



Resource Conservation Advisory Committee (RCAB)

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Boulder County Resource Conservation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – April 24, 2024

Board Members present:

David Snapp – At Large (Chair)
Mircalla Wozniak – At Large (vice-chair)
Eric Loof – Western Disposal
Tim Towndrow – Hauler
Zan Jones – EcoCycle
Aurelia Casarrubias – Town of Superior
Lisa Evans – City of Lafayette
Hannah Miller – City of Louisville
Michael Springer – At large
Brian DeCorte – At Large
Taishya Adams – City of Boulder
Dan Hoback – Town of Erie
Bridget Johnson – Jamestown

County Liaison:

Meghan Wiebe – Boulder County RCD

Board Members not present:

Kathy Carroll – Town of Lyons
Matt LeBeau – At Large
Cody Lillstrom – Boulder County Resource Conservation Division (RCD)
Charles Kamenides – City of Longmont
Angie Gilbert – CU Recycling
Joe Pitts – Resource Central
Leah Haney – Town of Nederland
Vacant – Town of Ward

Guests:

Chandra Valenza – Boulder County RCD
Susie Hidalgo-Fahring – City of Longmont
Andy Smith
Andrew Sawusch – Town of Erie
Jamie Harkins – City of Boulder

A quorum for RCAB is half of the membership plus one. The quorum was met for the April meeting.

1. Call to order/introductions

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

2. Approval of February 28, 2024 Minutes

David asked if the February 28, 2024 meeting minutes could be approved. Mircalla Wozniak motioned to approve, Zan Jones seconded, followed by member vote approval.

3. RCD Update + RCAB membership update

Michael Springer is the new at-large member. He introduced himself as a Gunbarrel resident interested in composting and recycling. One thing Michael does is organize composting for the Niwot summer concert series.

Meghan Wiebe gave a compost facility update. The Boulder County website was updated with FAQs, and an email notification went out that the county is looking at the feasibility of a compost facility. An open comment form is available for public feedback. An RFP is set to be released to do a feasibility study and update previous assumptions. The Board of County Commissioners will be holding a Town Hall about a potential compost facility on May 9. **Note after approving these minutes at the May meeting: The Town Hall date was moved to May 30. **

4. **Subcommittee breakouts – followed by report out**

- Universal Recycling Ordinance
 - Present members in this subcommittee – Dan Hoback, David Snapp, Lisa Evans, Zan Jones, Eric Loof
 - Notes from breakout:
 - The subcommittee discussed the difficulty of preparing a draft ordinance for municipalities to use because different municipalities have different wording in their individual community codes.
 - Zan proposed reviewing the 2020 Boulder County Zero Waste Scorecard and having EcoCycle informally update it so the subcommittee can see which towns need support.
 - Zan also proposed having the broader RCAB send a letter to the communities without ordinances requiring Pay As You Throw (PAYT), or curbside recycling with a recommendation to reach out to the Technical Assistance Service Provider, which is funded by the Front Range Waste Diversion Board. This way they receive assistance in developing recycling programs in their community.
 - Zan will draft the letter and send it to the subcommittee for review one week before the May RCAB meeting. The subcommittee will try to review and present the letter to the RCAB for review during the May RCAB meeting.

- Compost Infrastructure
 - Present members in this subcommittee – Meghan Wiebe, Taishya Adams, Hannah Miller, Tim Towndrow, Brian DeCorte, Michael Springer
 - Guests who joined for this meeting –Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Jamie Harkins
 - Notes from breakout:
 - This group had a general discussion about the potential compost facility for the county.
 - The possibility of biosolids came up. Meghan said that right now, the focus is on residential and commercial food and yard waste.

- Deconstruction
 - No subcommittee members were present for this meeting, so this subcommittee did not meet.

- Outreach
 - Members in this subcommittee – Aurelia Casarrubias, Mircalla Wozniak, Bridget Johnson
 - Guests who joined for this meeting – Chandra Valenza
 - Notes from breakout:
 - This group has been focusing on the Boulder County webpages. They are looking at what can be updated and improved on waste related webpages.

- They are starting with the RCAB webpage and plan on making it more inviting.
- A prominent part of the subcommittee's mission is to streamline information for the residents of Boulder County.

5. Election of officers – next meeting

The yearly election of chair and vice chair officers will be held at the May meeting.

David is stepping down as chair, and Mircalla is stepping down as vice chair after the May meeting.

Meghan is working on updating the board bylaws. One update is to add a secretary position. This person would take meeting minutes and act as a monthly meeting leader if the chair or vice chair is absent. David Snapp and Hannah Miller verbally supported the election of a secretary. The bylaws must be voted on first, then a secretary can be elected.

6. Community Updates

Zan Jones—The Joint Budget Committee approved the “middle scenario” for moving forward with Producer Responsibility in Colorado.

David Snapp for CDPHE –

At the February Solid and Hazardous Waste Commission meeting, Jace Driver brought a rule package for composting rules to allow for more food waste to go to community composters.

CDPHE is also working on landfill remediation grant program rules that will go to the Solid and Hazardous Waste Commission in May. This program will assist local governments and set rules for remediating landfills. It will be effective July 1.

Extended Producer Responsibility rules are also being developed and will be submitted to the Solid and Hazardous Waste Commission in May.

Jamie Harkins for City of Boulder –

The City of Boulder has restarted the “Green Bag Giveaway” where they subsidize compost bin liners for businesses. This is in part due to the depackager at Western Disposal. The response has been enthusiastic.

The city is trying a pilot at the EcoCycle Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM) with equity-based pick-up days for hard-to-recycle materials. They will issue gift cards to Boulder Housing Partners that will be passed out to residents for entrance and fees at the CHaRM.

The city will be subsidizing the use of r.Cup for any special event this summer. R.Cup was very successful last year and they are excited to do it again this year.

The first quarter bag fee will be collected soon. They will look at compliance and eventually draft strategies with the data they receive.

Mircalla Wozniak—The county ran out of free compost during the county staff compost giveaway early because of the high demand.

300-600 volunteers are brought in to help with elections. Mircalla has been given time to do a recycling training with those volunteers this year.

Hannah Miller for City of Louisville –

Spring Cleaning event will happen at the beginning of May.

The city has renewed their waste hauler contract with Republic. Louisville will be one of the first communities in Colorado to have an all-EV fleet for their waste hauler.

The commercial programs through the bag tax are all officially launched.

Lisa Evans for City of Lafayette –

The city will have an Earth Day Every Day event at the beginning of May.

The Spring Cleaning event was successful, with 491 cars coming through.

A compost giveaway was held earlier in the month, and 282 cars came through to get free compost.

The city has been working with the Technical Assistance Service Provider (TASP) on a universal recycling ordinance. The first draft will go to council on May 21.

Aurelia Casarrubias for Town of Superior –

The city's spring cleaning event was successful, with around 300 cars coming through.

They have also kicked off their TASP engagement for composting in Superior.

The city is renewing its trash contract and hoping to build compost into it extensively.

Business and commercial outreach for recycling has also been a priority for the city to get more businesses to recycle.

7. Next meeting information

The next meeting will be in person at Resource Central.

8. Adjourn

David adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.