

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTES
February 5, 2020

SWAC MEMBERS

Kelly Doordan, Chair
Ellen Ryan
Mark Freedman
Gina Angiola
Mark Symborski

Heidi Lovett, Vice-Chair
Carol Jones
Candy Schimming
Adam Diamond
David Winstead

Sara Ducey
Paula Jenson
Jelena Krstic

Absent: Linda Andrews

Sara Bixby

Jamie Andrews

COUNTY STAFF - DSWS

Willie Wainer – Recycling and Resource Management

GUESTS

Chaz Miller

The regular meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) was called to order by the Chair at 5:35 PM on February 5, 2020 in the 6th Floor Conference Room at the Executive Office Building (EOB). Introductions were made around the table. Acronyms are posted at the bottom of this report.

DIVISION UPDATE – Willie Wainer (Recycling and Resource Management)

- ZWTF Review
 - Task 9 Report issued for SWAC and ZWTF review
 - SWAC comments to Department after 3/12 ZWTF meeting
 - Review will wrap up by end of March
 - No Department comments on content at this time
 - The Task 9 Report is the guidance for what to do with what is left after the previous task recommendations are in place.
 - ZWTF Meeting scheduled for March 12, 5:30
 - Primary function is HDR report review

NOTE: Sub-committee review to be scheduled for developing SWAC comments.

- 10-Year Solid Waste Plan
 - Letter received from the Committee Chairs – Department intent has always been to include SWAC input in the review of the report.
 - To date – technical data (tons, statistics) have been submitted to meet Jan deadline to MDE. The planning section was left intentionally vague.
 - Once the Master Plan is completed it will serve as the guide for the final 10 Year Plan. No deadlines set at this point. Process is on borrowed time.

- Recycling Process
 - Performance Measures
 - Has the County considered changing the performance measure away from percent recycled?
 - MDE is considering changes. County will follow State lead.
 - Total waste per household as an example
 - Working in Area 7 – the County is gathering data and it is creating an awareness of how and what is flowing.
 - Curb screening w/ proper notice explaining why material is rejected is improving the quality of the material
 - Calls with complaints are not increasing.
 - Should we consider a single-stream process? Quality of product drives a dual-stream decision for the county.
 - What are we paying for Penn Waste and will it change under the new owner?
 - Montgomery will continue to provide recycling for glass and not move to a separate drop-off method.

- Commercial Food Waste (in the FY 21 Budget)
 - Work is in progress
 - Soup to Nuts support of businesses wanting to develop organics recycling processes – hold their hand
 - Education / signs / containers
 - Pick-up (County has a truck to support start-up effort)
 - Effort will prove the cost reduction in MSW hauling
 - \$'s will drive the change.
 - County is 60K tons available to move this way
 - This material is currently moving to PG Western Branch
 - Expect this will prove the need for internal system
 - Truck purchased as a diesel. County will be looking toward an electric future.
 - County not looking to get into the business of hauling long term. This is only to support the start-up effort.

- Batteries in the trash continues to be a problem for the TS. An on-going fire concern when in the waste stream. Future consideration -should we consider recycling all.

Zero Waste Task Force Review – Chaz Miller

- Brief history of the effort
- Task 5 – review of the system and what is possible. A practical view
- Task 9 – What to do with what is left (some expectations)
 - MFR is old and needs to move
 - \$25M price tag – working toward automated processes
 - Many jurisdictions moving in this direction
 - Food Waste Facility is needed
 - Contentious siting issues
- Is there a consensus for defining the goal?
 - Much discussion on this – no true consensus
- Per-capita measures and drivers are societal and require us to change
 - Newspaper reading – down, waste down
 - Plastic use increased – MWS weight down (less glass)
- Is there any thought to develop a processing facility in county?
 - Space is number one issue

Recycling Capacity – China Impact – Chaz Miller

- Many new domestic processors are coming online for mixed paper and plastic

- Clean paper has a home
- Plastic source for these new units may become an issue.
 - People away from home are lousy recyclers
- Pricing of virgin vs recycled plastics. Fluctuating.
- This area can support a plastic processing facility

NEW BUSINESS

PROJECT TO UPDATE THE COUNTY GENERAL PLAN – Mark Symborski

- The General Plan is a long-range policy document the is dynamic. This is an effort to focus on the “core” of that document.
- History review of updates (last update in 1969)
- Three major outcomes
 - Economic Health, Community Equity, Environmental Conditions
- Environmental (how climate change will impact the plan)
 - Forest conditions – growing in ag, falling in urban
 - Impervious surface stream impact – poor in urban, good in ag
 - Heavy rain impacts – intensity and frequency
 - Looking at many issues – challenges and opportunities
- Website: Thrive Montgomery 2050

REVIEW OLO REPORT No. 2019-17

- Numbers are not correct and this results in an incorrect finding.
- Contacted and report should be updated and revised.
- Sub-committee meeting tomorrow – we should review outcomes and potential impact. SWAC may need to comment.
- Potential ad hoc to respond to the inaccuracies in the report.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Bag ban
- Straw ban
- Revised measures
- Compost requirement using RI model
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UPCOMING MEETING PLANS

- March 4, - review and comment on Task 9 Report (potential by phone)
- March 13, 11AM – MRF Tour
- March 18 – budget sub-committee meeting to develop SWAC response
- April 1 -

OLD BUSINESS

REVIEW and APPROVE MINUTES

- January Minutes corrected as noted. Moved and approved. Copy to be posted

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Budget and Strategic Planning – FY21 Recommended Capital Budget – Gude Landfill Remediation

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at 7:53. The next meeting is set for March 18, 5:30 PM, in the 6th Floor Conference Room at the Executive Office Building (EOB).

ACRONYMS

C&D	Construction and Demolition	MRF	Materials Recycling Facility
CC	County Council	MML	Maryland Municipal League
CE	County Executive	NTR	Nothing to Report
CNG	Compressed Natural Gas	OCC	Old Corrugated Cardboard
CPI	Consumer Price Index	OLO	Office of Legislative Oversight
DAFIG	Dickerson Area Facilities Implementation Group	PAYT	Pay As You Throw
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services	RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection	RRMD	Recycling & Resource Management Division
EfW	Energy from Waste	SA	Service Area for County collection
ERP	Enterprise Resource Planning	SCA	Sugarloaf Community Association
FTE	Full Time Employee	SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
FY	Fiscal Year	SWMP	Solid Waste Management Plan
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste	T&E	Transportation and Environment Committee
MDE	Maryland Department of the Environment	TPD	Tons per Day
MC	Montgomery County	ZWTF	Zero Waste Task Force
MES	Maryland Environmental Services		