



MINUTES

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

July 26, 2022 VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

The Chairperson, Mr. Moehlman, called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm.

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

Attendance was taken by Mr. D’Altilio, 20 people were logged into the ZOOM Meeting, 15 were Members or Municipal Representatives, two from DeFeo Associates, one from Essex County Health and one member of the public.

Minutes for the March meeting were approved by motion from Roseland seconded from Livingston.

Chairperson’s Comments – Mr. Moehlman had no formal comments. He and Mr. DeFeo discussed having the public portion of the Meeting, as there was a presentation, after Committee Reports. They agreed to do it.

Committee Reports:

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

- a. There was a Commercial Waste Diversion from the Waste Management Front Street transfer station on two Saturdays. He explained that due to staff shortages WM needed extra time to clear the weeks’ worth of type 10 Commercial Waste from the facility. As this was commercial waste, it didn’t have an impact on municipal Type 10 waste.

B. Health Department Report

- a. Mr. Pilas, spoke about the “Bag Ban” they not received any additional citizen complaints about the inability to obtain bags. Overall, he sees good compliance.
- b. He reminded the members of the NJDEP Compliance Advisory that sets limits on the amount of soil and the type of vehicles that the are used to transport the soil. There was discussion by the members and Mr. DeFeo, with the Chairpersons permission, will distribute the advisory to all members.

C. Facilities Reports:

- a. **AERI** – No representative in attendance.
- b. **Covanta** – Mr. Bernardino reported on their June 16th information meeting that it had a “good turnout”. He also reminded the members of the August Virtual Information presentation that they are holding and thanked DeFeo Associates for distributing the information.
- c. **Waste Management** – No representative in attendance.

Public Comments – Presentation by Mike Beson, Guide Strategies 422 Morris Ave., Suite 5, Long Branch, NJ 07740, 732-263-9675 (o)732-688-7400 (c) www.GuideStrategies.net.

Mr. Benson spoke on the subject of Curbside Collection of Plastic Film (also known as plastic film packaging – which consists of soft, flexible low - density polyethylene (PE) packaging such as grocery, bread, zip-top and dry-cleaning bags. The collection program is sponsored by S.C. Johnson and is in place in four (Bradley Beach, Loc Harbor, Matawan and Red Bank) New Jersey Communities.

S. C. Johnson would supply funding for the purchase of collection buckets and public relations. Collection is performed by the municipality or private collector. The municipality does not receive revenue from the sale of the film.

If any municipality is interested in starting a pilot program, they should contact Mr. Beson.

Old/Continuing Business:

- A. 2021 Recycling Tonnage Report** – Mr. D’Altilio stated the DEP has been reviewing MTGs and notifying the towns of errors and significant increases. He also said that the most common error is not utilizing conversion factors on oil from gallons to tons. He will be sending a spreadsheet from DEP with information to the twelve municipalities with E-Waste drop off sites for review and correction regarding their facilities. Please return it to him ASAP.
- B. ANJR** – is planning their Annual Meeting in the Fall. One suggestion is to have an overnight event in Atlantic City in early 2023 held jointly with the Clean Communities Council. Mr. DeFeo asked if the SWAC members would be able to attend such an event and the majority said they were doubtful that they would receive permission from their employer. He also mentioned that they can use MTG of Clean Community Funds for the event.
- C. Markets Report Update** – Mr. DeFeo reported that the markets are still “good”. Prices paid for recycled plastics are dropping, fiber is positive. Both dual and single stream towns could see changes in prices over the next month.
- D. US PLASTICS PACT** – The US Plastics Pact is an organization of plastics manufacturers, packaging and retail companies. Mr. DeFeo sits as the representative from ANJR on this organization. There have been some productive meetings and reports are being submitted as to what can and cannot be recycled.
- E. General Storm Water Permit** – Mr. DeFeo reported on the new General Storm Water Permit which is now formally proposed. The draft will be circulated to the Municipalities for review. Each is encouraged to review carefully to determine its impact on their Class C and Class B operations. NOTE: If a site has an Individual Permit, the General Permit does not apply. Comment deadlines are short.

New Business:

- A. SW&R Collection Bid Conditions** – Mr. DeFeo reported that Bids prices have been very high – Atlantic City came in with a 45% increase.
- B. EPR Legislation** – Mr. DeFeo spoke about the concept and current Legislation. There was a discussion on the impact it would have on towns.



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- C. **Information on Recycling Unusual Materials** – Information on a company called Repurposed Materials was sent to the Municipalities for information purposes only. The company buys and sells items that might otherwise go to a landfill.
- D. **Bag Drop-Off Complaints** – Mr. DeFeo reported on receiving complaints that stores are no longer accepting plastic bags. He noted that this is one consequence of the bag ban. However, members reported that many stores still have bins. It was also noted that there seem to be fewer plastic bags as litter.

Adjournment - A motion was made and seconded and the Meeting was adjourned at 2:09pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for **September 27, 2022**. At this point the meeting will be via ZOOM.