

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD OF ALLEGANY COUNTY



Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting via Zoom and In-person

Members Present: John Kirby, Woody Getz, Raquel Ketterman, Dusty Hilbert, Richard Soderman, Lee Heavner, Kristen Harper, Frank Fox, Wally High, John Schwalbe, Adam Strott, Brynn Laird, Bethany Fife, Robin Paulman, Andrew Cowan

Guest Present: Adam Patterson

Members Absent (without Alternate): Misty Joy, Juli McCoy

Next Meeting: January 3, 2024 at 3:00 p.m., Hybrid Meeting Via Zoom and Meet in Person in Potomac Room 230, County Office Building at 701 Kelly Road, Cumberland, MD

- The Meeting Minutes were approved with a motion from Lee seconded by Raquel.
- Woody requested a line-item G for suggestions to be added under New Business.

Old Business

Cumberland Curbside Recycling Update:

- No Update.

Mountainview Landfill Update:

- Noble meet with MDE and while the permit process is not moving as quickly as Noble had anticipated it is still progressing. They continuing to work with the County to ensure no delays on Noble's part. John Schwalbe reported that a preference is being given to local customers to utilize the remaining air space provided by the continued settling of the landfill. He estimates the 2 years of remaining air space should carry them through the permitting process.
- In the New Year they will be talking about renewable energy projects for Mountainview Landfill
- The Landfill was caught off guard during the last storm and had to close. Dusty assured everyone that they are prepared for future inclement weather.
- Woody suggested holding a meeting at the landfill next year. John Schwalbe will pitch a date in January.

New Business

Education Proposals:

- The winners of the video contest along with the video were presented at the Board of County Commissioner's meeting on November 16th. Woody presented a print to the winners as a traveling trophy. Andrew reported that all 3 entries were posted to the County's website.

Economic Development:

- Adam Strott reported that Burgmeier approached the County for a new site to construct a transfer station. He hopes to have something that the County can make public in the next few weeks. Nexus has submitted a permit application to MDE and Clym is on the cusp of submitting their application.
- The revision of the SWMP to include Geocycle as a solid waste facility was approved by MDE. Adam expects operation to begin next summer at the Barton Shell building. Woody asked if revisions to the SWMP should be proposed to the SWMB. John stated that a recommendation to include a new facility in the SWMP should come from the SWMB. Woody shared the bylaws of the SWMB that supported John's statement. Going forward new projects will be presented to the board and they will consider it. If approved by the board an internal recommendation from the County staff will be presented to the Commissioners.

Frostburg Green Team:

- Andrew reached out to Bethany about the Frostburg Green Team presenting on their Buy Nothing Event. Bethany and a few members will give a presentation on the event during the February 7th meeting.

New Membership

- Bethany Fife was approved by the County Commissioners to the SWMB representing the seat of Hauler on November 16th.
- John will not seek another nomination to the position of Chair. Woody would prefer not to hold Vice Chair position again. Nominations are open for anyone wishing to be elected.

Christmas Tree Recycling:

- Andrew handed out a Holiday Recycling Guide. The guide included sites where Christmas trees can be dropped off for recycling. Frostburg holds a curbside pickup for recycling trees. Cumberland also has a curbside pickup but the trees are mixed with regular trash.

Goals For the New Year:

- Woody would like to have a discussion on how to promote pumpkin collection after the Halloween season. He suggested surveying local farmers to find out if they would accept pumpkins and how many. Bethany mentioned the Frostburg Green Team is already working with University of Maryland extension on a collection program. They have already partnered with farmers for the collection. She suggested the SWMB could piggy back off of their efforts.

- John mentioned the Board supporting Bikes for The World. This could include volunteering time at the yearly collection on Memorial Day weekend.
- John would like for Carloyn to go back to the schools and propose a shorter more targeted video contest. Wally added that we should open it up to the middle schools also. Woody feels that asking the students what they would want the video to focus on would encourage more participation.
- Adam Strott and Andrew had a conversation about updating informational posters on recycling in the schools. The County has a retainer with graphic designers McClaren & Williams and they could create new posters. The County could then distribute them to each school.
- Andrew and John will create a list of New Goals along with the accomplishments of last year and email them to the members.

Suggestions:

- Woody suggested to inform the SWMB about operational changes in regards to recycling and solid waste.

Committee Report:

- No Reports.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:50 p.m.
Minutes prepared by Andrew Cowan