



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, February 22, 2024, 1:00 – 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
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
Jenna Lewis, AGO
Katie Romero, DEHS, CDPHE
Jeff Stalter, DEHS, CDPHE
Megan Vinet, DEHS, CDPHE

Call to order, determination of a quorum, and review for conflicts

Zan Jones, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and confirmed a quorum. She then asked if members had any conflicts. Zan noted that she will recuse for the TASP discussion and Nina will serve as chair for that discussion. The board then voted to approve the February 7th minutes with correction to the header as identified by Deborah Nelson, Board Administrator (11-0). The motion was made by Laurie Johnson and seconded by Tyler Bandemer.

Tyler Bandemer left the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Public comment

Ryan Call, EcoCycle, offered public comments. He appreciated the board talking about waste tires. He noted that 6PPD-q is a toxic chemical in tires that can be in recycled tires. There are risks associated with this chemical. He indicated he had some articles on this topic; Deborah Nelson, Board Administrator offered to forward those to the board if he provided them to her. Mr. Call also commented on tire pyrolysis. He noted that it is expensive and polluting. He wanted the board to know that the Mayor and City Council of Youngstown, Ohio put a one-year moratorium, on pyrolysis.

Board member updates

David Snapp indicated the Solid and Hazardous Waste Commission (SHWC) revised the composting rule to allow more farms to bring in food waste at a greater volume and expand exempt operations. The SHWC also approved the \$.04 per cubic yard increase to support the services provided by the CDPHE Hazardous Materials Waste Management Division (HWMMD). He also indicated five members were appointed to the closed landfill remediation grant committee and that the HWMMD is reviewing comments on the Needs Assessment. In response to board questions, he indicated that the date for the legislature's Joint Budget Committee presentation has not been set yet.

Anna Regan, the Governor and OEDIT announced a Northwest Small Business Development Center satellite office in northwest Colorado. The office will help area communities transition from coal mines and coal-fired power plants.

Tyler Bandemer indicated that the responses to assess a transfer station feasibility study for the City of Loveland have come in and those are being processed. The city hopes the feasibility study will be done by the end of June. The city is early in the process to see if it makes sense.

Technical Assistance Service Provider (TASP) Updates and Round 2 Recommendations

Zan Jones rescued for this portion of the board agenda. Nina Waysdorf, Vice Chair, led the discussion and board vote. Rob Gill abstained from the Tier 3 project vote because Republic Services won the City of Fort Collins bid and the project may dovetail into that work.

Juri Freeman, RRS, and Randy Moorman, EcoCycle, provided a brief overview of the TASP program and current projects. Tay Dunklee, RRS, and Laura Levesque, EcoCycle, are also members of the TASP team and attended the meeting. Juri then reviewed the recommended Tier 2 and Tier 3 projects for round two TASP services. Recommended Tier 2 projects include an organized collection feasibility study for Fort Lupton and an evaluation of organics collection options for Superior. Recommended Tier 3 projects include an assessment, gap analysis, and recommendations to support a city-wide Waste Diversion Action Plan for Arvada, a communication and stakeholder engagement initiative for Broomfield to support action on the FRWD RFA #1 project to develop a single hauler plan with universal recycling aligned with the community's Zero Waste Action Plan, and an assessment of composting and construction and demolition infrastructure solutions for the City of Fort Collins. Rachel Roussel-Diamond appreciated the work of the TASP program; it is important work that is needed across Colorado communities. The board approved the Tier 2I projects as identified in the memo and authorized the Waste Diversion Team to approve the workplans, manage the TASP activities and deliverables, and authorize staff to increase each project's budget not to exceed an additional 10% or \$5,000 per project (11-0-1 with Zan Jones recused). The motion was made by Laurie Johnson and seconded by David Snapp.

In response to board questions, Randy confirmed that he is not involved in the Arvada project. EcoCycle did not participate in the review of the Arvada project. EcoCycle is not involved in work plan development; however, it is anticipated that EcoCycle staff will be implementing the workplan. Randy confirmed that those staff reported him. To assist with managing conflicts, Deborah offered that RRS could provide a check-and-balance as a partner and that within EcoCycle staff have another chain of command for this project. Juri then indicated that RRS is the Project Manager for the Arvada project so staff will ultimately be directed by RRS. Randy also confirmed that he only speaks to the City Manager and no city staff. This discussion addressed the board's concerns. The board approved the Tier 3 projects as identified in the memo and authorized the Waste Diversion Team to approve the workplans, manage the TASP activities and deliverables, and authorize staff to increase each project's budget not to exceed an additional 10% or \$5,000 per project (10-0-2 with Zan Jones recused and Rob Gill abstained). The motion was made by Laurie Johnson and seconded by Tyler Bandemer.

Center Economy Development Center (CEDC) Overview of Tires Circularity Topics

Laurie Johnson, FRWD Board member and CEDC Director, Liz Chapman of Recycle Colorado, and Laura Davis, Affinity Consulting Solutions, presented and facilitated a board discussion of waste tire circularity considerations. The board discussed the challenges associated with crumb rubber and tire-derived fuel, as well as the gaps and benefits of building an infrastructure to process tires into crumb rubber.

Liz Chapman discussed the waste tire proposal (SB 24-123) before the legislature this session. The bill extends the waste tire program, and splits the fees into two different funds to support CDPHE regulatory activities and a new enterprise. The legislature will continue to discuss the bill next week. Recycle Colorado is working on cap per tire and other amendments to act on today's discussion before the Finance Committee. In response to board questions, Liz clarified that the legislation does not distinguish products that are recyclable

and unrecyclable unmolded products based on a lack of stakeholder consensus, and David Snapp clarified that crumb rubber end uses are in the top tier; however, molded products may use a smaller shred and end up in tier two. David did not opine on recyclability at the end of life.

Laura Davis detailed the hazards associated with tire-derived fuel (TDF). She noted a top concern is ozone non-attainment; TDF is burnt twice and gives rise to ozone precursors. She noted multiple health risks from soil and water contamination, mosquitos, and tire fires. In response to board questions, Laura Davis confirmed the importance of the site visits to ensure environmental health and safety, and the need for compliance is critical; early CEDC involvement is essential to ensure a holistic approach to circularity that protects public health and the environment. David confirmed other entities are talking about crumb rubber and the European Union discussions that tie to 6PPD-q and emerging chemicals. Laura also mentioned speculative accumulation when the CEDC looks at facilities. In relation to speculative accumulation, David mentioned the rules limit the number of tires on site and the need for financial assurance. Zan also encouraged members to review the Yale article referenced during public comments.

Laurie Johnson provided an overview of the CEDC's visit to PreTred to better understand their operation. The CEDC team was pleased with the product and processes of PreTred and PreTred's insight on crumb rubber. Laurie explained that based on what is known right now, crumb rubber and increased use of molded products is the best option available and Colorado should be generating its own crumb rubber from its own supply rather than importing it. Laurie remarked that one life cycle doesn't achieve circularity, referenced the challenges with tire-to-tire recycling such as end product safety, and noted a compliance issue with one Colorado manufacturer of carbon black. With regard to the compliance issue, David indicated there is an open compliance order on consent and there was a storage issue. He confirmed the operator has taken steps to get back to the allowable levels. Zan noted the PreTred's grant application before the board.¹ Laurie responded that the CEDC has reviewed and is comfortable with the products and the operation based on what is known at this time. Deborah encouraged the board to include this discussion in their deliberations.

Rachel Roussel-Diamond appreciated the work the CEDC is doing as waste tires have been a longstanding issue for the state. Laurie offered for the CEDC to provide updates on other end products and processes as the team learns more. Zan, on behalf of the board, appreciated the conversation. Nina supported more discussions like this one; in response, Laurie suggested a discussion of the Life Cycle Analysis and product declarations. Zan also encouraged the CEDC to continue to assess molding products, particularly the best use and least damaging solution when off-gassing and leaching into water are considered. The discussion concluded with the suggestion of scheduling study sessions such as this one on a quarterly basis.

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. Members appreciated the idea of having a quarterly discussion similar to the CEDC tires discussion today. Deborah let members know that the next meeting is March 6, 2024. Members will meet in person at CDPHE's main campus and be virtual. The agenda will include board deliberations and grant awards for Request for Application #9. Standing reports may be limited based on the time needed for deliberations. She also mentioned that the Waste Diversion Team will continue to monitor and advance any recommendations for contract modifications if that need arises before the next meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:41.

¹ During Request for Application #8 deliberations in July 2023, the board noted the need for a presentation and discussion on tires. Though PreTred was specifically discussed, the learning from this session will be applied equally to any applications concerning waste tires when the board deliberates on March 6.