



COLORADO

Front Range Waste Diversion Enterprise Board of Directors

Department of Public Health & Environment

Front Range Waste Diversion (FRWD) Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time: Thursday, January 18, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Board Members in Attendance:

Chair, Suzanne (Zan) Jones, Eco-Cycle
Vice chair, Nina Waysdorf, City and County of Denver
Tyler Bandemer, City of Loveland
Jason Chan, Waste Management
John Cole, El Paso County Environmental Division
Rob Gill, Republic Services
Miranda Halverson, arc Thrift Stores
Laurie Johnson, Circular Colorado
Anna Regan, OEDIT
Rachel Roussel-Diamond, DEHS, CDPHE
David Snapp, HWMMD, CDPHE
Emily Wilson, GreenSheen Paint

Board Members Excused:

Ben Huff, Douglas County Health Department

Staff Participating:

Deborah Nelson, DEHS, CDPHE, Board Administrator
Kendra Appelman-Eastvedt, DEHS, CDPHE
Rebecca (Becca) Fischer, AGO
Katie Romero, DEHS, CDPHE
Jeff Stalter, DEHS, CDPHE
Megan Vinet, DEHS, CDPHE

Call to order, review for conflicts and introduction of new members

Zan Jones, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:01, confirmed a quorum of seven or more, and reviewed the agenda. She asked if members had any conflicts. No conflicts were disclosed. Jason Chan of Waste Management and Rob Gill of Republic Services were introduced as new members. Jenna Lewis with the Office of the Attorney General was introduced as well. Jenna Lewis who will serve as the Board's counsel in the coming weeks. Members appreciated Becca Fischer's great work. The board then vote to approve the December 6 minutes without revision (10-0-2). The motion was made by Laurie Johnson and seconded by Tyler Bandamer. Jason and Rob abstained.

Public comment

No members of the public offered public comment.

Board member updates

Nina Waysdorf indicated Denver will be expanding compost in February to Montbello, Whitley and the surrounding areas. Laurie Johnson spoke to the work of the Circular Economy Development Center (Center). On February 2, 2024, there will be a stakeholder meeting to discuss plastics. The Center continues partnering with the Pueblo transload site to increase access to and from mountain communities. Laurie also mentioned the Center will be delivering a presentation at NREL's Industry Growth Forum conference in May. Anna Regan indicated that Higher Purpose Homes, Ltd. is the first Montezuma County business to join the Rural Jump-Start program. She also mentioned OEDIT's efforts to modernize and expand a Microchip fabrication facility in Colorado Springs. Tyler indicated that Loveland has released an RFP to do a study to assess whether Lovely should pursue a transfer station and additional recycling services. Emily Wilson mentioned the GreenSheen paint collection season is kicking off soon; interested organizations can reach out to her to schedule an event for their community.

Annual Best Practices Training

Becca Fischer, Attorney General's Office, delivered the annual best practices training. The training included a variety of topics such as a review of the board's authority and duties, open meeting and open record requirements, and conflict of interest management. Becca reminded members that Becca and Jenna are the board's counsel and not counsel to any individual member. While members can receive legal advice on whether there is a conflict, it is the member's obligation to disclose and recuse as appropriate. Members are also need to be watchful of not discussing board business outside of an open meeting, and if prospective applicants reach out, members need to direct inquiries to staff. This ensures no member becomes conflicted out of the application review process. Deborah indicated she has asked Ben Huff to review the Department training video and Becca's presentation.

Presentation: Brief Recap of FRWD Strategic Priorities, Progress to Date, and 2024 Workplan

Kendra Appelman-Eastvedt, Waste Diversion Team and Deborah Nelson, Board Administrator, reviewed the board's goals, priorities, progress to date and what is being implemented thus far in 2024.

Presentation: Quarterly Grant Project Progress Report

Kendra Appelman-Eastvedt, Waste Diversion Team, reviewed the current grant projects. Members can access this document at any time. Staff continue to work through implementation and amendments to clarify deliverable dates. Kendra noted no forward progress on the Jefferson County Tin Cup project with the latest delay being a temporary pause while Jefferson County conducted a Master Plan to identify the preferred location for the SLASH facility. She also noted that contract negotiations were reopened by the City and County of Denver Department of Transportation and Infrastructure. Nina indicated that the city council review is complete and with it passing, Denver should be able to move forward. Kendra noted that the arc Thrift Stores project has had some positive movement and is on track. Four RFA #1 projects have now closed. Field audit of A1 Organics Keensberg location is coming up; members are welcome to join. Kendra reminded board members to complete their conflict of interest forms.

Update: CDPHE's Legislative Proposal to Update the Pollution Prevention Act of 1992 to Improve CDPHE Sustainability Services

Rachel Roussel-Diamond, DEHS Policy Member and FRWD Board Member and Board, indicated that the department has met with and responded to questions from stakeholders. Overall there are lot of agreement such as utilizing a single board, having funding support waste diversion and circularity, rural equity, and providing technical assistance state-wide. Areas where stakeholders have different perspectives are the fee structure, board composition and size, and the sunset date. The department will continue to engage stakeholders, and that the department anticipates it will be weeks before a bill is introduced. She indicated the department continues to engage stakeholders; she invited members and their organizations to contact her if they would like to meet with the department.

Rachel and Zan invited members to provide their feedback. In response to board questions, Rachel confirmed members of the board could apply. Laurie indicated she supports the proposal and hopes to see the enterprise fully operational. Zan asked members if they have concerns. Zan spoke on behalf of Eco-Cycle. Zan supported streamlining, and thinks more than 9 members is needed. Zan indicated her desire to maintain strong funded as more infrastructure is needed. Zan also suggested a ten-year horizon to 2035 given the new scope. Zan concluded with appreciated the department's work on this. In response to board questions, Rachel confirmed the department continues to receive stakeholder feedback, and the department's desire to work with stakeholders to achieve as much consensus as possible. Though some members provided individual feedback, there was no vote of the board to take a position on the proposal.

Member reflections on the meeting, next meeting preparation, and Board Administrator Updates

Zan invited members to provide feedback on how the meeting went and provide recommendations on what can be improved. Members did not have immediate feedback. Deborah indicated they could

always reach out to her. Deborah let members know that the next meeting is February 7th. The agenda will include a presentation from Peter Hargreave, Circular Action Alliance Project Manager about the End Producer Responsibility Needs Assessment, a presentation from National Center for Craftsmanship about their findings as requested from the board this past summer, and standing reports from Tay, Kendra and the Circular Economy Development Center. Nina will be out so another member may need to serve as Vice-Chair if Zan needs it. She members if they would like to meet in person for the Request for Application #9 deliberation that is slated for March 6th. Some members indicated they supported in-person for deliberations. Last, Deborah thanked Tay for updating the board's website with the new members information.

Adjournment

Zan and members concluded the meeting with thank Becca for her service. The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.