

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
POLICY COMMITTEE  
May 13, 2004**

**DATE:** May 13, 2004

**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  
Bernie Fiedeldej, Township Representative  
Karl Graham, Representative of Largest Municipality  
Tim Ingram, Hamilton County General Health District Representative  
Todd Portune, County Commissioner, Chair  
Glenn Welling, Public Member

**DOES Staff**

Jeffrey W. Aluotto, Solid Waste Manager  
Cory Chadwick, Director  
Holly Christmann, Community Outreach Coordinator  
Sarah Dowers, Public Affairs Coordinator  
Ken Edgell, Environmental Administrative Coordinator  
Christy Kellner, Business Specialist  
Ali Khodadad, Operations Coordinator  
Sue Magness, Education Specialist  
Susan Schumacher, Administrative Secretary, Clerk

**Others In Attendance**

Nee Fong Chin, Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office  
Mark Costa, NU-BLEND Paints  
Alice Kennedy, Resident  
Karen Luken, RW Beck  
Bob Orr, CSI Waste Services  
Jerry Metz, Environmental Enterprises, Inc.  
Dave Nutini, Hamilton County General Health District  
Bill Wojcik, NU-BLEND Paints

**ABSENT:** Policy Committee Members

Larry Riddle, Ex-Officio Member

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Portune called the meeting to order at 2:07 pm and welcomed Mr. Welling as the new Public Member and asked if he had any introductory comments. Mr. Welling stated it was a pleasure to be at the meeting and was looking forward to working with the District. Mr. Welling discussed his background as it related to solid waste issues.

**II. CLERK'S REPORT**

**A. Approval of Minutes - April 7, 2004**

Minutes from the April 7, 2004 meeting will be available for review and approval at the July meeting.

**B. Additions/Changes to the Agenda**

-Change the Container Loan Program from a Policy Item to an Informational Item.

**III. DISTRICT REVENUE UPDATE**

Mr. Aluotto stated that revenues had increased by \$20,000 as compared to this time last year. At the last Policy Committee meeting, members suggested viewing a 10 year trend analysis outlining District revenues which was sent out and also provided at this meeting. Mr. Aluotto explained and discussed each chart and stated that a status report of exported waste will be provided annually. A brief question and answer session ensued and Mr. Portune asked Mr. Aluotto to provide a chart reflecting out-of-state waste tonnages.

**IV. POLICY ITEMS**

**A. NU-BLEND Paints**

Mr. Aluotto reminded the Policy Committee that at the last meeting, Nu-Blend Paints, Inc. was present and had discussed the financial hardships they were experiencing. Mr. Portune stated that Mr. Wojcik was present again and would like to elaborate more on this discussion and request \$200,000 worth of operational funding to be used only for paint reblending versus social services.

Mr. Wojcik discussed, in detail, the financial/informational packet that was given to the Policy Committee.

Mr. Portune stated that he wanted to see Nu-Blend succeed and offered, with the Board of County Commissioner's approval, Cindy Weitlauf, the County's grant writer to assist Nu-Blend in grant writing.

Mr. Aluotto stated that \$200,000 level is beyond what he would recommend for any single new project considering the fact that the Plan is being updated and the fact that the Policy Committee is still discussing carry-over ideas. Mr. Aluotto stated that this decision is ultimately up to the Policy Committee and he would recommend that what ever funding allowance is set up for Nu-Blend, that it be done in increments with firm managerial oversight and controls.

Mr. Fiedeldej discussed and questioned Nu-Blend's financial statement and Mr. Wojcik stated that it would be changed to reflect what was discussed.

Mr. Aluotto directed Policy Committee members attention to a Staff report which outlined the importance of Nu-Blend to the District.

After discussion, Mr. Portune entertained a motion that the Solid Waste Management District Policy Committee direct that it reserve and established in favor of Nu-Blend Paints, Inc., a non profit 501(c)3 organization, the amount of \$140,000 of unallocated surplus funds of the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District subject to the following conditions: 1) That any payment for expenses incurred or to be incurred by Nu-Blend Paints, Inc. be solely for authorized expenditures of the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District 2) That payments would be considered on a quarterly basis and in no event to exceed \$35,000 per quarter 3) That any such quarterly payment would be considered an authorized payment only after appropriate review by the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District Staff concurring that such expenses are appropriate and authorized by law expenses of the Solid Waste Management District 4) That such payments be payments of last resort after first considering all other revenue sources in favor of Nu-Blend Paints Inc. 5) That detailed accounting occur at the end of calender year 2004 for the purpose of comparing the total revenue stream of Nu-Blend Paints, Inc. from all sources with the total amount requested such that the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District would be entitled to reimbursement for any payments previously made that based upon the annual review which suggests were not required to be made based upon the existing financial projections 6) Nu-Blend Paints, Inc. approach the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners with the recommendation and approval of the Solid Waste Management District Policy Committee for the purpose of seeking the services of the Hamilton County Grants Coordinator to assist Nu-Blend Paints, Inc. in seeking additional grant requests and in pursuing its existing grant requests.

Mr. Portune stated that this is subject to an appropriate agreement between the District and Nu-Blend Paints, Inc. with the oversight and recommendation of the Prosecutor's Office.

Mr. Ingram so moved, Mr. Graham seconded. Mr. Aluotto stated that the amount of the District's surplus controls future items such as fee increases, etc. Contract language should be flexible enough to allow the District to terminate if a funding problem arose. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

**B. Permanent Drop-Off Location**

Mr. Aluotto discussed the history of the mixed paper drop-off program and stated that Rumpke has recently approached the District on making this program permanent drop-off sites for roughly half the cost.

Staff and the Policy Committee discussed the pro's and con's of this sort of program. Mr. Fiedeldey suggested to start the program as a 6 month pilot and moved to approve. Mr. Portune suggested to make the program last throughout 2004. Mr. Ingram seconded; all were in favor and the motion was approved.

**C. District Plan Issues**

Mr. Aluotto discussed what the District and RW Beck were doing regarding the Plan Update (on-line survey, meetings with different stakeholders, etc.). Some of the issues the stakeholders are concerned about are starting to surface. Ms. Luken will conduct a presentation of some of the issues.

Mr. Aluotto stated that a list of the stakeholders that have been met with had been provided to the Policy Committee and that the "white papers" will be available for review at the July Policy Committee Meeting.

Ms. Luken discussed exactly which stakeholders have been met with, outlined the ratification process, discussed initial survey results, white paper topics, District goals, timelines, etc.

Ms. Luken stated that she would like to set up a meeting with each Policy Committee member to discuss the issues and receive input from an individual basis. In addition, a work session would probably be necessary in the future to allow the Policy Committee a chance to work through many of the policy issues associated with the Plan Update.

A question and answer period ensued.

Mr. DiPuccio suggested to send a general letter to local business associations and other yardwaste companies to solicit their input

Mr. DiPuccio requested that a copy of Ms. Luken's powerpoint presentation be sent to each member.

**V. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Mr. Portune suggested that the Policy Committee accept the informational items as outlined in the Manager's Memo.

**VI. TENTATIVE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Container Loan Program

**VII. POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

Mr. Ingram provided an update on HB 432.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments at this time.

**IX. UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETINGS**

The next Policy Committee meeting will be determined at a later date at the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219. A District Plan work session will also be scheduled for sometime in August.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 4:26 pm.