

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
May 12, 2005**

**DATE:** May 12, 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  
Bernie Fiedeldej, Township Representative  
Deborah Holston, Representative of Largest Municipality  
Todd Portune, County Commissioner, Chair  
Glenn Welling, Public Member

**DOES Staff**

Jeff Aluotto, Solid Waste Program Manager  
Cory Chadwick, Director  
Holly Christmann, Assistant Program Manager  
Ken Edgell, Environmental Administrative Coordinator  
Trevor Griffith, Public Affairs  
Ali Khodadad, Operations Coordinator  
Susan Schumacher, Administrative Secretary, Clerk

**Others In Attendance**

Nee Fong Chin, Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office  
Chuck DeJonckheere, Hamilton County General Health District  
Karen Luken, RW Beck  
Bob Orr, CSI  
John Wolary, ODNR

**ABSENT:** **Policy Committee Members**  
Tim Ingram, Hamilton County General Health District Representative  
Tiffany Hardy, City of Cincinnati  
Larry Riddle, Ex-Officio Member

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Portune called the meeting to order at 2:07 pm.

**II. CLERK'S REPORT**

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

-Under Policy Items –Award Waste Assessment Contract

**B. Approval of Minutes – March 10 & April 6, 2005**

Mr. Portune entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Holston moved; Dr. Evert seconded. All were in favor of the March 10, 2005 minutes. All were in favor of the April 6, 2005 minutes except Mr. Fiedeldej who abstained due to his absence at the April meeting.

**III. DISTRICT REVENUE UPDATE**

Mr. Aluotto stated that revenue's were slightly down from 2004 as compared to 2005. There was a drop of in-district waste and a smaller drop in out-of-district waste. Out-of-state waste looks as if it has remained pretty constant. Mr. Aluotto stated that the situation would be monitored to see if it develops into a trend.

Mr. Portune asked Mr. Aluotto to check with Rumpke on the waste receipts.

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

#### IV. POLICY ITEMS

##### A. District Plan Update

Mr. Aluotto presented the Policy Committee with a powerpoint presentation outlining the Plan Update. Mr. Aluotto discussed changes, etc. to the different programming options (Grants, Electronics, Yardwaste, Health Department Funding, etc.) offered by the District.

Mr. DiPuccio asked if the Plan would need to be re-ratified if the stated fees were lower than stated in the Plan. Mr. Aluotto stated he would check with OEPA.

Dr. Evert asked about a program that would “jumpstart” poor performing communities with incentives or awards. Mr. Aluotto elaborated on what the District had done years earlier that was not successful. Mr. Portune requested that Mr. Aluotto outline a proposal regarding what the District is doing in terms of grants that could be taken to communities after the Policy Committee approves it.

After a discussion on the grant programs, Mr. DiPuccio asked if any extra money could be returned to the HHW program. A brief question and answer session ensued.

Mr. Portune suggested that Mr. Aluotto acknowledge everyone who participated in the working sessions to put the Plan together and that it was a tremendous amount of time and effort. Mr. Portune stated that on behalf of the County Commissioners and all those affected in Hamilton County, the Policy Committee’s sincere thanks.

Mr. Aluotto thanked the Policy Committee who has been highly involved in this process. Mr. Aluotto also thanked his staff.

Mr. Portune suggested that Staff send a letter to the public who assisted with the Plan thanking them.

##### B. Host Community Fee

Mr. Portune referred to Attachment C of the Policy Packet which was a pro/con paper on Host Community Fees.

Mr. Fiedeldey stated that he once again raises this issue because of the landfill in Colerain Twp and the host fee has not ever been increased and is bringing up this issue because he is a Trustee of Colerain Twp. Mr. Fiedeldey discussed Mr. Aluotto’s Pro/Con analysis (Attachment C).

Mr. Portune asked Mr. Fiedeldey that in light of what he said regarding this issue being an issue for the State Legislator to handle, what did he want the Policy Committee to do? Mr. Fiedeldey stated he wanted the Policy Committee to support raising the host fee. Mr. Portune suggested that he bring a specific proposal to the Policy Committee for consideration. Mr. Fiedeldey agreed to do so.

A discussion regarding host fees ensued.

**C. Computer Collections**

Mr. Aluotto discussed the history of the District's computer collection programs and stated that future events should be altered to limit the amount of equipment any one participant can bring. The reasoning behind proposing this change is as follows:

1. There is an existing private and non-profit network of operations performing computer recycling and reuse as their primary business in Hamilton County. The District has received initial indication that the large collection events are eroding the customer base, and siphoning business from, these other organizations.
2. As the amount of equipment collected continues to double each year, it will be increasingly difficult for the District to budget for these events while still maintaining the desired funding level for other programs.

Mr. Aluotto stated that if approved by the Policy Committee, Staff will develop a more detailed guideline relating to this policy for implementation in 2006.

Mr. Aluotto stated the reason for this change was when the District first began performing computer collection events five years ago, the infrastructure was non-existent. Since then, numerous organizations have started business in Hamilton County, either refurbishing or de-manufacturing computer equipment.

After discussion, the Policy Committee concurred with the Staff recommendation of "*recommending that the Policy Committee approve the conceptual idea of limiting the quantity of material accepted at future collection events and that Staff will provide the Committee a more detailed plan for doing so at a future meeting*".

**D. Waste Assessments**

Mr. Aluotto stated that in the past, the District provided waste assessments in-house using Staff. Over the years, the number of assessments being requested has increased. During the budgeting process, it was decided to contract out for this service for two reasons: 1) As a way to be able to do more assessments each year and 2) There are contractors that are very skilled in doing the assessments. Mr. DiPuccio stated that he would remove himself from the meeting during this discussion. Mr. Portune excused Mr. DiPuccio from the discussion and Mr. DiPuccio left the room.

Mr. Aluotto stated that the District issued an RFP and received two proposals. A committee of five reviewed the proposals (three private sector individuals from HB Fuller, Procter & Gamble and General Electric, Mr. Aluotto, and another District Staff member). After reviewing, the recommendation was to contract with SCS Engineers to perform the assessments. Mr. Aluotto discussed specifics regarding what the District had requested in the RFP.

Mr. Aluotto discussed the pricing submitted by SCS Engineers and stated that over a 5 year period, the cost to the District will be approximately \$83,875.

Dr. Evert asked why the District was paying for waste assessments in general. Mr. Aluotto stated that waste assessments offer technical assistance and industrial/commercial entities do pay District fees and the District is responsible for helping to reduce the industrial/commercial waste stream. A brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Fiedeldej suggested limiting waste assessments to the smaller to medium size companies and a brief discussion ensued. Dr. Evert suggested making this program a grant driven program. Ms. Chin discussed contracting issues and it was decided that this program would involve a screening/application process.

Mr. Portune entertained a motion that the District accept the bid of SCS Engineers and call upon the Prosecutor's Office to negotiate a contract and call upon the District, with the aide and the assistance of the Hamilton County Prosecutor, of a contract that is consistent with the Staff Analysis as modified by the discussion of the Policy Committee with respect to terms and conditions that should be included, without limitation, the component of services being provided through an application process. Dr. Evert moved; Ms. Holston seconded; Mr. DiPuccio was absent during the discussion and was excused from the vote. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Mr. Aluotto stated that Staff would provide a report, guidelines, etc to the Committee at every meeting regarding what assessments were taking place.

Mr. DiPuccio rejoined the meeting.

**IV. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Mr. Portune suggested to accept the informational items as outlined in the Manager's Memo. Mr. Aluotto gave an update regarding the yardwaste drop-off site in Anderson Township.

**V. TENTATIVE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no tentative future agenda items at this time.

**VI. POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

A brief discussion ensued regarding the Policy Committee Retreat.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments at this time.

**VIII. UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETINGS**

Regular Policy Committee Meeting - Thursday, July 14, 2005 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 4:37 pm .