

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE
POLICY COMMITTEE
In person & Zoom**

DATE: May 18, 2022

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

PLACE: Hamilton County Environmental Services
250 William Howard Taft Road, 1st Floor
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

PRESENT: **Policy Committee Members**

Tony DiPuccio, Generator Representative
Denise Driehaus, County Commissioner, Chair
Bob Gedert, Public Member, Vice-Chair
Karen Hurley, General Interest Member
Greg Kesterman, Hamilton County Public Health Representative
Sue Magness, Largest Municipality Representative
Matt Wahlert, Township Representative

Staff

Michelle Balz, Solid Waste Manager
Gage Bradford, Community Specialist
Mary Copenbaker, Business Outreach Coordinator
Elise Erhart, Outreach Specialist
Brad Johnson, Director
Susan Schumacher, Assistant Solid Waste Specialist, Clerk
Tony Staubach, Food Waste Diversion Coordinator

Others in Attendance

Michelle Ackenhausen, Ohio EPA
Robert Bell, Hamilton County
Chet Chaney, Ohio EPA
Nee Fong Chin, Prosecutor's Office
D. Crawford
Sally Dannemiller, Sierra Club Miami Group
Craig Davidson, Hamilton County Public Health
Carrie Davis, Child Advocacy for Jobs & Equity
Chuck DeJonckheere, Hamilton County Public Health
Tracy Enlow
Dean Ferrier, Rumpke
Tamala Hodge
Marie Kocoshis
Tim Mara, Oxbow
Amanda Pratt, Rumpke
Nadine Rumpke, Rumpke
William J. Rumpke, Rumpke
Matt Tietsort
Kevin Tighe, Hamilton County
Lisa Wyann
Molly Yeager, Rumpke

Policy Committee Meeting

May 18, 2022

Page 2

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ABSENT: **Policy Committee Members**
Pierce Bruner, Student Representative

1. INTRODUCTION/OPENING COMMENTS

Ms. Driehaus called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. CLERK'S REPORT

Ms. Driehaus entertained a motion to approve the March 16, 2022 minutes. Ms. Hurley moved; Mr. Gedert seconded. Ms. Magness voted no and Mr. Gedert abstained. Everyone else in favor and the minutes were approved.

There was discussion about the length of the March meeting minutes; the Committee asked if they could be longer.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Two public comments were given.

4. R3SOURCE REVENUE UPDATED/ANALYSIS from 2020

Revenue through March, 2022 and March, 2021 was compared which showed a five percent increase in tonnage for out-of-district waste. Mr. Gedert asked if there was information relating to which counties the out-of-district waste was coming from. Ms. Balz stated that she would send him the requested information.

5. PRESENTATION

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Report

Rico Rice from Rice Education Consulting gave a presentation on their work with R3Source over the past eight months as well as their final report.

A brief question and answer session ensued.

The Committee thanked Mr. Rico.

6. POLICY COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Generator Representative

A decision could not be made after the interviews for the Generator Representative, so it was brought to the Committee for discussion and a decision. Mr. Kesterman reminded the Committee that only the statutory members could vote.

After discussion, Ms. Driehaus moved to reappoint Mr. DiPuccio for another term. Mr. Kesterman seconded. Ms. Magness voted no. The other statutory member was in favor and the motion was approved.

b. Carryover Balance Spending

Ms. Hurley stated that the carryover balance is two million dollars and having said that requested to send out a request of proposals which would be \$500,000 that would specify criteria of how it related to the county' goals and that there would be a time frame to have some closure on this by the end of the summer.

Ms. Hurley stated that she would propose that the Committee do this and make a decision today whether it is a good idea.

A question-and-answer session ensued and Ms. Hurley stated that it could be a grant program of up to \$100,000 per grant and would be a one-time grant. Staff would review and the Policy Committee would approve.

Ms. Hurley requested that a report from staff be given at the July meeting about the progress and a special meeting be scheduled to the Committee could approve it.

A discussion ensued regarding the specifics of this new program (minority owned, pay back schedule, etc.) and the Committee concurred that this would be up to staff.

Mr. DiPuccio requested staff provide a list of ideas previously thought of to be used for the carryover and a list of what new expenditures might be seen with the new plan and how this works with the carryover.

Mr. Gedert suggested having a special meeting in June and August to discuss the Plan Update and this could merge well with that discussion.

Ms. Driehaus compelled staff to bring back a report related to this issue and how it relates to the overage in this grant program and asked Ms. Hurley if she wanted to make that motion.

Mr. Kesterman asked what the urgency was. Ms. Hurley stated that there may be organizations that may have big ideas but are limited due to funding, Ms. Hurley moved; Ms. Magness seconded. All in favor and the motion was approved. A discussion ensued on how federal funding is available and the funding from R3Source could be a match for the federal dollars.

Ms. Driehaus stated that this really isn't part of the discussion but did not understand why the Committee did not meet every month because the timeline can be problematic.

c. Universal Trash and Universal Recycling Rules

Ms. Driehaus stated that Mr. Ferrier presented a comment card and had the floor for three minutes.

Mr. Gedert discussed universal trash and universal recycling rules that he would like to implement and stated that he has draft rules that he wanted comments from the Committee.

Mr. Gedert discussed the reasons for these rules, gave examples, and showed pictures of discarded trash and stated that he was looking at an arbitrary effective date of January 1, 2023. Mr. Gedert also stated that in the interim, a rules subcommittee would set up the rules, implementation, and enforcement strategies.

Mr. Gedert state that he was interested in having this adopted within the Plan Update and adopted as a rule of the Policy Committee.

Mr. DiPuccio asked if this could even be done and that the Plan Update must be approved by these same communities. Mr. DiPuccio stated he would like to see the benefits of universal trash collection versus what the cost is.

Policy Committee Meeting

May 18, 2022

Page 4

After discussion, question and answer session, it was realized that the Committee ~~does~~ **may** not have ordinance power and if the Committee wanted to pursue it, the Committee would recommend this to the Board of County Commissioners for them to adopt.

Mr. Kesterman stated that knowing that sixty percent of the communities must approve the Plan Update, recommended that the communities be surveyed prior to staff putting time into this.

The Committee asked Mr. Gedert for more information relating to the discussion.

d. Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update

Ms. Balz stated that in the interest of time, her recommendation would be to hold a special meeting in June.

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. Environmental Enforcement Program

An update was given and there were no comments by the Committee.

b. Compost Bin Sale and Seminars

An update was given and there were no comments by the Committee.

c. First Quarter Performance Measures

An update was given and there were no comments by the Committee.

8. TENTATIVE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

9. POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. Driehaus stated she thought our meetings drag long because the meetings are every other month and she would be fine meeting every month. Ms. Kesterman suggesting having two meetings over the summer and asked if the meeting could start earlier. Mr. Wahlert stated that the meetings could start earlier in the summer but the new school year started in August.

The Committee decided to have two additional meetings: June 15 at 1:30 p.m., the regular July meeting but starting at 1:30 p.m., and August 17 at 3 p.m.

10. UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETINGS

The next Policy Committee meetings will be Wednesday, June 15 and July 20, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. at Hamilton County Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft Road, 1st Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219.

The May 18 meeting minutes can be viewed via Hamilton County R3Source's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TiDgXLdVCCM>

11. ADJOURNMENT (Target Time – 4:30 p.m.)

Ms. Driehaus entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wahlert moved; Ms. Kesterman seconded. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m.