



COLORADO

Front Range Waste Diversion Enterprise Board of Directors

Department of Public Health & Environment

Front Range Waste Diversion (FRWD) Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time: Wednesday, February 7, 2024, 9:00 am – 12:00 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
Ben Huff, Douglas County Health Department
Laurie Johnson, Circular Colorado
Anna Regan, OEDIT
Rachel Roussel-Diamond, DEHS, CDPHE
David Snapp, HWMMD, CDPHE
Emily Wilson, GreenSheen Paint

Board Members Excused:

Miranda Halverson, arc Thrift Stores

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 and review for conflicts

Zan Jones, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00, confirmed a quorum, and reviewed the agenda. She asked if members had any conflicts. No conflicts were disclosed. The board then voted to approve the January 18 minutes without revision (8-0). The motion was made by Jason Chan and seconded by Laurie Johnson. Emily Wilson joined at about 9:15 am. Jason Chan stepped out for a few minutes during the nine o'clock hour. David Snapp stepped out for a few minutes during the ten o'clock hour. Ben Huff stepped out from 10:00 to 11:00 am. All returned to the meeting. Tyler Bandemer left the meeting at 11:00 am and did not return. The board maintained a quorum throughout the meeting.

Public comment

No members of the public offered public comment.

Board member updates

Nina Waysdorf indicated that the City and County of Denver is delivering compost carts to District 4, which includes Montbello, Green Valley Ranch, and surrounding neighborhoods. She also confirmed that Waste Management was awarded the contract for processing compost. Anna Regan indicated that Colorado and Wyoming Awarded the Inaugural National Science Foundation Engines Award to Advance Innovative Climate Technologies.

Presentation: Producer Responsibility Program, Colorado Needs Assessment

Peter Hargreave, Circular Action Alliance, provided an overview of the Colorado Needs Assessment that assessed statewide recycling systems in Colorado and identified the areas lacking infrastructure and services. CAA evaluated the recycling infrastructure, services, and costs throughout all geographic areas of the state; the assessment also proposes a standardized list of materials to be accepted at all recycling facilities throughout the state. CAA then reviewed three scenarios for increasing collection and recycling rates. Darla Arians and Wolf Kray of CDPHE's Hazardous Materials Waste Management were also available for questions about the next steps. Peter indicated the department is collecting stakeholder feedback on

the Needs Assessment and will use that feedback and the Needs Assessment to develop a recommendation for the Colorado legislature's Joint Budget Committee (JBC). This information will be presented to the JBC on or before March 15. The JBC may approve the department's recommendation or propose legislation.

In response to board questions, Peter indicated the Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) is to look at the list annually; the materials assessment is ongoing. It is possible to have a material that starts on the list and stays there because it makes sense to collect it even if not part of the larger processing system. He discussed the need to scale to enable end markets, and that the PRO needs to have discussions with the marketplace to understand the challenges better. Laurie encouraged the PRO to work with the Circular Economy Development Center on how material is collected as well as end market development. In response, Peter clarified that business-to-business material is not included in the definition of covered materials. Peter indicated that the project team did reach out to markets where the material is going and looked for opportunities within those markets. Peter also discussed the need to work with service providers and municipalities. He also indicated that the value of materials is included in the cost-per-ton analysis. Next, Peter confirmed that businesses below five million are not paying in and not reporting to the PRO; however, their material is part of the covered packaging and paper products to be managed, i.e. this number will be in the numerator but not the denominator. Peter confirmed that capital costs are included in all of the scenarios. He also indicated the study focuses on current infrastructure while having awareness that new Materials Recovery Facilities (commonly known as MRFs) are being contemplated. Last, Darla and Wolf Kray indicated that they plan to take the scenarios as written; while they do not anticipate developing an alternative recommendation, they will assess the scenarios thoroughly. Stakeholder feedback will inform what scenario the department selects and be included in the material submitted to the JBC. Darla and Wolf encouraged members of the board and those in the audience to provide feedback and submit that as soon as possible to maximize the time the department can assess.

Presentation: National Center for Craftsmanship (NCC) Deconstruction Project Takeaways

Neil Kaufman and Robb Sommerfeld, NCC, provided an overview of their construction and demolition grant project and lessons learned which include the benefits of wood recycling and reuse, the growing local market for reclaimed and repurposed materials is cost-effective, that local public-private partnerships are essential, and there is great deconstruction opportunity. He also discussed the importance of feasible timelines that acknowledge the work that goes into deconstruction. In response to board questions, Neil discussed the quality of the lumber reclaimed and the market for it. In response to Zan Jones, he confirmed that the value of the reclaimed material was about \$498,000. Neil indicated that material-by-material weight estimated by industry as going to landfill was higher than what the weights the project calculated. In response to Laurie asking about training the workforce, Neil confirmed that they are coming out of Career and Technical Education classes, and many are being exposed to deconstruction work for the first time. Neil recognized the importance of their partnership with the local schools to get the students to the sites. Anna let NCC know they are in an enterprise zone and may be eligible for tax credits. John commended the effort and recognized there is a lot of opportunity for reclamation and reuse. Neil appreciated the board's support.

Standing Reports

FRWD Ambassador Updates

Juri Freeman provided the update on behalf of Tay Dunklee as Tay (and CDPHE's Erin Girard) was attending the US Composting Council conference. Juri provided the following update: in January, they had one office hour session with Tersus Solutions. CDPHE has been joining the office hours and that has been a benefit to prospective grant applicants and the FRWD Ambassador effort. Tay and Erin are hearing about the challenges such as the 1,000-ton threshold and permitting requirements and process. Laurie commented that the Circular Economy Development Center has an environmental health and safety office that may be a resource. In January, 2 eblasts to 1391

contacts were sent to promote RFA #10; the open rate is good. The website had about 1400 visitors. LinkedIn followers grew by 4% in January. There were 103 views of the RFA Q&A YouTube video. There were four RFA #10 events with eighty-two attendees with some being new participants. Participants were very engaged and asked great technical questions. The FRWD website updates were completed to streamline the content and improve accessibility. Juri also provided an overview of Tay's participation in the Construction and Demolition World Conference. He indicated Erin Girard and Tay attended the event, made many great new contacts with processors, equipment suppliers, and industry experts, and were able to increase awareness about opportunities through FRWD. Last, Juri mentioned upcoming events including the Colorado Municipal League conference (June 18-22 in Loveland, CO), the Colorado Counties Inc. conference (May 28-30 in Eagle County), and the Recycle Colorado conference (June 3-5 in Fort Collins).

Circular Economy Development Center (CEDC) Updates

Laurie Johnson, FRWD Board member and CEDC Director, indicated the CEDC is partnering with the Grand Junction Business Incubator Center (BIC); the Governor joined the CEDC and the BIC for a circular economy roundtable discussion on February 6th. The CEDC continues to work on two Asphalt Shingle Recycling projects, two waste tires projects, and three plastics projects. Laurie recommended a dedicated session for waste tires at an upcoming board meeting. The gap analysis effort continues to move forward; the stakeholder engagement, initial end market research, material mapping, and ranking are complete; the vendor, RRS, is now diving into two to three material streams that the CEDC is not already working on. Stakeholder engagement continues with a meeting later today in Colorado Springs to discuss transload centers and plastics circularity. The CEDC also reminded members that it will participate in NREL's Industry Growth Forum in early May. Zan Jones recognized the amount of work that is occurring and Laurie recognized that the CEDC is filling an unmet need and it is good to see the forward progress. Zan clarified that CEDC would like to present at an upcoming meeting to provide the board with some background information on tires. Zan asked if the presentation is time sensitive given the waste tire bill before the legislature. Nina would appreciate the tires discussion. Laurie will see if Liz Chapman can join the meeting. Nina also appreciated the lifecycle analyses that are occurring; Laura Davis, an environmental health and safety expert, is informing this work.

Waste Diversion Team (WDT) Updates

Kendra Appelman-Eastvedt, Waste Diversion Team provided a number of updates. Kendra also mentioned that NextCycle's current contract ends June 30, 2024. The board and stakeholders have valued the business accelerator. WDT is drafting the FY25 (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025), NextCycle contract and hopes it will be supported by FRWD. Deborah confirmed that the contract would come to the board for approval. Kendra let the board know that RFA #8 has one contract unexecuted- it is the Denver Infrastructure project. On RFA #9, 11 applications were received and five passed technical review. Board member reviews are due February 21. The board will deliberate in person at CDPHE on March 6. In response to board questions, Kendra confirmed that it was basic requirements that were not met such as not submitting a budget or not meeting the definition of shovel ready. For RFA #10, which is the contribution mini-grant opportunity, as Juri indicated there was a lot of interest and they are anticipating 40-50 applications. The applications are due March 8. Zan also asked about our ability to support more RFA #10 projects. Deborah confirmed that the board and staff discussed being open to supporting more than 10-12 if there were viable applications. Zan recognized the need to maintain quality and asked fellow board members about their openness to supporting more projects. Members supported the concept. Deborah offered that the board may be interested in seeing a plan that would enable the team to support a higher number of projects perhaps with a phase-in over time. Laurie also mentioned that the CEDC will be making some recommendations to FRWD for funding in the near future. Kendra also mentioned that she plans to bring a mini to mid-size funding proposal in April. Kendra reminded members they can join the WDT at the Scraps field audit on February 14th and Green

Girl on February 23rd. She thanked Laurie Johnson and Rob Gill for reaching out to join the Green Girl site visit.

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 could be improved. David thought the presentations were great today; it is important to get on the board's radar to inform grant decision-making. He supports the tires discussion as well. Nina echoed those comments; the presentations were very helpful. Zan and Rachel agreed. Deborah let members know that the next meeting is February 22nd. Miranda will be out for that meeting. The agenda will include the Technical Assistance Service Provider Round 2 recommendations for the board's approval, and the tires roundtable. She also mentioned that WDT will continue to monitor and advance any recommendations for contract modifications if that need arises before the next meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:52.