



Notes
WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON RECYCLING

Friday, February 28, 2020
 WI Integrated Resource Management Conference
 Chula Vista Resort & Convention Center
 2501 River Road, Wisconsin Dells

<p>Council Members Present: Jarrod Holter, Dave Keeling, David Pellitteri, Mark Walter, Barb Worcester (phone), Heidi Woelfel, Jeff Zillich (phone) DNR: Jennifer Semrau Public: Kelly McDowell, WI Beverage Association; Dan Kleinmaier, Legislative Audit Bureau; Dan VanKorn, Justin Kindgren and William Sorokes, Strategic Materials Inc.; Amanda Haffele, Portage County; Analiese Smith, Waukesha County; Samantha Longshore, City of Milwaukee; Marty Oxman, MJO Ent & United Milwaukee Scrap (phone)</p>	
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 1:04 p.m.
Introductions and Announcements	Council members and guests introduced themselves.
Approval of Minutes (December 3, 2019)	Motion made by Mark Walter and seconded Heidi Woelfel to approve the minutes of December 3, 2019. Motion carried (7-0).
DNR/Legislative Updates	<p>Jennifer Semrau, DNR informed the council of various DNR staffing updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The position of Waste and Materials Management (WMM) Bureau Director was filled by Brad Wolbert. Brad is returning to DNR after a ~4 year hiatus in Texas; he was previously the Recycling & Solid Waste Section Chief. • Other recent hires: Waste Management Specialist in Southeast, Hazardous Waste Management Specialists in Southeast and Northeast, Hydrogeologist in South Central and an E-cycle Compliance Specialist in Central Office (Madison). • Recruitments in process include: Hydrogeologist focused on beneficial use of industrial byproducts in Northeast, and a GIS LTE and IT Developer, both in Madison. <p>J. Semrau, DNR informed the council of various WMM program updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual report season is in full swing: infectious waste (1000+), hazardous waste (2000+), Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) (40+) are all open. Responsible Unit (RU) Recycling report (1000+) will open in mid-March and is due 4/30. • Statewide recycling program audit continuing. Spring report release is still expected by Legislative Audit Bureau. • A RFP for a new waste characterization study is in the final internal review stages; work is expected to begin with the selected contractor by Aug/Sept to coincide with the waste sorting timeframes of the 2009 study. • Recertification of guidance due to Act 369 is nearly complete in WMM program. 91/95 documents have gone through process. • Website redesign (launch- spring 2020) and the Environmental Management (EM) Division strategic planning continues.

	<p>J. Semrau, DNR informed the council of various legislative updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMM program is monitoring SB 714 (relating to: method for establishing proof of financial responsibility for solid waste facilities owned or operated by municipalities), SB 670 (relating to: exempting certain waste-to-energy facilities from tipping fees) and SB 716 (relating to: banning the use of PAH containing asphalt sealants). • The E-cycle (electronics recycling) rulemaking scope has been approved.
<p><i>Every Bottle Back Initiative</i></p>  <p>EBB Overview Slides Wisconsin 2.20.pdf</p>	<p>Kelly McDowell, WI Beverage Association shared with the council that the American Beverage Association (ABA) is comprised of non-alcoholic beverage bottlers and distributors for Coca-Cola, Keurig Dr Pepper, and PepsiCo. K. McDowell also thanked J. Semrau for presenting at the Wisconsin Beverage Association’s Annual Meeting earlier this week. The presentation provided an overview of Wisconsin’s recycling program and current collection and market challenges and was very informative and timely given ABA’s new plastics initiative. The <i>Every Bottle Back</i> initiative is intended to increase the recycling of beverage containers, which are 100% recyclable. ABA is working with The Recycling Partnership and Closed Loop Partners through a new \$100 million industry fund (matched three to one by other grants and investors) to improve community recycling infrastructure through improvements in quality and availability of recycled plastic. Dave Keeling shared that Dr. Pepper has been a funder of Keep America Beautiful and sponsoring market workshops.</p>
<p>Glass Market Update</p>  <p>Strategic Materials Update 2.20.pdf</p>	<p>Dan VanKorn, Strategic Materials provided the council with an overview of Strategic Materials glass processing operations throughout North America. Particular focus was on in-progress and planned improvements to the facility in Delavan, WI. Strategic Materials is continuously working to be the “best in glass.” Projects include an optical sorting upgrade, air handling management, dryer upgrade and inbound supply improvement. D. VanKorn indicated Pellitteri Waste Systems (represented on the council by David Pellitteri) produces the highest quality (cleanest) glass in WI.</p>
<p>Paper Market Update</p>	<p>David Keeling, Council Chair delivered a paper market update as provided by Jim Birmingham, Birmingham Recycling, who was unable to attend. Mixed paper is moving, but at \$0-\$10/ton. American mills are taking an aggressive look at better sorting. High grade papers continue to do well, with pricing holding. Old corrugated cardboard (OCC) will likely rise by \$5-\$10/ton in the next month domestically. China is still prohibiting most imports of fiber and plastics. The biggest unknown is the effect of COVID-19 and how this will affect shipments and pricing worldwide. D. Pellitteri added that pricing for HDPE natural and color were both dropping, as was aluminum. D. Keeling said that steel pricing is also depressed due to the automotive market. Mark Walter indicated the Tri-County MRF (in Outagamie County) is able to move all fiber to five paper mills. Green Bay Packaging’s expansion should be complete within a year, which will add capacity. PETE pricing is also down.</p>
<p>PFAS Update</p>	<p>J. Semrau, DNR shared with the council that PFAS (perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances) have been a focus for the DNR, and other state agencies, for about a year. PFAS are a large group of human-made chemicals that have been used in industry and consumer products worldwide since the 1950s. The DNR has established a number of subgroups to focus on different components of PFAS. One is an ‘Effective Disposal’ workgroup looking at different disposal options for various PFAS containing materials. A second group is focused on PFAS-containing fire fighting foam. This group is</p>

	<p>surveying WI fire departments and airports to learn more about usage and quantities of PFAS-containing foam and developing BMPs. The Environmental Management Division has hired a Communications lead, a Technical Operations Coordinator and soon, two Researchers. There is also a multi-agency, state coordinating committee- WisPAC.</p> <p>Several bills have been introduced in the legislature pertaining to PFAS. SB 717 would expand the existing Clean Sweep program to include the collection of certain firefighting foams. Another bill passed and was signed into law- 2019 Wisconsin Act 101. This act prohibits the use/discharge of PFAS-containing firefighting foam. Rulewriting is required for this act, which is a joint effort of the Bureaus of Waste Management and Remediation & Redevelopment.</p> <p>More information on PFAS can be found at https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Contaminants/PFAS.html.</p>
Public Comment	None.
Other Business	<p>D. Keeling, Council Chair stated that the National Recycling Coalition (NRC) has indicated its support for the <i>Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act</i>, introduced in Congress by Representative Alan Lowenthal and Senator Tom Udall. NRC has been working with representatives of the Congressmen's offices. All state recycling organizations are encouraged to provide input. NRC also held two market development workshops on 2/11, in San Diego, CA and Memphis, TN, which were well attended. D. Keeling also shared that the National Zero Waste Conference is scheduled for March 18-19 in Berkeley, CA. Registration is ~300. However, due to COVID-19, it may be converted into a virtual event. M. Walter shared that this year's WI Integrated Resource Management Conference was the most well attended conference in years.</p>
2020 Meeting Dates/ Location	Next meeting will be in-person meeting in Madison. The following meeting may be located at Liberty Tire or Charter Steel (summer).
Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 2:28 pm; motioned by David Pellitteri and seconded by Mark Walter. Motion carried (7-0).