



# Resource Conservation Advisory Committee (RCAB)

Boulder County Staff Liaison: Deandra Croissant • dcroissant@bouldercounty.org (Temporary)

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

## Boulder County Resource Conservation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2021

### **Board Members Present:**

Mark Persichetti – Louisville  
Charles Kamenides – Longmont (Chair)  
Tim Plass – At Large (Vice-Chair)  
Alyssa Vogan – Sustainability Analyst Town of Superior  
Brandon Hill – Resource Central  
Darla Arians – Boulder County  
Noah Eisenman – Boulder County  
Eric Loof – Western Disposal  
Tim Towndrow – Republic Services  
Bridget Johnson – Jamestown  
Elizabeth Szorad – City of Lafayette (representing Jamie Harkins)  
Jamie Harkins – City of Boulder (representing Adam Swetlick)

### **Board Members not Present:**

Russ Callas – At Large  
Sara Loflin – Town of Erie

Eric Smith – At Large  
Vacant – Town of Ward  
Vacant – CU Recycling  
Adam Swetlick – City of Boulder  
Chris Pelletier – Town of Nederland  
Suzanne Jones – Eco Cycle  
Mircalla Wozniak – At Large  
David Snapp – At Large (CDPHE)  
Dan Matsch - Lyons

### **RCAB Staff Liaison:**

Deandra Croissant – Boulder County/ OSCAR  
(Temp during transition from Tim Broderick to Noah Eisenman)

### **Guests:**

Tyler Kesler – Sustainability and Water Specialist  
Cody Lillstrom – Zero Waste Program Manager

### **1. Call to Order / Introductions**

Charlie Kamenides called the meeting to order at 4:47 p.m.

### **2. Approval of Minutes October 27, 2021**

Charlie Kamenides asked if the October 27 minutes could be approved. Brandon Hill motioned to approve, seconded by Darla Arians, followed by a unanimous RCAB approval.

### **3. Update on January 2022 RCAB Retreat**

Noah Eisenman explained that the group needed to solidify a meeting date and length of time for the retreat. The retreat is going to be a new visioning of how we should be moving forward with RCAB – really looking back at what RCAB is, the way it is structured, and trying to pick apart some of the things that could be improved, even if it means making some changes to the structure. Still putting together the agenda, but the first half will include topics such as: history on RCAB, mission statement, purpose, accomplishments, and bylaws. The second half will be about goal setting, what we want to accomplish as a group, and how RCAB can work together and with other municipalities. The retreat will be remote and Noah will work to make it just as successful, if not more, than if it were in person. If anyone has any recommendations for

the retreat, they should let Noah or Charlie know. The retreat will take place in February and be 4-5 hours.

#### 4. **Approval of 2022 Zero Waste Grant Recommendation**

Cody Lillstrom presented on the 2022 Zero Waste Grant recommendations. The fund received 15 grant applications for the 2022 funding cycle, with a total of \$154,051 requested. A sub-committee of RCAB members (Eric Loof, Alyssa Vogan, Jamie Harkins, and Brandon Hill) convened to review and score the applications. The subcommittee's recommendations for funding are:

- Full funding of \$7,000 for **BVSD Food Services** to enhance and expand their food waste prevention program through education support and an incentive program.
- Full funding of \$13,178 for **Eco-Cycle** to employ photographic sensors which utilizes remote monitoring systems on dumpsters to develop new service approaches and ultimately reduce the emissions and costs associated with collections.
- Full funding of \$15,000 for the **Town of Erie** to provide Zero Waste kits that include compostable/recyclable-ware to vendors who apply for special events now required to be held as Zero Waste events.
- Full funding of \$8,500 to the **Jamestown Area Community Foundation** for the construction of a vermiculture facility and the purchase of worm composting bins and bearproofing.
- Full funding of \$15,000 to **KGNU Community Radio** to support their "Follow the Waste Stream Zero Waste Radio Series and Public Education Media Campaign".
- Full funding of \$8,988 to the **City of Lafayette** to develop a comprehensive, centralized, localized, and interactive platform for residents to learn how to properly divert waste.
- Partial funding of \$10,000 to the **City of Longmont** to increase bilingual Zero Waste education at targeted Longmont festivals in 2022.
- Full funding of \$6,000 to the **City of Louisville** to support a commercial waste diversion study and corresponding outreach in partnership with Eco-Cycle.
- Full funding of \$4,000 to the **Town of Lyons** to provide a drop off and pick up of yard/limb waste for residents who don't have the resources (whether vehicle or mobility or other) to drop off on the spring diversion day.
- Partial funding of \$2,790 to **Resource Central** provide educational displays and bilingual signage, for the purposes of safety, inclusion, and community awareness to increase participation in Reuse.
- Full funding of \$9,545 to the **Town of Superior** to pilot the concept of co-operative "Co-op" composting where businesses share in the use of one large compost dumpster and the associated hauling costs. A chart with a detailed proposal analysis and scoring is attached to this document.

After presentation of above results, Eric Loof made a motion to vote on the sub-committee's recommendations, Brandon Hill seconded, followed by unanimous RCAB approval.

## 5. Community Updates

**Suzanne Jones** – The Soil Revolution Conference was today. It is an annual conference of farmers and soil enthusiasts from Boulder County and beyond. A lot about regenerative agriculture and soil amendments such as compost. Lots of amazing speakers on how to improve soil health, yield better crops, and fight climate change. Each year for the past five years, Eco-Cycle has released a State of Recycling and Composting Report and it was released November 15 which is Colorado Recycle Week. Next steps are to meet with various councils and discuss the findings. Eco-Cycle was awarded a grant from FWRD to do a baseline data project where they interviewed all the municipalities and counties across the front-range to find out where they are at with policies, programs, and infrastructure related to zero waste. That information was just presented and could be very useful in accelerating Colorado's state-wide diversion rate.

**Alyssa Vogan** – The Town of Superior waste hauler contract's composting system was very limited previously, but they are now able to expand composting to year-round. Next will be looking to Pay-As-You-Throw system. This is exciting news as the biggest feedback they had heard previously to why people weren't signing up for compost collection was because it wasn't being offered year-round.

**Elizabeth Szorad** – In November, Lafayette expanded their three-cart system to all of their residents. Now all haulers operating in the City of Lafayette have access to recycling, compost, and garbage. The City has an RFP out for residential solid waste, and proposals are due Dec 20. Looking at a couple different policies in regards to waste, including mandatory recycling and composting for commercial and multi-family complexes and a zero waste ordinance for community events.

**Tyler Kesler** – In November wrapped up community and stakeholder engagement as well as policy assessment project with Eco-Cycle, made possible by the FWRD grant. The board was amenable to all three recommendations, the first one being a zero waste ordinance requiring all haulers in town to provide recycling and composting options for their contracts as well as the zero waste special meeting policy and zero waste special event policy. Also had a very successful leaf and composting event. Diverted a little over 94,000 tons. Now will continue with yard waste collection year-round. Finally, an additional sustainability position was approved, this position will be posted later this month and hopefully hired on in January.

**Charlie Kamenides** – Held a hard-to-recycle event that was by reservation only to ease traffic pains, crowds, and long lines. By doing it in a reservation it worked very well, served 1000 residents and 90% of it was televisions. Continue to work on zero waste resolution that they established in 2008. Doing some stakeholder outreach to get community feedback but will be presenting to city council again in coming months. Also had a very successful leaf and yard waste event, and still selling compost carts.

**Bridgette Johnson** – Doing a lot of ditch work in Jamestown. Have an upcoming artists market and music event in Jamestown this weekend.

**Dan Matsch** – The Lyons Sustainable Futures Commission has been really more focused on the energy realm rather than waste, ever since the vote last year not to do a single hauler contract. However, they did have a good wildfire mitigation tree limb collection this Fall. Working on demonstrating compost operation and use of carbon farming, using different amendments such as biochar and mycelium. Hoping to launch this that Spring.

**Eric Loof** – Had a ribbon cutting event a couple weeks back at Western Disposal, with a great audience including the Governor. Finalizing details to be able to formally open up the new center but it should be in the next couple weeks.

**Tim Tondrow** – Republic opened a holding yard for some additional trucks. Trying to get some additional capital from corporate for a CNG set-up at that yard, as that is currently only at the Commerce City yard. Everything else business as usual.

**Jamie Harkins** – City of Boulder is working to get more restaurants signed up with the Repeater Program (reusable take-out container program). Have now applied for the full amount of the Sustainability Matching Grant to fund the program next year as well. About to issue an RFP for their C&D tracking software. PACE will be focused on getting businesses back in compliance with ZW ordinance, due to fall backs from the pandemic.

6. **Adjourn**

Charlie Kamenides adjourned the meeting at 5:44 P.M.