

**Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)  
Meeting Summary  
January 8, 2010**

<b>Participants</b>		
Andy Schor	Michigan Municipal League	<a href="mailto:aschor@mml.org">aschor@mml.org</a>
Bill Lobenherz	Michigan Soft Drink Association-MRP	<a href="mailto:msda@voyager.net">msda@voyager.net</a>
Cara Clore	Clinton County	<a href="mailto:clorec@clinton-county.org">clorec@clinton-county.org</a>
Chip Shaw	Landfill Management	<a href="mailto:cshaw@landfillmanagement.com">cshaw@landfillmanagement.com</a>
Randy Gross	Michigan Manufacturers Association	<a href="mailto:gross@mma-net.org">gross@mma-net.org</a>
Jim Frey	Resource Recycling	<a href="mailto:frey@recycle.com">frey@recycle.com</a>
Mike Csapo	RRRASOC	<a href="mailto:mcsapo@rrrasoc.com">mcsapo@rrrasoc.com</a>
Tom Frazier	Michigan Townships Association	<a href="mailto:tom@michigantownships.org">tom@michigantownships.org</a>
<b>On Phone</b>		
Bonnie Bochniak	Michigan Recycling Partnership	
Susan Johnson	Butzel Long	
Don Pyle	UPRC Delta County	<a href="mailto:dswma@hughes.net">dswma@hughes.net</a>
Patty O'Donnell	NWMCOG	
Tom Horton	Waste Management	
Barry Cargill	Barry Cargill Associates	
<b>DEQ Staff</b>		
Christina Miller	DEQ-WHMD	<a href="mailto:millerc1@michigan.gov">millerc1@michigan.gov</a>
Duane Roskoskey	DEQ- WHMD	<a href="mailto:roskoskeyd@michigan.gov">roskoskeyd@michigan.gov</a>
George Bruchmann	DEQ-WHMD	<a href="mailto:bruchmann@michigan.gov">bruchmann@michigan.gov</a>
Christine Grossman	DEQ- OPPCA	<a href="mailto:grossmanc@michigan.gov">grossmanc@michigan.gov</a>
Matt Flechter	DEQ-WHMD	<a href="mailto:flechterm@michigan.gov">flechterm@michigan.gov</a>
Rhonda Oyer Zimmerman	DEQ-WHMD	<a href="mailto:oyerr@michigan.gov">oyerr@michigan.gov</a>
Steve Sliver	DEQ-WHMD	<a href="mailto:slivers@michigan.gov">slivers@michigan.gov</a>

- 1) Welcome and introductions.

Overview of agenda

- Handouts:
  - Agenda
  - Solid Waste Program Activities Time Allocations

George provided an update on the combination of the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Natural Resources into the new Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE). The report completed by Bruce Rasher should be released in the next week, and the new Director will be announced before the official DNRE date of January 17<sup>th</sup>. The new

structure will most likely be three Bureaus, with eight or nine Divisions. There will also be four Regions which will be based on watersheds. Management, Supervisor/staff structure and function of Advisory Groups are still unknown.

- 2) Approve draft meeting summary.

No changes were made to the October 23, 2009 meeting summary. The DRAFT heading will be removed from the summary on the Web site.

- 3) Standing Agenda Items:

- a) Legislative Update: Bills outlined on the legislative tracking table were highlighted, specifically HB 5558 and HB 5559 that set the solid waste surcharge at \$7.50/ton and provide a distribution formula. It was noted that discussions are on-going, and that the increased surcharge may replace lost revenue sharing to local units of government in the first year, then move to fund recycling programs in subsequent years.

It was also noted that testimony had not been completed on SB 725 and HB 5334, which allow yard clippings in landfills in certain situations. The DEQ is not supportive of these bills. Composters, MEC and Michigan Biomass are all opposed. Some municipalities support the legislation. It was noted that there may be some conflicts with the above-mentioned increased surcharge distribution, as previous versions of the bill would not allow communities to receive funding if banned materials are accepted. If yard waste is allowed to be accepted in some instances, would these communities be able to receive funding? There are on-going work group meetings to work something out concerning the distribution formula.

- b) Rules Update: Open burning rules: a rules package has been submitted to SOHAR for informal review. Public hearing should take place in April which will also include acceptance of written comments. There will be a meeting of the education/outreach subcommittee next week. DEQ is recommending that SB 1040, which allows the burning of apple crates, include the same language as the draft administrative rules for Air Quality as well as Part 115.

Compost and Inert Rules: Work group comments on draft rules are due today. Some members of the work group support the draft rules, some oppose. The process will continue by holding public hearings. Concerns still exist within the workgroup including Part 201 issues, anaerobic digesters/ wet processing and food waste. Members noted that gasification and energy production facilities are close to being feasible and the state needs a framework for allowing these systems to move forward. Regulations need to be in place to help develop and regulate these systems in Michigan. Cost has been the biggest barrier to developing these systems.

- c) E-waste update: The take back program will be in place by April. So far 57 manufacturers have submitted registrations, 16 of which are incomplete. Eleven recyclers have sent in registrations. A list of these registered manufacturers and recyclers will be on-line soon. DEQ hopes to facilitate the use of existing collection programs and contacts between Michigan recyclers and manufacturers; however manufacturers are working with current recyclers who they have built relationships with, so a substantial portion of material is going out of state. It is difficult to encourage material to stay in Michigan, although transportation costs may drive the distance the material will go.
  - d) Status of Policy Tracking Table: The Policy Tracking table is available to everyone in the committee on GoogleDocs. Staff will work to update their portion before the next meeting. All committee members are encouraged to add information.
- 4) Solid Waste Program Funding: The Solid Waste Program Activities Time Allocation handout was reviewed. It was noted that the majority of cost in our budget is personnel. A proposal was forwarded that included a short term funding proposal and identified the need for a long term funding proposal.

Short term funding proposal: increase solid waste surcharge in FY 11 to \$0.38/ton, increase one cent a year until it is \$0.40/ton. Type III captive facilities would also have an increased surcharge (\$1,000- \$6,000/year). It is not politically sound to attempt to expand the surcharge to other facilities at this point. Additionally, construction permit fees, license fees and other fees were proposed to be increased significantly in order to bring them in line with other states' fees. The ability to return ½ of a fee if a permit is denied or withdrawn was also removed. The political reality is that other reforms will most likely be included. The proposal will be shared with the committee when it is available. If the proposed \$7.50 surcharge is passed, everything will be changed.

Long-term funding: Discussions still need to take place in the SWAC to explore long-term funding options. It was asked how staff should approach these discussions. It was noted that the cost to collect the surcharge is minimal. When discussing long-term funding the SWAC should consider some of the objectives set forth in the Solid Waste Policy, set priorities, goals and criteria. Any distribution formula associated with a funding mechanism should be matched to these goals and priorities. It was noted that the Michigan Recycling Coalition Policy Committee is working on a document outlining what should be funded (outreach, benchmark programs, planning, etc) to advance the Solid Waste Policy. The source of the funding has been the remaining question; however political support has been seen for various funding mechanisms.

It was suggested that a weighted set of criteria be set, and survey of legislators completed describing specific scenarios relative to those weighted criteria. It was also noted that stakeholder buy-in is very important so that legislators will see that this is something important to advance.

It was decided to keep discussing this topic at the next meeting, as well as items #5 and #6 on the agenda that we did not get to at his meeting.

**5)** Next Meeting Date: Friday, March 5, 2010 from 9:00 am – 12:00pm

Remaining FY 2010 Meeting dates:

March 5, May 7, July 9, September 10, November 12 from 9:00am – 12:00pm