

WCSWMA

(Wisconsin Counties Solid Waste Management Association)

WCSWMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING Monday, May 23, 2022

Portage County Public Library, 1001 Main Street, Stevens Point, WI (and) via Zoom

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Gerry Neuser (Manitowoc County), Fred Zaug (Waupaca County), Pat O'Brien (Winnebago County), Amanda Haffele (Portage County), Meleesa Johnson (Marathon County), Vinnie Miresse (Portage County), John Welch (Dane County), Pat O'Brien (Winnebago County)

OTHERS PRESENT: Karin Sieg (WCSWMA Exec. Director), Jennifer Semrau (WDNR)

1. Call to Order and Approval/Modification of Agenda. Meeting called to order by Gerry Neuser at 10:06am. ***Motion by P. O'Brien, seconded by M. Johnson, to approve the agenda as presented.*** All in favor, motion carried.
2. Thank you to returning Executive Board members with terms ending at the 2024 Annual Meeting:
 - a. Professionals: John Welch and Gerry Neuser
 - b. Policymakers: Pat O'Brien
 - i. *We have an OPEN SEAT for a policymaker – Discussion. Pat suggests no 'dual' representatives from the same county. Also try to get more regional representatives across the state. But challenges because of so much dissolution across the state.*
3. Election of Officers for (2) year term May 2022 – May 2024
 - a. **Chairperson:** Meleesa nominates Gerry Neuser. ***Motion by F. Zaug to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Gerry Neuser. Seconded by V. Miresse.*** All in favor, motion carried.
 - b. **Vice-Chairperson:** Meleesa nominates John Welch. ***Motion by M. Johnson to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for John Welch. Seconded by V. Miresse.*** All in favor, motion carried.
 - c. **Treasurer:** Gerry nominates Meleesa Johnson. Meleesa will accept, but on a short-term basis due to her upcoming retirement. ***Motion by F. Zaug to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Meleesa Johnson. Seconded by A. Haffele.*** All in favor, motion carried.
 - d. **Secretary** – *No election necessary as these duties are handled by Executive Director Sieg*
4. Approval of 2/23/2022 Annual Business Meeting Minutes: ***Motion by P. O'Brien, seconded by A. Haffele, to approve the minutes as presented.*** All in favor, motion carried.

5. WIRMC – Joint Conference Update
 - a. 2022 Update / Report from Karin Sieg, Recycling Connections: Report is on file.
 - b. 2023 Conference: February 22-24, 2023 Hyatt Regency Green Bay
 - c. Representatives to the WIRMC Planning Committee
 - i. 2022 members: Pat O'Brien, Allison Rathsack, Gerry Neuser
 - ii. 2023 members: Pat O'Brien, Allison Rathsack, Jon Reisenbuechler
6. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Financial Report: No report available. Meleesa will provide later.
7. Legislative / Advocacy / Education Report
 - a. WDNR – Updates and/or Education topic: Jennifer
 - i. *Her detailed report is provided at the end of the minutes, look below.*
 - ii. Gerry asked if there are any updates on Ag plastic recycling. They were using this material to make new trash can bag liners. Discussion, but no updates.
 - b. Update on pending legislation at the State and/or Federal level
 - i. Potential PFAS Legislation: May get biosolids to be exempt from certain landfill tipping fees that go to the state (the \$13/ton)
 1. But Meleesa brought up that WWTF have Class A biosolids, and now want to landfill them. She's wondering if SW industry wants to work more with WWTF to lobby about this? Or do we want to keep getting this \$13? High volume industrial by-products get exemptions for other categories.
 2. On federal level, SWANA and NWRA have submitted a letter to EPA and Congress to request a narrow exemption for CRCLA requirements that says that leachate / drainage is considered a "reportable event" for hazardous waste, and requires reporting this under the Super Fund status.
 - c. Coordination on issues with AROW and SWANA-BC
 - i. Rechargeable Battery Taskforce: They've had 2 meetings. Jon Reisenbuechler is WCSWMA's representative. A survey went out, but not getting a lot of responses so far. There are subgroups working on particular projects. Sam Longshore and Chris Blan are the leaders. WI Manufacturers and Commerce is not supportive of anything on state level, says that this needs to be done at the federal level.
 - ii. PFAS Web Project: Discussed that a number of the links are not working, and asked that Susan Schuller (RC) look into this and correct as needed.
 - iii. Long-term Strategic Planning: Nothing at this time, but WCSWMA and SWANA want to connect with Analiese Smith as AROW's new President.
 - d. WasteCon 2022: It's in San Diego this year. Pat is interested in attending. Maybe Vinnie too, those that are interested should let Gerry know.
8. 2022 WCSWMA Scholarship Program – Update
 - a. Committee members: Sujata Gautum, Allison Birr, Vinnie Miresse: The committee is reviewing the 3 qualified applications. Others applied, but did not qualify.
 - b. ISWA Scholarship Program (SWANA): John said that ISWA is stopping this program, mostly due to financial issues. But there are other organizations that do similar work that we could look into.
9. Website Update / Analytics: No report, but one will be available at the next meeting.
10. Other Matters as Allowed by Law: None

11. Next Meeting Date, Location, and Adjourn: The date and location are TBD. ***Motion by A. Haffele, seconded by V. Miresse, to approve the minutes as presented.*** All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:42am.
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WCSWMA DNR Updates 5/23/22 – Jennifer Semrau

Staffing

New Hires

- New Business Services and IT Section Chief starting soon in Madison. (Central office)
- New Waste Engineer hired for Eau Claire office, starting early June. (West Central Region)
- New Environmental Program Assistant starting soon in Fitchburg (South Central Region)

Vacancies

- Another EPA (WC)
- Complaints Coordinator

Program Updates

- Recently concluded AR season, 10-15 RUs to go on probation
- Bills going out for license renewals
- Food waste focus- new residential food waste webpage, expanded WRMD, next non-residential food waste webpage

Rulemaking

- Scope statement for NR 544, Wisconsin administrative code (recycling Responsible Units) on the Natural Resources Board (NRB) agenda for May for approval to hold public hearing on scope statement. If approved, public hearing will take place on June 6 at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom. June 22 NRB approval of scope statement.
- The coal combustion residual (CCR) landfills rule is at the final legislative review (already approved by NRB, Governor). Once approved, staff will write up document for U.S. EPA approval.
- Electronics recycling/E-Cycle Wisconsin Program rulemaking going back to NRB for re-approval in June. Delays planned implementation.
- Landfill operator certification rule- now final. Allows online exams for certification.
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/opcert/exams.html>

Legislation

- WI Act 93 exempts statutory tipping fees for soil and dredge sediment, effective July 1. [Category 33: Soils and dredged sediments not mixed with other wastes and not included in other categories. (Effective July 1, 2022, under ss. 289.63 (6)(e), 289.64 (4)(e), 289.645 (4)(i), and 289.67 (1)(fp), Wis. Stats.)] The revised landfill tipping fee table can be found at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/Landfills/EnvironmentalFeeSummary.pdf>

Upcoming meetings

- 5/24 1-2:30 pm - EPA BIL Feedback Session on Recycling Education and Outreach Grants (\$75,000,000- \$15 million nationally/yr. from FY22-26). These grants are focused on improving material recycling, recovery, management, and reduction. EPA wants to learn the specific recycling education and outreach concerns from overburdened and underserved communities to ensure the grant addresses their challenges. EPA was also directed to develop a model recycling program toolkit for states, tribes, local governments.
- 5/25 1-2:30 pm – EPA BIL Feedback Session on Solid Waste Infrastructure and Recycling Grants (\$275,000,000- \$55 million nationally/yr. from FY22-26). These grants are intended to support improvements to local post-consumer materials management, including municipal recycling programs, and assist local waste management authorities in making improvements to local waste management systems.
(Invites for EPA mtgs available in Spanish)
- 6/2 10-12 DNR Headquarters, 101 S Webster, Madison, Rm G27 and via Zoom
Council on Recycling- Agenda includes DNR/legislative updates, Ridwell recycling program, AI technology installations in MRFs, food waste reduction, battery TF, standing items (rcy compliance, recycling markets)