

MINUTES

ESSEX COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting - Tuesday, November 24, 2009

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Essex County Solid Waste Advisory Council was held on Tuesday, November 24, 2009 at Garibaldi Hall located at the Essex County Environmental Center, 621 Eagle Rock Avenue, Roseland, NJ... The Recycling Coordinator's meeting began at 1:10 pm. The SWAC meeting immediately followed at 2:10 p.m.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

Russell A. Jones, Jr., Livingston
Jean Clark, LWV
Rob Teeter, PMK Group
Jared Eudell, PMK Group
Rich Erickson, PMK Group
Michael Onysko, Essex County Utilities Authority
Don Wharton, East Orange
George Kimiecik, Covanta Energy
Richard Fericola, South Orange
Nick Salese, Sr., West Orange
Gerard Shimonaski, Verona
Eric Burbank, Maplewood
Sandra Berardi, West Caldwell
Howard Levison, South Orange
Lance Webb, Orange
Craig Brandon, Montclair
Gary Schall, Roseland
Alexander A. Trento, West Caldwell
Kathleen Leventhal, Maplewood
Tim Monaham, Millburn
Ken Ventre, Millburn
Nick Maddaloni, ECHD
Mark Dawson, Montclair

The Recycling Coordinators meeting began at 1:10 p.m. and adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Richard Fericola called the Essex County Solid Waste Advisory Council meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

2. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

The meeting is in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act. Publication of the meeting of the Essex County Solid Waste Advisory Council had previously been made and the public is invited to speak as noted on the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 22, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted

CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

- The Chairperson thanked everyone for coming to the SWAC meeting and informed the certified coordinators to make sure they fill out the sign in sheet because he does send the sheet to leslie so that you can get the 2 credits.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Essex County Utilities Authority/PMK Group

- As part of the Recycling Coordinator's Meeting, Rob Teeter and Jared Eudell from PMK discussed the following topics:

Mr. Teeter welcomed everyone to the recycling coordinators meeting and mentioned some trade shows that they had attended one being Marcel the paper recycler. Information from the shows is available after the meeting.

1. **2008 Municipal Tonnage Reports and Resolutions.** A reminder that the reports and resolutions were due to the NJDEP by April 30, and are no longer "optional". Make sure that Mr. Onysko was copied on your submissions to Joe Davis, if not please send it to him. This information is useful for us to get a better picture of what is going on in the towns prior to the state 90 audit report.
2. **Municipal Recycling Ordinances.** The council was informed that there are still some municipalities that have not completed the update to their municipal ordinances which was to be completed by April 15 and submitted to the ECUA. If the ordinance is at the approval stage, please keep on top of it to get done.

3. **Battery recycling.** This was mentioned again so that the towns are aware that it will be more difficult to get rid of them. Alkaline, AA, AAA, and 9 volt batteries can be comingled without taping or bagging as per the EPA. Rechargeable batteries must still be recycled with proper bagging or tape. If the alkaline batteries are comingled with rechargeable batteries then they too must be properly bagged or taped. You can go onto the website (WWW.call2recycle.org) to find places to take the rechargeable batteries for recycling. The residents must be educated on this ruling because at one time they had to recycle alkaline batteries and now they do not.
4. **Smoke Detectors and Alarms.** We found out that neither the State nor the EPA has a whole lot of information on the disposal of this item; they simply say to send it back to the manufacture. Since they do have a minimum amount of radioactive material in them you do not want them going to a landfill or incineration. We found out that if a manufacture is out of business or will not take it back, a facility called Firex located in El Paso Texas at 28 C Leigh Fisher Blvd. 79906, tee no. 1-800-880-6788 will take them back. They will accept smoke alarms or detectors for demanufacturing at no cost; you just need to ship it to them.
5. **School Recycling.** PMK asked if anyone was able to get out and do school audits on recycling. Some towns responded that they were and that Nick Maddaloni of the Health department was assisting them. They said that they are seeing some progress going on. Mr. Maddaloni informed the committee that if he goes into a school and issues an NOV for non recycling, they come back in thirty days to see if they have complied. He also indicated that a spot check is performed every year to insure that they are continuing. Most towns indicated that they are doing single stream since this helps accomplish recycling faster. A point of interest was made that recycling coordinators should contact the Board's of Education rather than the individual school, and then everyone can get on board.
6. **Enforcement.** PMK asked if any one took Mr. Maddaloni's advice to go out and do enforcement. Some towns said yes and that when they mentioned bringing in the Health Department they agreed to comply. Mr. Maddaloni indicated that they must be educated about the recycling rules for them to really want to comply. He said that in working with Covanta he is able to identify which loads are coming into the facility with recyclables in them. He has developed a data base and if a hauler is continued violator, he will take the appropriate action against them. He also told the committee that he now has paper work on the violators going to incinerator with recyclables in their loads. The reports that he had were from the towns of Cedar Grove, West Caldwell, Belleville, Montclair, Verona, Nutley, Newark, Livingston, and Essex Fells and were available to look at if anyone was interested. As for bulky waste, if is ID-13C (demolition and construction), it can go to any approved MRF with

the residue coming back to Essex County. If the waste is ID-13 then it must go to the CPR transfer station.

Another item brought up was Sharps (medical needles). As long as the medication is self administered by the resident it can be put into a container (after the tip is broken) capped and put out with regular trash. If the medication is administered by a medical person then it is their responsibility to dispose of it as medical waste properly.

Prescription drugs were discussed also and Mr. Maddaloni indicated that there was a recent program where they could be brought to police stations. Rich Erickson of PMK said that if they were disposed, it should go to an incinerator because if it goes to a landfill there is a chance that it can leak into the groundwater. Also if they are flushed down the toilet the treatment plants are not designed to remove this item.

7. **Legislative/Regulatory Updates.** PMK informed the committee that one of the bills waiting for the Governor's signature has been signed and is now law. The bill extends the deadline for Municipal Certified Recycling Coordinators requirement. The deadline was changed from January 28, 2010 to January 13, 2012. They recommend that you sign up right now since there is a long waiting list. You will not be able to submit the town's tonnage report unless you are certified. It was also noted that with the change in Governor, a lot of discretionary grant money has been frozen.
8. **Recycling News.** Whole Foods has announced that they will take all #5 plastics such as yogurt containers, butter containers medicine bottles etc. Dell and Good Will will take electronics for free. This partnership is called the Reconnect program.
The 2007 Tonnage Grant payout schedule was released by the NJDEP and the check is in the mail.
The State's recycling Audit of Mercer County buildings is complete. Every building audited had a recycling problem, none of it was proper or used with full potential so they have some major issues. They audited 21 State Agencies in 90 buildings and every building failed.

Essex County Utilities Authority

Mr. Onysko indicated that the meeting schedule was set for 2010. The meetings will be held at Garibaldi Hall unless anyone has an objection. Jean Clark indicated that it was hard to hear in the hall due to the acoustics. It was determined to stay at the location for the first six months and then reevaluate again if we need to move it. I will leave it published as Garibaldi Hall and if needed we can change it.

CHAIRMAN:

There doesn't seem to be anyone from Covanta present. Mr. Onysko indicated that a public meeting was held concerning the Covanta Air permit renewal. At the meeting certain environmental groups were against renewal based on their claim of excessive emissions. The committee was informed that the DEP sets the emission limits and that Covanta for 98% of the time are within it. There are times when something comes into the facility that will spike the numbers causing a deficiency. It is noted that if the violation lasts 1 second or 1 minute it is still a violation. So the facility can experience multiple violations but the amount of time is almost nothing. Jean Clark said that one of the concerns she has is that the permit allows 6.5 tons of lead to go into the air. Rich Erickson of PMK said that this is a permit number not the actual emission of the facility. Jean Clark indicated that questions may come up in the town meetings about the facility and that they should be prepared to respond to them. At this time Covanta arrived.

Covanta Energy

George Kimiecik of Covanta indicated that approximately .5 tons of lead is actually released per year. It is apparent that the environmentalists are misrepresenting permit numbers to actual emission. He indicated that airports because of the lead in fuel put out approximately .4 tons of lead into the air per year.

George indicated that there are methods such as baghouses that can remove more of the heavy metals but the price to retrofit the facility at this time is approximately 60 million dollars. The public hearing was on December 10 and the comment period closed on the December 19. They NJDEP now have to prepare their response to it.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection

No representation

5. PRESENTATIONS - None

PLAN AMENDMENTS

There were no Plan Amendments.

NEW BUSINESS – A question was asked if there are spread sheets on Municipal hauling such as how the trash is picked up, was it curbside, was it other than curbside etc.. The answer was that the NJDEP, Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste maintain a web site with this information.

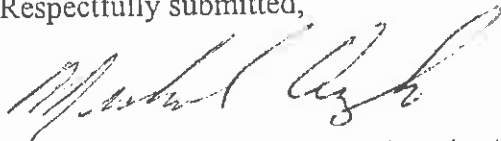
OLD BUSINESS - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at hand, the Chairman entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Onysko". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael Onysko, Chief – Engineering/ Operations
Essex County Utilities Authority