



MINUTES

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

May 24, 2022 VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

The Chairperson, Mr. Moehlman, called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

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

Attendance was taken by Mr. D’Altilio, 22 people were logged into the ZOOM Meeting, 19 were Members or Municipal Representatives, two from DeFeo Associates, one from Essex County Health.

Minutes for the March meeting were approved.

Chairperson’s Comments – Mr. Moehlman had no formal comments and asked Mr. DeFeo to comment on the DEP Proposed Revised Rules relating to Municipal Compost sites. Mr. DeFeo responded that the DEP is discussing the Rules with Stakeholders and once the Draft Rules are distributed, he will summarize them and send out to the members. He stressed the importance of communicating with the DEP before the Rules are published.

Committee Reports:

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

- i. On the results of and participation at the ECUA Spring E-waste & HHW days. HHW – 1,758 Vehicles and over 80 tons of material. E-Waste 1,493 vehicles, the tonnage numbers are not yet in.
- ii. The fire at Waste Management Transfer Station, Julia Street, Elizabeth. The Transfer Station is a total loss. One person died as a result of the fire and no cause has been found. Speculation is that there was a container of flammable liquid in one of the loads. The transfer station is the Designated Disposal Facility for Essex County Type 10 Commercial Waste. The haulers were re-directed to the DART and Covanta Facility. Waste Management has reactivated their Front Street Facility and waste is being sent there.

Ms. Filion inquired about our use of an out of county facility and our relationship with the Union County SWAC. Mr. DeFeo responded that Waste Management won the Bid for the disposal of Type 10 Commercial. He also stated that every county has a SWAC but many are not as active as our SWAC.

The Chairman commented on the rash of facility fires and if other agencies are looking into them. Mr. DeFeo Commented yes.

B. Facilities Reports:

- a. **AERI** – No representative in attendance.
- b. **Covanta** – Report sent via Email “Not much going on for Covanta Essex. Volumes are still high due to the Julia St. fire. Though things are starting to normalize with Front St. open. Other than that, nothing else going on. Next maintenance outage is in October”.

c. **Waste Management** – No representative in attendance.

C. Health Department Report

- a. Mr. Pilas, spoke about “Bag Ban” they have received 6 complaints forwarded from the DEP Hotline and they have investigated them. Overall, he sees good compliance.

Old/Continuing Business:

- A. 2021 Recycling Tonnage Report** – Mr. D’Altilio stated that all towns submitted their MTG on time. The DEP is reviewing them now and are notifying the towns of any errors or use of the wrong forms. He also mentioned that Asmita Mitchell, Irvington and Anthony Sorisi Essex Fells have completed the 21-day MRC course and submitted their first MTG.
- B. ANJR – Membership status** – No new Towns have joined at this time.
- C. Update on members of SWAC for 2022.** – No change.
- D. Markets Report Update** – Mr. DeFeo reported that the markets are still “good”. Prices paid for recycled Plastics are up due to crude oil prices being high. Dual stream towns should see an increase in priced pain. Ms. Palagano stated that , with their new contract for marketing materials, they have received notifications when their cardboard is wet.

New Business:

- A. Office of State Comptroller review of bids.** Mr. DeFeo reminded the members that the Office of The State Comptroller reviews, prior to advertisement, and Bid with an estimated value of over \$11,500,000. This review may take more that 30-days and towns should consider this when planning Solid Waste or Recycling Bids.
- B. Bag Ban and enforcement** – There was a good deal of discussion by the membership on the Ban and their enforcement actions. Towns reported on their Reusable Bag distribution, Mr. DeFeo stated that 2,500 reusable bags were distributed at ECUA at the HHW & E-Waste Days.
- C. Use of grant funds for bags.** - Mr. DeFeo reported that at the Last County Coordinator’s Meeting the DEP stated that MTG Moneys can be used for the purchase of reusable bags providing they contain a recycling message. Mr. Moehlman reminded the members that the “Bag UP NJ” website contains a deal of useful information.
- D. US PLASTICS PAC** – The US Plastics Pac is an organization of plastics manufacturers, packaging and retail companies. Mr. DeFeo sits as the representative from ANJR on this organization. The organization is looking for MRF’s to work with on testing processing and removal of plastics.
- E. DEP Recycled Content Law implementation.** - Mr. DeFeo reported that the NJDEP is notifying manufactures of the rules relating to their products.
- F. Dirty Dirt law and garden center issues** – Mr. DeFeo commented on the Law P.L. 2019, c.397 that prohibits the storage of more than 100 cubic yards of soil on you property at any one time. Mr. Pilas, also contributed to the discussion. The law is impacting soil storage and retail plant nursery locations where soil is sold. IF they exceed the 100 cubic yard threshold, they are subject to testing and reporting requirements.



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Public Comments – No members of the public were present

Adjournment - A motion was made and seconded and the Meeting was adjourned at 2:04pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 26, 2022. At this point the meeting will be via ZOOM.