



Resource Conservation Advisory Committee (RCAB)

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Meeting Address: Boulder County Recycling Center • 1902 63rd Street, Boulder, CO 80306 • www.BoulderCounty.org

Boulder County Resource Conservation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – May 27th, 2020

Present:

Charles Kamenides – City of Longmont (Chair)
Tim Plass – At-Large (Vice-chair)
Adam Swetlick – City of Boulder
Alisha Stewart – Town of Erie
Suzanne Jones – Eco-Cycle
Eric Smith – At Large
Bridget Johnson – Green Girl Recycling
Dan Matsch – Town of Lyons
David Snapp – At Large (CDPHE)
Darla Arians – Boulder County
Tim Towndrow – Republic Services
Mircalla Wozniak - At Large
Chris Pelletier – Town of Nederland
Brandon Hill – Resource Central

Caitlyn Stafford – Town of Superior
Lisa Speermont – At Large
Steve Derus – Republic Services
Mark Persichetti – City of Louisville

RCAB Staff Liaison:

Tim Broderick – Boulder County/OSCAR
Deandra Croissant – Boulder County/ OSCAR

Guests:

Jamie Harkins – City of Boulder
Tyler Kesler – Town of Erie
Eric Loof – Western Disposal
Lisa Skumatz – SERA
Christian Hermann – Boulder County
Lesa Julian – City and County of Broomfield

Active Members Not Present:

Jack DeBell – CU Recycling
Russ Callas – At Large
Stephanie Walton – City of Lafayette
Tony Raeker – City of Lafayette

1. Call to Order / Introductions

Charlie Kamenides called the meeting to order at 4:48 p.m. and the group completed introductions.

2. Approval of Minutes Feb 26, 2020

Charlie Kamenides asked if the February Minutes could be approved. Alisha Stewart motioned, Suzanne Jones seconded the motion, followed by unanimous RCAB approval.

3. OSCAR EPA Pollution Prevention Grant Application Update

Tim Broderick presented on a grant application OSCAR submitted to the EPA, led by himself and Dede Croissant. The goal of the project is to research and develop an incentive-based program to help food and beverage manufacturers in Boulder County develop closed loop packaging that reduces toxic pollutants, use of water, energy, and other raw materials, while supporting a more sustainable business model. The project would take place over a two-year period, and would be managed of Boulder County's OSCAR, in partnership with Partners for a Clean Environment (PACE). This project would be contracted to industry experts to support: baseline survey creation, digital and physical stakeholder meetings, the development and launch of a pilot training program, evaluation of the success of the project through quantitative and qualitative data, and

sharing of innovative techniques developed at national conferences. In addition, several stakeholder groups have provided guidance and support for this project idea, including, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), Sustainable Trade Food Association (SFTA), Recycle Colorado, Naturally Boulder, and Quinn Snacks. Tim and Dede expect to hear back from the EPA on notice of funding at the end of July 2020. RCAB will be kept informed on the status and would be further involved in this project by bringing stakeholders or other pilot programs into the equation.

4. Subcommittee Updates

a. S-Tax/Infrastructure – Compost Facility Update

Suzanne Jones, Darla Arians, and Tim Broderick provided an update. The RFP for design of the Compost facility was released, and they received six bids. The review team will select 2-3 preferred bidders to bring in for interviews to narrow down the selection. The plan is to make recommendations to the commissioners in two weeks. Public outreach is also in progress – the communication plan was submitted to the executive board, and once that is approved it will be shared with RCAB. Furthermore, public outreach and stakeholder meetings will begin on Monday, June 29th. The external communication will involve RCAB, beginning in about 3-4 weeks. The S Tax committee is also meeting to discuss a 20% reduction in sales tax revenue.

b. P3

Tim Broderick and Darla Arians provided highlights associated with the Policy, Planning, and Programs (P3) Subcommittee. Tim B explained that if the group wants to have substantial influence in policy, RCAB must edit its bylaws, as they currently do not allow this. In addition, he explained there are some possible conflicts, such as if RCAB takes a different stance than Boulder County. Boulder County's political representatives, Mark Ruzzin, and George Twigg recommended that RCAB may want to emphasize municipal representatives putting recommendations forward, such as Erie or Lafayette. However, the group does recognize RCAB has notoriety as a unity. After further discussion, the group agreed that RCAB will provide recommendations to BOCC in a timely matter and also municipalities will put letters forward. In addition, P3 may make an Excel spreadsheet to track policies.

5. Community Updates

Resource Central – Resource Central closed from March 19th through May 3rd, but is open now for donations and shopping. They have seen a huge surge in demand, with a very busy week. Still planning on moving forward with their facility at 6400. Also, the Garden in a Box program sold out and since they couldn't hold a pick up, Fed Ex is delivering the boxes.

Eco-Cycle – As schools are closed, Eco-Cycle has been producing a lot of video content and have created a video series with bite sized animated features for various age groups. They have also been working on the Zero Waste Action Plan Update and Scorecard. This will be influential in how cities and towns can take the next step in their zero waste journeys. CHARM was closed for 2 weeks, and is now back up to full

operating capacity. They have seen great communication from the public with masks and a new payment system.

Resource Conservation Division – The Resource Conservation Division Transfer Station stayed open during Covid quarantine. They had to initially stop accepting forms of payment because they didn't have a safe way to do so, but now have sneeze guards installed so transactions can be accepted. They also are now accepting credit cards for the first time ever in the history of the transfer station. Tours at the recycling center are closed until at least September, and Compost Workshops were provided virtually with the highest attendance ever recorded. The Hazardous Materials Management Facility (HMMF) is opening on June 3rd by appointment only for residential waste, with business waste accepted the following week.

City of Boulder – The City has been evaluating what the community needs and planning for a reduced budget in 2020 and 2021. There is no flexibility to use the bag fee. City employees will not be back in the office until at least August 31st. Suzanne Jones is also looking at studies to investigate if single-use items are or are not safer in the pandemic. In addition, a meeting with Vessel will take place, as they have seen huge inquiries into it since coffee shops stopped taking reusable cups.

City and Town of Broomfield – Currently underway with the Zero Waste Action Plan and Community Outreach Plan.

CDPHE – 15 old landfills are contaminating groundwater and CDPHE was going to use funds to work with local governments on clean up. However, this money has now been redirected to Covid relief efforts.

Town of Lyons – Pay As You Throw program is not moving forward.

Western Disposal – Reported receiving less trash and more recycling in businesses, and more trash and less recycling in residential.

Town of Erie - The town reopened its Recycling Center with precautions on Wednesday May 27th with existing Parks & Rec. staff (lifeguards, referees, fitness instructors, etc.) that were furloughed. This allowed Tyler to train more town employees in to zero waste professionals as well as provide jobs for employees who weren't working. This reopening was paired with a suite of education and outreach, updated town littering and dumping codes to allow for citations, as well as a survey each resident was given as they entered. This data paired with the recently passed ReTRAC Ordinance has proven to be invaluable as the town continues to move towards its zero waste goals presented in our Sustainability Master Plan.

6. **Adjournment** – Charlie Kamenides adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.