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**WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON RECYCLING**  
 May 06, 2015  
 Department of Natural Resources Central Office, Madison WI

<p><b>Council Members Present:</b> Rick Meyers, Joe Liebau, Mark Walter representing Charles Larscheid, Neil Peters-Michaud, George Hayducsko  <b>Council Members Absent:</b> Jim Birmingham  <b>DNR:</b> Brad Wolbert, Angie Carey, Barb Bickford  <b>Public:</b> Jennifer Semrau, Winnebago County; Sharon Ehrhardt, Jefferson County; Joe Van Rossum, UW SHWEC; Timothy Mallach (by phone), Village of Union Grove; Gretchen Spear (by phone), American Forest &amp; Paper Association</p>	
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 9:12 a.m.
Approval of Minutes (February 27, 2015)	Motion to approve minutes made by George Hayducsko and seconded by Joe Liebau, approved by voice vote.
Introductions & Announcements	<p>Council members and guests introduced themselves.  <b>Chair Rick Meyers</b> provided several updates and reminders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The E-Cycle Stakeholder meeting is Tuesday, 05/19/2015. Rick Meyers will be leading a conversation on E-Cycle legislation.</li> <li>• PSI is offering two free webinars on paint stewardship on May 7<sup>th</sup> and May 21<sup>st</sup>.</li> <li>• Council reappointments are under consideration and will be announced soon.</li> </ul>
State Budget Update	<p><b>Chair Rick Meyers</b>, provided a summary of COR advisory actions taken since the 02/27 meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On March 25<sup>th</sup> a letter was sent to the Governor and legislature urging them to reconsider the reduction or elimination of funding from the EMA for recycling grants, UW SHWEC &amp; UW solid waste research.</li> <li>• On May 1<sup>st</sup>, a memo was sent to members of the Joint Finance Committee (JCF) urging them to preserve recycling and waste reduction funding.</li> </ul> <p>John Welch (WCSWMA) and Meleesa Johnson (AROW) met with legislative representatives, made phone calls and attended the May 5<sup>th</sup> JCF meeting. At this meeting, the JCF rejected a motion to eliminate the Governor's recommended \$4 million cut to the recycling grant program in the first year of the state budget and held off on decisions regarding UW SHWEC and solid waste research funding.</p> <p>The council discussed other potential sources of funding to support recycling at the municipal and county level including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The advancement of product stewardship and extended producer responsibility for individual commodities,</li> <li>• Urging the legislature to allocate tipping fees to recycling programs as intended, and</li> <li>• The potential for WEDC funds to be used to help support recycling</li> </ul>

	<p>growth industries as well as develop recycling businesses in Wisconsin using Wisconsin feedstocks.</p> <p>On a broader note, the council recognized that the general public would benefit from clarification on many recycling issues, and opportunities to provide more information and education should be explored. Topics discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a greater understanding of the association between recycling and business including investments, jobs and markets in Wisconsin,</li> <li>• Shifting the view of recycling as a municipal service to a business opportunity where a marketplace for Wisconsin feedstocks could be developed,</li> <li>• Exploration of how a decline in legislative support of recycling could result in less investment in Wisconsin recycling businesses,</li> <li>• Developing a greater understanding that the reduction in recycling grant funds is not a tax savings but a fund diversion to non-waste management activities, and</li> <li>• Developing a greater understanding of household costs for solid waste and recycling, sources of funding, and state funding trends.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: Rick will work quickly with other organizations to issue a press release in response to budget discussions and decisions.</b></p>
<p>DNR Updates</p>	<p><b>Brad Wolbert, DNR</b>, provided several updates on DNR activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The DNR is providing guidance, expertise and manpower to the DATCP &amp; USDA as they manage avian composting activities in Barron and Jefferson counties.</li> <li>• The 2014 recycling annual reports are almost complete. The DNR continues to work with RUs who struggle to submit their reports on time. Many of these RUs have new clerks who require education and guidance completing the process for the first time.</li> <li>• The DNR hosted a glass recycling stakeholder meeting on 04/21/2015 with representatives from SWANA, Strategic Materials, and several Wisconsin MRFs and haulers. Strategic Materials, the only recycled glass cullet producer in Wisconsin, verified that there continues to be a market for glass however residuals from single stream recycling sources cause processing problems and result in a lower market value of the material delivered by haulers. MRFs collecting glass in more remote locations also face the challenge of costly transportation to Wisconsin’s single glass recycling location in East Troy. The DNR will review its practices to ensure that marketing of glass is not impeded by state policies.</li> <li>• The DNR published guidance clarifying the procedures and criteria for revocation and suspension of manufacturer, collector and recycler registrations under E-Cycle Wisconsin.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: No Action taken</b></p>
<p>Product Stewardship Updates</p>	<p><b>Mark Walter</b>, provided an update on several product stewardship initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pharmaceutical take-back programs in Wisconsin exist and are regulated by the Department of Justice, often with funding from the</li> </ul>

	<p>DATCP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paint stewardship is a focus for nationwide legislation, and already exists in several surrounding states including MN, IL and is proposed in MI. There appears to be support from the business sector. Nancy Gloe is working on a survey to determine the amount of paint currently collected and how much the disposal of this paint is costing state and local governments as well as residents.</li> <li>• The first statewide mattress stewardship program was passed in Connecticut in 2013. A \$9 recycling fee on all mattresses and box springs sold in the state is being collected as of May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.</li> <li>• Battery stewardship programs exist in Canada and several states including NY, MN and VT. Markets for these recycled materials (Zn, Mn, and steel) exist. Progress in the provincial and state programs will be monitored. Energizer introduced the eco-advanced Hg free battery with 4% recycled content (steel) and is trying to achieve a recycled content of 40% by 2020.</li> <li>• Flexible pouch recycling has been identified as a growth market.</li> <li>• Propane tank recycling continues through a pilot program by Worthington Cylinders. Efforts are limited by USDOT transportation rules related to pressurized tanks.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: Council members will provide information to legislators on product stewardship opportunities in Wisconsin.</b></p>
<p>E-Cycle Wisconsin Legislative Update</p>	<p><i>Chair Rick Meyers</i> has a conference call with Senator Miller on May 19<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 pm to discuss the recommendations set forth in the E-Cycle Wisconsin 2014 report and how they can be addressed. These recommendations would include the modifications of the calculation of OEM targets and the types of devices included. Limits on the collection of negative value products by some collectors/recyclers is of particular concern and will be discussed at the E-cycle stakeholder meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Neil Peters-Michaud informed the council that he participated in the ISRI Convention &amp; Expo in Vancouver, Canada where they discussed various e-cycle programs and the challenges they face. The recovery and final use of Hg was identified as a significant challenge. An investigation to determine potential uses and options for storage is ongoing. The only eventual end market may be treatment and storage.</p> <p><b>Action: No action taken</b></p>
<p>COR Future Priority Issues Discussion</p>	<p>The council discussed future priorities to develop and support recycling policy in Wisconsin. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase external communications and further develop the presence of the council in an advisory role.</li> <li>• Develop new relationships while maintaining its existing ones.</li> <li>• Provide updates and information to legislators through standing appointments.</li> <li>• Provide a biannual Council on Recycling report.</li> <li>• Develop policy to increase C&amp;D recovery.</li> <li>• Focus on design of recyclable products and packaging.</li> <li>• Provide educational tours sponsored by the council.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider potential sources of funding that blend environmental and social considerations and couple with local block grants to extend the investment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: the council will check in periodically to review priorities.</b></p>
Public Comment	<i>Neil Peters-Michaud</i> informed the council that the economy for recycling feedstocks isn't expected to improve for 18 months.
Other Business/ Next meeting	Angie will send out a poll to establish the date, time and location for the next meeting. It appeared that the last week of July would work best for the members present. George Hayducsko noted that Dynamic Recycling in La Crosse has offered to host the meeting.
Meeting Adjourned	Meeting adjourned at 11:50 am; motioned by Joe Liebaw and seconded by Neil Peters-Michaud.