ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Municipal Drop-off Advisory Committee Meeting
ACSWMD Office
1223 Route 7 South
Middlebury, VT 05753
February 6, 2017, 5:00 PM

MINUTES

Members Present: Cheryl Brinkman, Chair (CB), Susan Reit de Salas (SR), Deb Gaynor (DB), Bill Finger (BF), Richard Reed (RR). Staff: Don Maglienti, Program Manager (DM); Teri Kuczynski, District Manager (TK); Jac Hochreiter, Public Outreach Coordinator (JH). Guests: Mel Hawley, City Manager, Vergennes; Sarah Reeves, General Manager, Chittenden Solid Waste District (CSWD).

I. Call to Order – The Chair called the meeting of the Municipal Drop-off Advisory Committee to order at 5:04 PM.

II. Edits to Agenda, if Needed, and Approve Agenda – Approve minutes of 1/5/17 as agenda item II.

III. Minutes of 1/5/17 – DG pointed out a typo on p. 1, line 30: Change “more” to “move.”

   MOTION #1: RR moved to approve the minutes of 1/5/17, as amended. DG seconded the motion.


IV. Presentation by Sarah Reeves, General Manager, Chittenden Solid Waste District re: CSWD Drop-off Systems – Sarah Reeves, General Manager of the Chittenden Solid Waste District (CSWD) gave a presentation regarding their regional drop-off centers (DOCs). History: The CSWD’s DOCs opened as the town landfills closed in the early 1990’s. DOC locations are all on Town/City owned property. DOCs come under CSWD’s existing Act 250 permit for the regional landfill in Williston (owned by CSWD). Current system: Seven Locations: Burlington, South Burlington, Essex, Williston, Richmond, Hinesburg, Milton; during weekdays, all DOCs except Williston have one 9:30 AM-5:00 PM day. Hinesburg is only open on Saturdays. Waste materials accepted vary per DOC. The CSWD distributes to the general public a brochure with the schedule of all DOCs and a list of materials that each accepts. Sarah presented a history of volumes and rates at the DOCs, with the current rate being $4.75/bag. Staffing needs and costs were discussed, along with pros and cons of the system. The CSWD is examining aspects of its system now, including regional facility locations, infrastructure and capital investment needs, and the impact of food scrap collection. Food scraps are collected in 65-gallon toters at the DOCs, and emptied/hauling by a private hauler to the CSWD’s Green Mountain Compost facility, where the toters are washed. Frequency of collection is a major issue.

Q: Are vectors or bears a problem? A: There do not appear to be major issues yet.

Q: Siting issues? A: Each DOC site needs adequate space for vehicles to queue up without spilling onto the road. CSWD prefers a minimum of 5 acres.

Q: Would this system differ with lower population density than the CSWD? A: Correct, but some parts of the CSWD are rural and consolidation is always an option.

Q: Not every DOC offers all services? A: True, which is why the CSWD provides a detailed list of what each DOC accepts.

Q: Enforcement, especially after hours? A: The CSWD maintains cameras at the DOCs and has a part-time enforcement person that can look at the videos and enforce the waste management ordinance.

Q: How to keep DOCs neat? A: It is one duty of the operators; the CSWD maintains a list of floaters to help, if necessary.
Q: Equipment? A: The DOCs use a variety of equipment depending on the volume managed. For example, So. Burlington and Essex sites are very busy. Some DOCs use dumpsters or toters. Larger sites may use roll-offs or compaction. Trash is hauled to Allcycle, organics go to Green Mountain Compost, and recyclables go to the CSWD MRF.

Q: Are any DOCs run by private company? A: No, all are managed by CSWD employees. The private company just hauls what is collected at the DOCs.

Q: Do your employees receive tips? A: No.

Q: With a population of 160,000, 62% collected at the curb and 38% at the drop-offs, why does our District have 15 drop-offs?

Q: How are you paying for the cost of the DOCs? A: The CSWD charges $27/ton District Fee on all trash, and they charge various rates per item. The DOC charges a per-bag fee and other per-item fees. But not all costs are covered and are subsidized by the CSWD’s overall budget.

Q: Is this accepted because the DOCs are open to anyone in the CSWD to use? A: Yes.

The Chair thanked Sarah for her informative presentation, which ended at 6:30 PM.

V. Reports from Committee Members re: Meeting w/ Selectboards/ City Council – TK distributed a one-page list of discussion points for BOS members to take with them to their meetings with the selectboards/city council. RR met with his selectboard in Leicester (but left the meeting prior to this agenda item). The Chair reported on her meeting with the Vergennes City Council, where the topic of recycling costs was discussed. TK explained that the Drop-off Summary Sheet does not compare the cost of one drop-off with another; it only shows the cost of each drop-off, if available, and the method of payment. TK is in the process of collecting 2016 data from the municipalities and the haulers.

VI. Updated Summary of Member Town Drop-off Information – TK presented an updated summary sheet of information on all member town drop-offs, including those with categorical certifications and mobile facilities. A population column was added, along with some new information from towns. TK also presented a final schedule of town selectboard/council meetings. TK handed out two draft maps from the VT Agency of Natural Resources showing Food Scrap Management Services and Certified Organics Locations. DM added that the District already covered some of the Committee’s questions in its SWIP survey last year, mailed to 18,000 households, and receiving 1,700 responses – which is very high.

The next meeting will be on March 2. DM was asked to bring data from the District’s 2016 MMP Survey. TK will provide more recycling information. Town Meeting Day handouts will be provided to the BOS at next week’s meeting.

VII. Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

I agree that this is an original of the February 6, 2017 minutes that were considered and approved by the MDAC at its meeting of ______________.

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Teresa A. Kuczynski, District Clerk