated that the District tagged onto the City of Cincinnati's contract for tub grinding. Three piles of debris will be finished next week (Symmes Township, Colerain Township, Green Township) with a total of eight piles remaining (two in Blue Ash, one in Springfield Township, Amberley Village, Woodlawn, Lincoln Heights, Harrison, and Green Township).

Ms. Christmann stated that the District was entering into a contract with Bzak Landscaping to take away the wood chips, from 15 communities, to haul back to their compost facility on Roundbottom Road.

A brief question/answer session ensued and Mr. Portune asked Ms. Christmann to provide a written summary for the Committee. Mr. Portune thanked everyone involved for their hard work.

Ms. Christmann thanked Rumpke, Bzak Landscaping, Chuck DeJonckheere of Hamilton County Public Health, and her Staff for all their hard work.

• RecycleBank Update

Ms. Christmann stated that the program started on Monday, October 27 in Montgomery.

The week prior to RecycleBank starting, Montgomery collected 21 tons of recyclables and the week RecycleBank started, almost 39 tons of recyclables were collected which is an 80% increase. So far, this program is going very well.

Ms. Christmann thanked Rumpke and Montgomery for their partnership on this project and stated that they have done a great job.

3. DISTRICT REVENUE UPDATES/ANALYSIS

Ms. Christmann stated that revenues from the month of September are up compared to 2007, roughly \$60,000, primarily due to out-of-district waste because Rumpke is temporarily accepting waste from Montgomery County.

A brief discussion ensued about revenue and the District's reimbursement application to FEMA.

Mr. Portune entertained a motion to approve the revenue report. Mr. Charlton moved; Mr. Maas seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

4. POLICY ITEMS

A. Television Recycling Event

Ms. Christmann stated that on February 17, 2009, broadcasters will switch from analog to digital. People who do not have cable, will not receive a signal and will need to buy a converter box. The switch, coupled with residents switching to flat screen televisions, has made televisions an emerging waste stream problem.

Ms. Christmann stated that to address this problem, the District is planning a television recycling event for the spring, 2009 to offer residents an outlet for recycling. Ms. Christmann stated that 49% of televisions are landfilled and 42% are simply stored in the resident's home.

Ms. Christmann stated that a cost is not known at this time as the program will be bid out. Ms. Christmann stated that the District recently received the yardwaste drop-off sites bids and the east side location came in at about \$48,000 lower than what was budgeted.

Ms. Christmann stated that she was not recommending that this be an annual event at this time.

Ms. Christmann discussed the pilot television recycling event that the District sponsored in 2007, as well as, the logistics of recycling televisions in general.

A brief question/answer session ensued and after discussion, the Committee came to a consensus to stage a television recycling event. Mr. Portune requested that Staff bring a list of options (subsidize, charge, etc.) for the Committee to consider at the January, 2009 meeting.

B. Approval for District Priority Grants

Ms. Christmann stated that the District Priority Grants are funded annually; \$50,000 for non-profits and \$50,000 for communities. The priorities for 2009 are: recycling outreach, food waste diversion, and recycling in public areas.

Ms. Christmann stated that the District received approximately \$300,000 in grant requests and that this was a very competitive year.

Ms. Balz discussed the grant applications that the District was recommending for funding and the grant applications that were not recommended for funding (see Attachment C of the Policy Packet).

A brief question and answer session ensued.

Mr. Portune asked for a summary of community applicants past projects that were not recommended for funding. In the summary, explain how successful their events were, i.e. participation level, tons diverted, if the community was providing matching funds, and if these events would end if they were not funded by the District. Specifically, Crosby Township, Whitewater Township, and Forest Park. Mr. Portune stated that this would be an amendment to the Political Subdivision motion.

Mr. Portune asked if this could be revisited in January and discuss funding or partially funding the aforementioned communities.

Mr. Portune entertained a motion to approve the District recommendations for funding non-profit organizations: Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Economics Center for Education and Research, The Corporation of Findlay Market, and Keep Cincinnati Beautiful in the amounts indicated in Attachment C of the Policy Packet. Mr. Maas moved; Mr. Ingram seconded; Mr. Gwyn abstained. All were in favor and the non-profit organizations were approved for grant funding.

Mr. Portune entertained a motion to approve the 2009 District Priority Grants for funding Political Subdivisions in favor of the City of Blue Ash, Forest Park Environmental Awareness Program, City of Harrison, City of Loveland, and the City of Sharonville in the amounts indicated in Attachment C of the Policy Packet. Mr. Charlton moved; Mr. Maas seconded; Mr. Gwyn abstained. All were in favor and the Political Subdivisions were approved for grant funding.

The Political Subdivision motion included the above amendment of revisiting Political Subdivisions not recommended for funding in January, 2009.

Mr. Maas recommended increasing the funding level of the grant program.

Mr. Gwyn recommended adding historical information in the grant application.

A brief discussion ensued.

C. Foodwaste Diversion

Ms. Christmann stated that as mentioned at previous Policy Committee Meetings, the District has organized a food waste diversion committee. There is a strong interest from businesses.

The Committee has met three times with the short term goal of identifying ways to divert material and the long term goal of trying to lure a foodwaste composting facility to site somewhere in southwest Ohio to be able to manage foodwaste.

Ms. Christmann updated the Committee on the most recent meeting and a brief discussion took place.

Ms. Christmann stated that she will continue to provide updates to the Policy Committee.

4. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Quarterly Performance Measures

Ms. Christmann stated that the quarterly performance measures were attached as Attachment D and it compared District program goals by quarter and year to date. Ms. Christmann discussed some of the highlights.

B. Recycling Awards Luncheon

Ms. Christmann stated that the annual Recycling Awards Luncheon was held on November 13 and that the award winners were outlined in the Manager's Memo. Ms. Christmann briefly discussed some of the award winners.

C. Collection Events Closing for the Year

Ms. Christmann stated that the household hazardous waste program will close on November 22, the yardwaste drop-off sites will close on November 30, and the computer recycling event's last day will be December 30th.

D. Update on County Clean Up Partnership

Ms. Christmann stated that the County Clean-Up Partnership is a one-year demonstration program in which the District is providing \$40,000 to Keep Cincinnati Beautiful. The funds are used for a Sheriff Inmate Work Detail Program and litter education. Work Detail will pick-up litter every two weeks in eight communities outside the City of Cincinnati. The program started July 28th.

Ms. Christmann outlined the schedule and stated that Attachment E detailed the results of the program through October.

A brief discussion ensued.

5. TENTATIVE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Television Recycling Event
- Storm Cost Update
- District Priority Grants

6. POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS

There were no Policy Committee Member comments at this time.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at this time.

8. UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETINGS

The next regularly scheduled Policy Committee meeting will be **Thursday, January 15, 2009, 9:30 am** at Hamilton County Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 10:51 am.