

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD OF ALLEGANY COUNTY



Meeting Minutes October 2, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. Hybrid Meeting via Zoom and In-person

Members Present: Raquel Kettermann, Bethany Fife, Robin Paulman, Frank Fox, Lee Heavner, Adam Strott, Richard Soderman, Wally High, Sarah Llewellyn, John Kirby, Dusty Hilbert, Andrew Cowan

Members Absent (without Alternate): Brian Dicken, Juli McCoy, Carolyn Mathews

Guest Present: Woody Getz

Next Meeting: November 6, 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 previous Meeting Minutes were approved with a motion from Lee Heavner seconded by John Kirby.
- There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

Old Business

Cumberland Curbside Recycling Update:

- Raquel reported that everything was operating normally.

Mountainview Landfill Update:

- Dusty stated that Noble is working on its Phase II report, which involves groundwater. They are drilling new wells as part of the process.

New Business

Appointment:

- Andrew shared that the county commissioners appointed Sarah Llewellyn to the seat of Environmental Group during the regular BOCC meeting on September 19th. She will serve a two-year term.

Economic Development:

- Adam Strott informed the board that Nexus plans to start next spring. The mulch will need to be cleared by March so they can perform test bores for geotechnical analysis. Their solid waste permit has been approved, but they still require an air quality permit.
- Economic Development and Geocycle hauled 80 truckloads, totaling 86,000 tires, to White Hall from the tire dump in McCoole. Economic Development's long-term plan is for Geocycle to permanently take over the site and operate a legal tire disposal facility.
- Burgmeier is expected to finalize the property purchase on PPG Road by the end of the month.

2024 Priorities and Project Coordination:

- No Update.

SWMP Amendment (Noble):

- On September 18, 2024, the County, Noble, and Geosyntec held a public hearing regarding the expansion permit for Mountainview Landfill. Andrew noted that no residents attended the meeting. Geosyntec delivered a comprehensive presentation on the proposed expansion. Brian Stewart from Noble provided details on the remediation actions taken to address the concerns raised by residents at the previous public hearing. At the time of the SWMB meeting, no other questions or concerns were presented to the County. John inquired about the number of years the landfill expansion would provide airspace. The presentation indicated that the expansion would offer 50 years of airspace, while previous presentations had stated it would be 30 years. Dusty will investigate how the consultant arrived at this new figure. Andrew asked the board to vote to recommend the Solid Waste Management Plan amendment. John Kirby motioned to recommend the amendment, seconded by Adam Strott. The motion received a unanimous vote from present board members, with Dusty Hilber abstaining. The amendment will be presented at the next regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, along with a letter of recommendation from the Solid Waste Management Board.

Holiday Recycling Guide:

- Andrew requested assistance from the board to update the holiday recycling guide. Sarah suggested that the focus should be on where and how to recycle items within the County. Adam recommended using the graphic designer that the County has on retainer to create a new guide with the proposed information.

Other Items:

- Andrew informed the group that Burgmeier plans to present their proposed transfer station on PPG Road to the Solid Waste Management Board (SWMB) during the regular meeting in November. A public hearing will be held on November 6, 2024, as part of the process to amend the Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) to include the new facility, with the exact location still to be determined.
- The LaVale recycling site has become a dumping ground for some residents. Andrew has received complaints from the property manager about trash accumulating in the parking lot. He stated that the County would clean up the site; however, this has been an ongoing issue. Andrew suggested closing the site and relocating it to an area that can be monitored more effectively. Dusty recommended posting signs to inform the public about the fines associated with illegal dumping. Frank added that advertising the site's closure could be an option if the abuse continues. Andrew will place signs at the site to see if that deters inappropriate behavior. If dumping persists, the County will explore alternative site locations.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Andrew Cowan.