

DICKERSON AREA FACILITIES IMPLEMENTATION GROUP
(DAFIG)

December 10, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 10, 2019
 Time: 7:00 PM
 Location: The Gothic Barn, 20900 Martinsburg Road, Dickerson

1. ATTENDEES

Name	Present	Title	Status	Affiliation
Eric Cronquist	Yes		voting member	Resident, Affected Community
Lauren Greenberger	Yes	SCA President	voting member	Sugarloaf Citizen's Association (SCA)
Richard Hill	Yes		voting member	For A Rural Maryland (FARM)
Jane Hunter	Yes		voting member	Resident, Affected Community
Paula Jenson	Yes		voting member	Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)
Mark Maier	Yes	DAFIG Chair	voting member	Resident, Affected Community
Steven Mendelsohn	Yes		voting member	Resident, Affected Community
Kathy Mihm	No		voting member	Town of Poolesville
Seth Schwartz	Yes		voting member	Sugarloaf Citizen's Association (SCA)
Stephen Poss	Yes		voting member	Resident, Affected Community
Kraig Walsleben	Yes		voting member	Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board (UCAB)
VACANT			voting member	Resident, Affected Community
Aaron Hill	No		non-voting member	
Tom DeMaio	Yes		non-voting member	Covanta
Katherine Nelson	No		non-voting member	Montgomery County Planning Board
Lonnie Heflin	Yes	Section Chief	non-voting member	DEP-RRM Div. - Material Mgmt. Section
Peter Heimlicher	Yes	Compliance Specialist	non-voting member	GenOn
Willie Wainer	No	Division Chief	non-member	DEP - Recycling & Resource Mgmt Div.
Joe LaDana	No	Senior Engineer	non-member	DEP-RRM Div. - Material Mgmt. Section
Ray Liou	No	Senior Engineer	non-member	DEP-RRM Div. - Material Mgmt. Section
Steve Martin	Yes	Env. Compliance Supv.	non-member	Montgomery County DEP
Charlie Bradford	Yes	Sr. Operations Mgr.	non-member	MES
Nick D'Amato	Yes	Project Manager	non-member	MES
Tim Brownell	Yes	Division Chief – Operations	non-member	MES
Steve Tomczewski	No	Env. Ops. Managing Dir.	non-member	MES
Mark Abrams	No	President	non-member	Technical Environmental Services, LLC
Jim Evans	No		guest	Resident, Affected Community

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Maier called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

Voting and non-voting members of DAFIG were introduced.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

- A. Chairman Maier made a motion to add creation of a Testing-Sampling Calendar to agenda. Motion was approved unanimously.

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- B. Chairman Maier made a motion to accept and adopt the agenda as presented for this meeting. Motion was seconded, and passed with no objections.
- C. Chairman Maier asked for any updates or changes for the September 11, 2019 DAFIG Meeting Minutes.
 - a. Mr. DeMaio explained the transfer of David Blackmore to another facility had created some gaps in reporting responsibilities. Reports would be corrected and submitted to the County for posting on the DAFIG website.
- D. Chairman Maier asked about status of filling Program Manager position.
 - a. Mr. Heflin: Position still posted and advertised heavily. Receiving applications but few fully qualified. Will keep DAFIG posted of status.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- A. DAFIG Website
 - a. Mr. Cronquist asked why requested changes to Covanta's report had not been posted to the website. Cannot find items stated to be on the website that cannot be found.
 - b. Chairman Maier: Meeting minutes and agenda are filed chronologically on the site. The balance of the information is in Resources Folder. Could not locate a number of pieces of information.
 - c. Ms. Hunter asked who maintains the site. Mr. Heflin responded the site is maintained by DEP IT Dept.
 - d. Chairman Maier asked about getting the "Resources" folder organized. Possibly create labeling system to identify where information is located and use those labels in the Minutes so members can find referenced data and reports. Mr. Heflin will meet with DEP IT staff to address these issues.
- B. BCC Training
 - a. Chairman Maier reminded members of this requirement. Mr. Cronquist, Mr. Heflin and Chairman Maier discussed what the training covers, potential time commitment, how training is verified.
 - b. Mr. Heflin reminded DAFIG the training is required for DAFIG membership and participation.
 - c. Ms. Mihm: How often is the training required? Mr. Schwartz stated it was per appointment.
 - d. Mr. Mendelsohn: Is it possible to condense the training into a one-page pledge memo members can sign that binds them to follow the County Board and Ethics regulations and requirements. Mr. Heflin said he would ask the BCC.
 - e. Mr. Hill: In the past, only the Chair and Vice-Chair were required to take all of the trainings. Very cumbersome for a member to have to take both. Mr. Heflin said he would also ask BCC if training is required for just "officers" or all members. Chairman Maier reminded members if the BCC rejects DAFIG request for revised meeting and ethics training, members will have to take the training in order to participate.
- C. Vice Chair Opening
 - a. Chairman Maier: Reminder of Vice-Chair opening. Also, DAFIG voting member vacancy remains for a resident of the "Affected Community"

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D. RRF Best-In-Class status update:

- a. Chairman Maier: Confirmed that Mr. DeMaio was representing Covanta. Dave Blackmore was to post corrected reports. Mr. Heflin said he should have contacted Mr. Blackmore to remind him to submit the corrected reports.
- b. Mr. DeMaio: Stated that Mr. Blackmore was moving on to another Covanta facility. Mr. DeMaio is not the Facility Manager, but the asset manager, but would be a frequent participant in DAFIG for Covanta. When Covanta hires a Facility Manager, he will attend the DAFIG meetings with Mr. DeMaio.
- c. Ms. Jensen: Is Best in Class a certification or what does it mean in the context of this facility.
 - i. Mr. DeMaio: An internal classification of the County & Covanta's desire to operate facility at highest quality levels. The RRF meets "Best in Class" in his 20 years in energy from waste business. Congratulated the County on going with the rail system to avoid the truck issues.
 - ii. Ms. Hunter: For clarification, community did not want the facility, or the rail system. Community does not like the blasting. The facility was forced on the community.
- d. Chairman Maier: DAFIG does accept email updates.
- e. Mr. DeMaio: Best in Class Update
 - i. Grates: replaced on Units 1 & 2. Items 3 & 4. Currently in outage on Unit 3 to complete the grate replacement among other maintenance issues.
 - ii. Will check on the status of the superheaters.
 - iii. Pugmills will be installed by March (Items 5 & 6)
 - iv. Mr. Cronquist: Experience with pugmills in making bricks. How are the used?
Mr. DeMaio: used to condition the ash, re: moisture and mixing.
 - v. Ms. Greenberger: Why is lime added? Mr. Heflin: To raise pH as part of permit conditions for beneficial re-use of ash.
 - vi. Chairman Maier: Hold the rest of report until the facility updates. Asked if there are any questions regarding the Best in Class section of the Agenda? None. Reminded Mr. DeMaio about changes to reports Mr. Blackmore promised to provide.

E. DAFIG Master Plan Update

- a. Chairman Maier: Have not received DAFIG budget yet. Mr. Heflin accepted responsibility for the failure to supply this report. Mr. Heflin pledged to have budget to DAFIG by 12/16/19 Chairman Maier said last copy of budget received was 3 – 5 years ago. Mr. Heflin said he not seen the specific line items Mr. Maier was referencing, but would check with the DEP Business Manager.
- b. Ms. Greenberger: Master Plan 3 – 4 months overdue. No information on when Plan will be finished and complete.
 - i. Chairman Maier: asked if still on Task 9?
 - ii. Mr. Heflin: Task 9 continues to be reviewed at the highest levels of DEP.
 - iii. Ms. Greenberger: Why has report not been released to Task Force.
 - iv. Mr. Maier: Explained the plan process.
 - v. Ms. Greenberger: provided additional details on the Plan process with HDR. Wants to know why the County has not released Task 9 to the Task Force?

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- vi. Mr. Maier: asked Mr. Heflin to respond.
 - vii. Mr. Heflin: Explained the County review process and that DEP continues to review HDR recommendations to ensure costs, locations, services have been fully vetted and are accurate. Want to make sure the County Executive and County Council receive the best possible information. The review continues with HDR prior to release to the Task Force. Discussion continued with Ms. Greenberger on review status.
 - viii. Mr. Heflin: No benefit to the County in delay. Need the information from the Master Plan to update the 10-year plan with MDE. On-going discussion of how the Master Plan status reflects on how to proceed with the 10-year plan. 10-year plan may be filed with MDE as a draft with updates to be filed depending on what options the County Executive and County Council decide to pursue. Explained challenges to get residents to change buying habits, etc. to minimize the materials the County has to manage. Continued questions and discussions regarding the differences between Master Plan, and when it is filed with MDE. Plan and update is posted on DEP website.
 - ix. Chairman Maier: How does DAFIG get to comment on the 10-year plan? Continued questions and comments on how to distribute the 10-year plan after submission to MDE. Wanted to know if DAFIG should be able to review the plan prior to submission to MDE for recommendations or concerns.
 - x. Chairman Maier: Request a copy of 10-year plan before submission and a copy afterword submission.
 - xi. Mr. Hill: prepare and submit a timeline to DAFIG to keep everyone updated and avoid unnecessary deadlines.
 - xii. Mr. Heflin: Explained submitting the 10-year plan in a draft form has been proposed but not necessarily approved by Senior DEP Management. This appears to be the best course of action.
 - xiii. Mr. Heflin: DAFIG Master Plan will be developed with 10-year plan.
 - xiv. Chairman Maier: Asked for a motion for DAFIG to receive draft 10-year plan when it is completed. Ms. Hunter made the motion, Mr. Schwartz seconded. Motion passed by oral agreement.
 - xv. Mr. Martin: The purpose of the plan is posted on the DEP website.
- F. RRF Fire Root Cause Analysis and Corrective Action Plan
- a. Chairman Maier: Recognizes on-going confidential negotiations.
 - b. Mr. Heflin: Business interruption insurance is the major hurdle. County required to continually submit additional data, information, and reports in response to the insurance companies' forensic accountants.
 - c. On-going discussion of who has coverage and who has claims against who. DAFIG wants to know what the cost of the fire was.
 - d. Chairman Maier: What has been done to prevent the next fire?
 - e. Mr. DeMaio: Fire prevention system installed after the fire is very sophisticated. Action Item Request: Get a link to the County's Corrective Action Plan as a result of the fire.
 - f. Chairman Maier: To close the fire off DAFIG's list, DAFIG wants to know the cost.

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G. Approval of Minutes from September 11, 2019 Meeting

- a. Chairman Maier: Requested a motion to approve the minutes, motion was made, and seconded. The September 11, 2019 Meeting Minutes were approved by oral agreement. has said many of the items on the list of facility improvements Covanta provided to the County were created before his arrival at the facility in March 2017.

H. SO₂ Monitoring Study Status

- a. Chairman Maier: Requested update on status of report.
 - i. Mr. Heflin: Contractors report did not follow the scope of work. Explained contractor was using SO₂ as a pollutant instead as a tracer gas. County has refused to pay, directing MES to select another vendor.
 - ii. Mr. Maier: What is the process if County has not paid.
 - iii. Mr. Heflin: It is MES' contractor. MES has the option to compel vendor or select another vendor. Final notice drafted to MES, the report does not meet specifications, and the County is not going to pay for it. Subject to procurement requirements, County has requested MES to move on to the next vendor.
 - iv. Mr. Maier: What is turnaround time?
 - v. Mr. Heflin: Once another vendor is selected, the actual work should not take long.
 - vi. Mr. Brownell: Moving to the next vendor should not be a long-term process. Should be able to have new agreement by the end of January.
 - vii. Mr. Maier: Can we expect to get the report results by the March DAFIG meeting?

I. DEP Compliance Report

- a. Mr. Martin: No complaints were received for the period

J. Facility Updates

- a. RRF
 - i. Mr. DeMaio: Distributed charts on rolling averages. No emissions excursions for the quarter. Safety: Over 400 days without reportable injury. Waste flow continues to be strong. Continuing to see higher waste flow than normal. In maintenance months, by-pass from the Transfer Station may be required. Waste flows consistent, even though higher than normal for this period. Staffing continues to be a challenge.
 - ii. Chairman Maier: Asked the difference between the two graphs. DAFIG's role is to analyze trends. Goal is to be proactive to avoid issues and fires. Formatting from last report appears different.
 - iii. Mr. Schwartz: Need to change labeling from Date to Percentage
 - iv. Chairman Maier: Requested handouts be clearer.
 - v. Mr. Schwartz: Explained what the graph terms on the rolling averages to answer questions by Ms. Greenberger.
 - vi. Chairman Maier: Requested they show tables from last month. Presented table previously submitted by Mr. Blackmore. Mr. DeMaio did not receive the table file from Mr. Blackmore.

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- vii. Mr. DeMaio: Will update table and email. Will include notations for any data anomalies. Transfer Station is a stressed asset.
 - viii. Mr. Heflin: DEP is writing decision memos in the hope of making changes in policy to reduce and eliminate traffic.
 - ix. Mr. Schwartz: Possible to receive pit chart so DAFIG can monitor pit levels. Anything on the horizon that presents concerns?
 - x. Mr. DeMaio: Transfer station operations have impact on RRF operations. Focus on waste mix. Non-processible volumes continue to increase.
 - xi. Ms. Greenberger: What are the limitations of the RRF that would force residents to recycle more?
 - Mr. DeMaio & Mr. Heflin explained the limitations are in the capacity of the boilers.
 - Chairman Maier: Limited capacity does not necessarily create more recycling. Actually, creates more by-pass that costs taxpayers more.
- b. Compost Facility
- i. Mr. D’Amato: Reviewed incoming material and tons by mode.
 - ii. Ms. Hunter: Tracking by Loads In should be multiplied by two to show total round-trip truck trips.
 - iii. Questions from members on appearance of truck traffic being much lower than previous year.
 - iv. Mr. Maier: Questions about data.
 - v. Mr. Heflin: There are errors on report, because they are listing incoming material from sites that would not be operational during this time period.
 - vi. Questions on NPDES Data on why levels jump from one period to another.
 - vii. Mr. D’Amato: New electronic screener test run. Invited DAFIG members to attend. Goal is to only touch the material once.
 - viii. Mr. D’Amato: MES will correct the reports and re-submit.
- c. GenOn
- i. Mr. Heimlicher: Reviewed three oil spill reports. Two were not related to GenOn. One was thought to be from GeOn, on further investigation the spill did not come from GenOn’s screening system.
 - ii. Ash Hauling:

Month	# of Truck Trips (1-Way)	Tons
September	266	6,134
October	0	0
November	408	23,699

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K. Unfinished Business

- a. Mr. Heimlicher: Public meeting on GenOn's ash removal plan scheduled for February 8, 2020. An announcement will be sent through SCA.
- b. Chairman Maier: Reviewed the due dates for minutes, updates to reports and SO₂ Study.

L. NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURN

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 7:00 PM. There was a motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting, voted on and passed.