



## MINUTES

### JOINT MEETING OF THE ESSEX COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL and MUNICIPAL RECYCLING COORDINATORS.

November 23, 2021 VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

The Chairperson, Mr. Moehlman, called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

The Open Public Meetings statement was read by Mr. DeFeo.

Attendance was taken by Mr. D'Altilio, 17 people were logged into the ZOOM Meeting, 13 were Members or Municipal Representatives, one from Covanta, ECHD and two from DeFeo Associates.

Minutes for the September meeting were approved, on a motion by Roseland and Seconded by Verona.

**Chairperson's Comments** – Mr. Moehlman asked if towns have recently received bids for solid waste collection. East Orange said the did and received 2 Solid Waste & Recycling Bids; one from a start-up company and one from their present hauler. Their bid did not require the hauler to market the recyclables as the did in the past. Marketing was on an RFP and the contract was negotiated.

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### **A. ECUA – DeFeo Associates** – Mr. DeFeo reported:

- i. That the E-waste collection day was Saturday Oct 16<sup>th</sup> and 110,888 pounds of E-Waste were drop-offed
- ii. TDMAs (Temporary Debris Management Area) – Mr. DeFeo will discuss this item under Old Business

##### **B. Facilities Reports:**

- i. **AERI** – No representative in attendance. Mr. DeFeo commented that the Transfer Station will be receiving waste from Covanta under an Emergency Redirection Order as a result of the scheduled outages at Covanta.
- ii. **Covanta** – Mr. Bernardino reported that because of staffing issues with their hauler, companies have seen a backup with the outgoing loads. He also said the December 3<sup>rd</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup> outages cannot be postponed again and must be done as well as the January outages. He said that the outages will not affect the Essex Municipalities.
- iii. **Waste Management** – No representative in attendance. Mr. DeFeo reported that WM has also been experiencing issues finding drivers to haul the waste from the Transfer Station to landfills.

**Question asked by Chairman of Mr. DeFeo** – In light of the recent fires at MRFs that serve the county does he know of any plans to construct additional facilities? Mr. DeFeo responded that Atlantic Coast has submitted plans to rebuild to DEP, but they have some local issues. If all approvals are received the facility is schedule to open in late 2022 or early 2023.

##### **C. Health Department Report**

- i. Mr. Pilas, Essex Health Department, reported that it is business as usual.

**Old Business:**

- a. **DEP rule interpretation on HHW days.** Mr. DeFeo summarized the DEP's position relating to DPW vehicles transporting materials to County sponsored HHW Days, requiring any vehicle with commercial plates to be turned away. The DPW issue seems to have been re-thought. The commercial plate issue is due to be discussed with ANJR, ANJHHWC and the DEP.
- b. **DEP Hearings on Environmental Justice.** DEP is adding staff to the unit. Ms. Filion described her experiences at the DEP Hearings.
- c. **Proposed Dates on TDMA.** There was discussion among the members on the need for TDMAs and it was agreed that Mr. DeFeo will hold a workshop on completing DEP applications via Zoom on Tuesday, January 11 from 10:00am to 11:30am. Pre-Registration will be required. More information will be sent as the time nears
- d. **ANJR – Membership status** – there were no new Essex Members from last month. Mr. D'Altilio reviewed ANJR's twice per year invoicing policy.
- e. **Update on members of SWAC for 2022.** Mr. D'Altilio reminded the members to notify him of any changes to the SWAC Members after municipal reorganization meetings.
- f. **Market Report** – Mr. DeFeo reported that markets for mixed paper are up. Plastics are going back to normal after recently reporting higher prices. OCC is down. He went on to say that when oil prices are high the demand for recycled plastic goes up and to remember that clean uncontaminated material is the key to your market success.
- g. **Updates on labor and contract costs** – Labor costs are continuing to rise. Contract prices that have been submitted statewide are ranging from 25% greater to up to 165% greater than expiring contracts.

**New Business:**

- a. **Recycled Content Legislation - A4676/S2515** – Mr. DeFeo reported that there may be some movement on this in the "Lame Duck" session. If not, his opinion is that it will be refiled for the 2022 Session.  
**There was a question on the Food Waste Law** - Mr. DeFeo commented that at this time there are only 3 sites operation in New Jersey and they are receiving waste from local producers.
- b. **Election of New Officers for 2022** - Mr. Moehlman was elected as Chairperson, Mr. Waterman as Vice Chair
- c. **Establish Agenda for 2022** – After discussion on changing the day and/or time it was agreed to keep the current schedule maintaining the fourth Tuesday of the month at 1:00 P.M. will be maintained. At this time, all meetings will remain scheduled via Zoom, however, a meeting room has been secured at the EEC in Roseland should circumstances change.

**Public Comments** – No members of the public were in attendance. Next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2022. At this point the meeting will be via ZOOM.

A motion was made and seconded and the Meeting was adjourned at 2:23 P.M.