

Notes
WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON RECYCLING

Wednesday, December 12th, 2018
 Via conference call

<p>Council Members Present: Jim Birmingham, Jarrod Holter, Dave Keeling, David Pellitteri, Heidi Woelfel, Jeff Zillich DNR: Jennifer Semrau, Kate Strom Hiorns Public: Cassie Yustus, Oshkosh Defense; Ashley Pike, Alliant Energy; Sharon Ehrhardt, Jefferson County</p>	
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 1:06 p.m.
Introductions and Announcements	Council members and guests introduced themselves.
Approval of Minutes (October 1, 2018)	Motion made by Jim Birmingham and seconded by Jarrod Holter to approve the minutes of October 1, 2018. Motion carried (6-0).
Council Membership/ Vacancy Update	Dave Keeling, Council Chair/Steel Recycling Institute (SRI) welcomed David Pellitteri, Pellitteri Waste Systems, to the council. D. Keeling and DNR are attempting to get clarification on Jim Birmingham’s present status on the council. While all council members terms technically on January 5, 2019 in correspondence to the new administration, the council will continue to operate with the present membership until such time that new members are appointed. J. Birmingham mentioned he has a meeting with Governor-elect Tony Evers on January 14 th and will discuss the council on recycling with him.
DNR/Legislative Updates	<p>Jennifer Semrau, DNR informed the council of various DNR staffing updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Waste and Materials Management (WMM) program is in the final stages of filling the Business and IT Section Chief position. We hope to have someone on board in early Jan. • WMM program currently has several vacancies including a senior hydrogeologist in Green Bay, waste management specialist in Milwaukee and a hazardous waste specialist in Madison. • The Community Financial Assistance program recently hired a Limited Term Employee (LTE) to do work on recycling grants. <p>J. Semrau, DNR informed the council of various WMM program updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WMM program is making plans for the new administration, including preparing briefing documents on who we are, what we do, topics and issues. • Final prep is occurring for annual report season. Infectious waste will be released in Jan. (due 3/1), Material Recovery Facility (MRF) will be released in Feb. (due 3/30) and Responsible Unit (RU) in Mar. (due 4/30). • RU grant applications were due by 10/1 for 100% of applicable funding; 36 applications were submitted after 10/1, but prior to 10/30, so are eligible for a percentage of funding.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling Excellence Awards (REAs) were announced 11/15. Ten programs were recognized in one of four categories (Projects and Initiatives, Overall Program, Special Events, Innovation). • The press release issued to announce REAs was picked up by WI Public Radio, with J. Semrau participating in a live radio show on The Ideas Network. • DNR is using more social media (Facebook) to outreach to customers. The recycling program has been developing posts about every two weeks. In addition, Associated Recyclers of WI and the Recycling Partnership have developed calendars of social media posts for the entire year (2019). • DNR conducted a successful E-cycle/Storm Debris/RU workshop on 11/15 in Bristol, WI. • The recycling program will add six new RUs in 2019, due to the dissolution of the Northwoods Recycling Coalition in Marinette County. • E-cycle Wisconsin submitted its required annual report to the legislature by the Dec. deadline. It is available online at https://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/pubs/wa/wa1873.pdf.
Solid Waste Interested Parties (SWIP) Meeting	<i>J. Semrau, DNR</i> summarized the successful Solid Waste Interested Parties (SWIP) meeting hosted by the DNR on October 30, 2018. At the meeting, the 2017 recycling data was released indicating that over 421,000 tons of recyclable material were collected by RUs (highest reported since 2008). MRFs reported collecting over 718,000 tons in 2017, up slightly from 2016. Additional agenda items included financial updates, landfill tonnage/landfill capacity reports and information on deer carcass disposal. The complete slide deck can be found online at https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Waste/SWIP.html .
NRC Midwest “Recycling Market Development in the 21 st Century”	<i>J. Semrau, DNR</i> reported that she had been on a state agency panel at the November 7, 2018 National Recycling Coalition (NRC) Midwest “Recycling Markets Development in the 21 st Century” workshop in Chicago, IL. Other agenda topics included a regional market overview, MRF processing and quality issues, and industry end market updates. Slides from the presentations can be found online at https://nrcrecycles.org/november-7-recycling-markets-development-in-the-21st-century-oak-lawn-il-agenda-and-presentations-as-available/ .
Regional Market Update	<i>D. Keeling, Council Chair/Steel Recycling Institute (SRI)</i> informed the council that NRC plans to continue to hold regional market meetings across the country. <i>J. Semrau</i> reported that one MRF reported a significant increase in deer carcasses through the facility this deer season than in previous years. <i>David Pellitteri</i> said their facility did not see an increase in deer, but has seen an increase in clothes/textiles.
Recycling Markets Sub-Committee Report	No discussion.
Public Comment	<i>Cassie Yustus, Oshkosh Defense</i> said they were informed by their MRF that they do not accept plastic bags, and bagged recyclables are often removed from the sort line at presort and placed down the trash compactor chute. <i>C. Yustus</i> expressed concern and asked how to get to the point of sharing costs of keeping bags. <i>Jeff Zillich</i> said bags are a significant problem at the Advanced Disposal MRF, with bags being a top contaminant. <i>J. Zillich</i> confirmed that overall MRFs do not want plastic bags (it is certainly the industry trend), requiring customers to adapt. <i>Ashley Pike, Alliant Energy</i>

	asked about wood recycling. J. Semrau stated that wood markets are challenging as there is presently more supply relative to demand; clean wood can typically find markets, but dirty wood is often landfilled.
Other Business	None.
Next Meeting Date and Location	The council will hold its next meeting in-person at the WI Integrated Resource Management Conference (WIRMC) in Steven's Point, 3/1 in the afternoon. H. Woelfel has a contact at Spectrum Industries she will outreach to about attending a future meeting. D. Keeling also suggested a speaker from ISRI (Robin Weiner?) could possibly provide a National Sword update.
Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm; motioned by Jim Birmingham and seconded by Heidi Woelfel. Motion carried (6-0).