



# Resource Conservation Advisory Committee (RCAB)

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

## Boulder County Resource Conservation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – July 27, 2022

### **Present:**

David Snapp – At large (Chair)  
Brandon Hill – Resource Central (Vice-chair)  
Andrew Sawusch (on behalf of Sara Loflin) –  
    Town of Erie  
Matt LeBeau – At Large  
Tim Towndrow – Republic Services  
Mark Persichetti – City of Louisville  
Eryka Thorley – Town of Nederland  
Lauren Folkerts – City of Boulder  
Mircalla Wozniak - At Large  
Dan Matsch – Town of Lyons  
Elizabeth Szorad – City of Lafayette  
Bridget Johnson – Town of Jamestown  
Charles Kamenides – City of Longmont  
Meghan Wiebe – At large

### **Active Members Not Present:**

Suzanne Jones – Eco-Cycle  
Eric Loof – Western Disposal  
Caitlyn Stafford – Superior  
Russ Callas – At large  
Vacant – Town of Ward  
Vacant – CU Recycling  
Tyler Kesler – Town of Erie

### **RCAB Staff Liaison:**

Noah Eisenman – Boulder County RCD  
Deandra Croissant – Boulder County/ OSCAR

### **Guests:**

Dan Hoback – Town of Erie  
Jamie Harkins – City of Boulder  
Rick Kattar - RCD  
Cly Lewis – RCD  
Kayla Betzold – City of Louisville  
Susie Hidalgo- Fahring - City Council  
Chandra Valenza – RCD

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

David Snapp called the meeting to order at 4:49pm.

### **2. Approval of June 2022 minutes**

David Snapp asked if the June 2022 Minutes could be approved. Tim Towndrow motioned to approve the minutes. Elizabeth Szorad seconded the motion, followed by unanimous RCAB approval.

### **3. C&D Discussion**

Follow up on presentations from the last meeting.

David Snapp: City of Boulder has a good ordinance. What is the effectiveness of the ordinance?

Brandon Hill: In his experience it is working great, it's gotten better. There are still some contractors who would rather lose deposit than comply.

Jamie Harkins: Agrees with Brandon. City of Boulder is going to hire energy codes person. Emily is putting together a working group to figure out what code updates need to be done. Questions to ask within the working group: Where do we go from here? How can we improve it?

Brandon: The deposit has made a big difference. Still work to do.

Noah Eisenman: When creating the ordinance, we didn't want to make the deposit so big that nothing would happen but not so small that it's laughable. Synergy from RCAB can come in handy to help other areas of the county to adopt an ordinance like City of Boulder has. Main pushbacks from county side – in unincorporated areas it makes it difficult to drive materials where they need to go. Follow up can be difficult because of where they are – enforcement on unincorporated county is difficult to do.

#### **4. Board Ordinances Update**

David: There is a good framework for C&D diversion requirements. What can we do as a board to help improve C&D diversions?

Jamie: City of Boulder has demonstrated there is a market for these C&D materials. It will increase and improve the markets. When it comes time to look at code updates in other cities, it would be good incorporate a deconstruction ordinance to help improve the markets locally.

Dan Hoback: Not aware of any ordinances but can look and bring things to their board that are appropriate.

Andrew: Most items are deposited in landfill in Erie. Does Retrac program take inventory of what types of materials are deposited in landfills by commercial haulers?

Brandon: Retrac program should have a good level of detail as there's a broad list of categories.

Dan Matsch: There is no ordinance in Lyons. For residential buildout there is potential in the Eastern Corridor. Bring back to Lyons a message of what we're trying to do county-wide and have a reasonable threshold for a small town.

Elizabeth Szorad : No ordinance for construction demolition but it is identified as a goal for their sustainability plan. Starting exploration phase of what to put into building code updates.

Kayla: Sustainability plan of Louisville – working on energy code updates and waste diversion is not included in those. Welcome to a regional approach to C&D.

Charles: Longmont is working on updating their zero-waste resolution. Done with final draft due in August. That leads to conversation on universal recycling ordinance. Includes many waste diversion strategies and tactics including C&D. Feels that a regional facility would be fabulous so they can tell developers to go there.

Bridget: In Jamestown, they work with people to help them divert items like concrete and wood debris, but don't do it for them. The Jamestown Spring Clean Up event diverted a lot of recycling, oil, tires, compost, #6 block Styrofoam. Ward also had their spring clean-up event and did well with diversion.

Eryka: Nederland has a C&D program that's been around for a few years. Not a huge participation at this point. The C&D program is run through building permits.

Tim: From a hauling perspective, no issues, or concerns.

Jamie: Added the understanding that the C&D ordinance tasks are a full-time job for Emily, would like to shift some of that off her plate. Suggestion: Voluntary aspect before you're ready for an ordinance. Big educational opportunity to understand it as a concept before it becomes an ordinance.

Mark: Outside of C&D but related to ordinance in Louisville – in 2007, equal space for trash and recycling collection part of commercial development design standards and guidelines. In 13<sup>th</sup> year of “Pay as you throw” compost. In 2020, adopted county's Waste hauler ordinance – requires haulers to provide collection for trash, recyclables, and compostables. Keeps track of those different waste streams. Several minor items they do related to green purchasing and energy use in city facilities but they are not a waste-reduction item.

Noah: Going back to Jamie's staffing lift – Find work that's already being done so we don't reinvent the wheel. Referred to Current Fee Retention slide – largely a successful program with resources and outreach already done. What communities are ready to go and can use with City of Boulder already has in place? What communities have staffing available to use what's already been created?

Dan Matsch: Questions for Eryka - Is there a dedicated staffer for C&D stuff in Nederland? How much time is dedicated to it?

Eryka: Done by a Public Works employee in Nederland. Not a lot of enforcement. Website shows what is required and how the program works but the town is strapped for enforcement.

David: One thing that stands out from the C&D conversations would be that it'd be nice to have a convenient facility for these materials. Will talk with Noah and Brandon about how to move these conversations forward.

Mircalla: Question for the board – Was the purpose of the presentations to identify what challenges and oversights they've encountered because we would like to recommend that Boulder County to have a deconstruction ordinance or was this information to help move along a facility?

David: The goal of the discussion is to look at both ordinances and facility possibilities as well as to share what is going on in other places and bring that information to your city council or public works people.

Rick: Western Facility has a sort line that does a reasonable job on C&D. Not sure if they are pushing that information out to the community but it is centrally located.

Noah: To answer part of Mircalla's question - Can't establish one ordinance that would apply to the whole county, but it would apply to unincorporated. We can provide funding, resources, and information.

Matt: Question for the board - Has there been anything done from an incentive standpoint for this ordinance?

Brandon: Answer to Matt's question - There used to be a Green Point system. Tax deductibility is a central point for all of this. No hard incentives though.

## 5. **Boulder County MRF Annual Update**

Rick Kattar and Cly Lewis provided a presentation on the BCRC, specifically 2021 input, output, and capital projects. Please see Powerpoint attachment. Some notes can be found in the minutes.

- Transportation is a huge increased cost for 2021
- Extreme Market volatility
- Inbound Material Trends
  - o People being home during pandemic has dramatically increased the inbound materials but has gone down in 2021
  - o 2022 is trending down even further as people transition back to work
- Outbound material trends
  - o Interesting tell = transition of ONP and OCC throughout the years due to "Amazon effect"
    - Mailers are more popular instead of office paper and newspaper

- 2020 had more ONP because kids went home during the pandemic with a ton of paper
  - SOP will become a high demand product – want to retrofit with optical sorter to get ahead of that
  - OCC is important to us because it contains so much of what we ship out
  - We rely heavily on the visuals using the “acceptable recyclables list”
  - They are starting to eliminate the number on plastics
  - Charlie asked: Should we revisit the acceptable recyclables list?
- Materials Sales Revenue
  - OCC will continue to be one of our drivers
  - Aluminum is 1.9% of our stream but gives us most revenue
- Market Forecast
  - Aluminum continues to be high but is declining
  - Cardboard is influenced by things that happen globally
  - Domestic mill growth = yay!
- Plant Projects
  - Doing a lot of rebuilding rather than replacing due to steel cost
  - Replacing original drum feeder
    - Level out flow in the plant
  - Optical Sorters on paper sort lines
    - Another 5-15% of yield doing this
- There is some out of county material that comes to the MRF
- We cannot pull from general fund, we have to support ourselves financially
- Last year no Capital projects were done

## **6. Community Updates**

No August Meeting  
Forego other updates due to time

## **7. Adjourn**

David Snapp adjourned the meeting at 6:39pm.