

Notes
WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON RECYCLING

Friday, September 22nd, 2017
 Brown County Port and Resource Recovery
 2561 S Broadway Street, Green Bay, WI
 Green Bay Packaging
 1700 N Webster Avenue, Green Bay, WI
 Fox River Fiber
 1751 W Matthew Drive, De Pere, WI

<p>Council Members Present: Jim Birmingham, Gary Harter, Jarrod Holter, Dave Keeling, Heidi Woelfel (by phone), Jeff Zillich DNR: Jennifer Semrau Public: Mark Walter, Dean Hean and Chris Blan, Brown County; Jill Martin, Outagamie County; John Arendt, UW-Green Bay; Steve Montle, Resource Recycling Systems/Foodservice Packaging Institute</p>	
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 9:01 a.m.
Approval of Minutes (June 22 nd , 2017)	Motion made by Dave Keeling and seconded by Gary Harter to approve the minutes of June 22, 2017. Motion carried (6-0).
Introductions and Announcements	Council members and guests introduced themselves.
DNR Updates	<p>Jennifer Semrau, DNR informed the council of various DNR staffing updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp has accepted the position of Deputy Administrator for EPA Region 7 in Kansas City; Kurt Thiede is serving as interim Secretary. • The new Waste and Materials Management (WMM) Deputy Director (termed Field Operations Director via the alignment process) was announced as Natasha Gwidt. She is stationed in the Green Bay office and joins the DNR from DOT. • Matt Matrise has been announced as the new Business and IT Section Chief. Matt was previously the SE Region Supervisor in Waukesha and will be stationed in Madison and Waukesha. • The Hazardous Waste Section Chief position closed on 9/17/17 and will proceed to the interview phase. The last vacant Section Chief (Recycling and Solid Waste) will not be filled for several months. • Cyndi Thomas was hired as a Communication LTE (who will assist with Recycling Updates, publications/web editing and press releases) and Ariana Mankerian was hired as a Recycling Data Specialist LTE (who will work on RU/MRF reporting, data QA/QC and follow-up, RU evaluations and the household recycling survey write-up). • The vacant NE and SE regional supervisor positions will be posted soon. • The WMM program has three vacant Hydrogeologist (Fitchburg, Green Bay and Eau Claire) positions; interviews are this week. • The WMM program has three vacant Hazardous Waste (Waste Management) Specialist positions (Fitchburg, Green Bay and Wausau) which will begin the recruitment process soon.

	<p>J. Semrau, DNR informed the council of non-staffing updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR staff performance measures for the fiscal year which ended on 6/30/17 were on track. The WMM program met the goal of 95% plan reviews on time. • The Responsible Unit (RU) annual report was due on May 1st, as April 30th fell on a Sunday. Two RUs were issued a warden delivered Notice of Non-compliance (NON) for failure to submit the report. All other late submitters did submit. The RU and MRF data QA/QC process is underway, but initial data results appear consistent with prior years. • The WI Recycling Markets Directory (WRMD) was honored by Senator Robert Cowles with a citation issued to DNR and UW-Green Bay/ Environmental Management and Business Institute (EMBI). A current growth focus of the WRMD is agricultural plastics. • The DNR’s Recycling Excellence Awards nomination period closed on 8/22/17. The awards review team will meet and make determinations on 10/2/17 with notifications to the winners in early Nov. (prior to America Recycles Day on 11/15). • The public comment period for two guidance documents related to glass (<i>Alternative Glass Use Options for MRFs</i> and <i>Managing Container Glass in Accordance with Wisconsin’s Land Disposal Ban</i>) recently ended. Comments will be addressed, and potentially incorporated, by staff. DNR staff recently toured Strategic Materials new glass processing facility in Delavan. • J. Semrau attained a Recycling Partnership grant to attend the Resource Recycling Conference (RRC) in Minneapolis. Amongst the highlights were sessions on the effects of National Sword, glass, outreach and data. EPA held a “Measurement Matters” workshop at RRC and intends to host a national summit in Chattanooga, TN 2/27/18-3/1/18. • The WI Integrated Resource Management Conference (WIRMC) will take place at the same time as the above Measurement Matters Summit. WIRMC is 2/28/18-3/2/18 in Elkhart Lake. <p>J. Semrau, DNR informed the council of upcoming dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Semrau will present at the Mid-Moraine Municipal Association in Grafton on 9/27/17 providing an overview of WI’s recycling program. • The recycling grant application deadline is 10/2/17 (as 10/1/17 falls on a Sunday). • J. Semrau and Ariana Mankerian will present at the WI Towns Association conference in Steven’s Point on 10/9/17 providing information on RU requirements, best management practices for recycling drop-offs and various updates. • DNR staff will host the bi-annual Solid Waste Interested Parties meeting in Steven’s Point on 10/10/17 (a.m.). • The Waste and Materials Management Study Group will host its next meeting in Steven’s Point on 10/10/17 (p.m.). • DNR will host E-cycle and RU workshops at the DNR office in Green Bay on 11/16/17. The May, 2017 workshops were very well attended with the RU workshop maxing out attendance.
<p>Recycling Markets Sub-Committee Next</p>	<p>Jeff Zillich summarized the work to-date focused on recycling markets: industry expert presentations on plastics and metals, tour of a single stream</p>

<p>Steps/Next Meeting Date and Location</p>	<p>recycling MRF and market perspectives from two regions. The plan is to produce a 2017 summary report in early 2018. The year has represented an educational opportunity for the Council. Dave Keeling observed there has been an increase in general public participation. D. Keeling asked if a representative present from the Tri-County Recycling Facility could share their market perspectives.</p> <p>Jill Martin, Outagamie County Recycling and Resource Recovery Administrator, spoke on behalf of the Tri-County Single Stream Recycling Facility. J. Martin indicated it is fortunate that the facility is located in NE WI, with the strong paper industry (most fiber stays local). There have been some recent short-term mill shutdowns. The facility no longer sends glass to Strategic Materials, but were recently visited by company officials to potentially revisit. Currently some material is being screened for sandblasting media. They are looking to make a small investment in an aspirator, magnetic head pulley and shaker screen to increase the amount of glass going for this use. This use is also more local than Strategic Materials, which saves transportation. Mixed #3-7 plastics have been slow to move at \$0/ton. They are considering switching to pulling only #5 plastic. The Milwaukee/Waukesha facility, John’s Disposal and Pellitteri are all looking at this potential switch. Metals markets have been consist. The facility has begun sorting their ‘scrap metal’ to high grade aluminum, copper and stainless steel. J. Martin also mentioned the driver shortage and hurricanes have impacted transportation costs. Mark Walter stated the facility is still seeing tonnage increase each year, projecting 115,000 tons in 2017.</p> <p>D. Keeling stated transportation will be a significant concern for all recyclable commodities. In addition to the points above, there is also competition from moving other commodities such as crops or materials to/away from hurricane affected areas. D. Keeling also mentioned the WI Integrated Resource Management Conference will hold a 2.5 hour market update session, with expanded presentations and then individual commodity tables where attendees can speak one-on-one with individual speakers.</p> <p>J. Birmingham asked “are there things the Council could do to help WI markets?” D. Keeling stated that the National Recycling Coalition hosted a markets town hall with state recycling organizations and trade associations for three hours at the Resource Recycling Conference. Advanced depreciation for recycling equipment would be a benefit. D. Keeling also noted that Resource Recycling Conference in St. Louis in Oct., 2018 is the last conference scheduled.</p>
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p>Steve Montle, Consultant, Resource Recycling Systems (RRS)/Foodservice Packaging Institute (FPI) introduced himself. He is working with FPI focusing on the recycling of restaurant take-out packaging, such as boxes, bags, containers and cups. Steve stated that WI has an advanced paper recycling market, with mills wanting this material. Continuous pulpers in NE WI and other areas can handle coated cups/containers. Chattanooga, TN and Louisville, KY will be the first programs in the nation to begin accepting these materials this fall. Many MRFs get this material now, but RRS/FPI are working to encourage MRFs to recover the materials and educate residents on their acceptance.</p>
<p>Other Business</p>	<p>None.</p>

Adjourn Business Meeting	Business meeting adjourned at 10:10 am; motioned by Dave Keeling and seconded by Jeff Zillich. Motion carried (6-0). Council members and guests toured Green Bay Packaging and Fox River Fiber.
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