



Resource Conservation Advisory Committee (RCAB)

Boulder County Staff Liaison: Meghan Wiebe, mwiebe@bouldercounty.org

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Boulder County Resource Conservation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – October 23, 2024

Board Members present:

Angie Gilbert – CU Recycling (chair)
Hannah Miller – City of Louisville (vice-chair)
Conor Dougherty – Resource Central
Kathy Carroll – Town of Lyons
Eric Loof – Western Disposal
Tim Towndrow – Hauler
Taishya Adams – City of Boulder
Zan Jones – EcoCycle
Lisa Evans – City of Lafayette
Michael Springer – At large
Bridget Johnson – Jamestown
Cody Lillstrom – Boulder County Resource Conservation Division (RCD)
Dan Hoback – Town of Erie
David Snapp – At Large

Board Members not present:

Mircalla Wozniak – At Large
Brian DeCorte – At Large
Matt LeBeau – At Large
Vacant – Town of Nederland
Vacant – Town of Ward
Vacant – Town of Superior
Vacant – City of Longmont

County Liaison:

Meghan Wiebe – Boulder County RCD

Guests:

Chandra Valenza – Boulder County RCD
Nicole Manesh – City of Longmont
Susie Hidalgo-Fahring – City of Longmont
Austin Everett – Town of Superior
Cly Lewis – Boulder County RCD
Andrew Sawusch – Town of Erie
Emily Freeman – City of Boulder

A quorum for RCAB is half of the membership plus one. Quorum was met for the October meeting.

1. Call to order/introductions

Angie Gilbert called the meeting to order at 4:49 p.m.

2. Approval of September Minutes

Angie asked if the September 25, 2024 meeting minutes could be approved. Hannah Miller motioned to approve, Tim Towndrow seconded, followed by member vote approval.

3. Boulder County Recycling Center Presentation

Cly Lewis is the Recycling Operations Manager for the Boulder County Recycling Center (BCRC). She was in attendance to give the 2023 report on the operations of the recycling center. She focused on inbound/outbound material trends, material sales revenue, market trends, key performance indicators, and projects.

Her noteworthy items included:

- Completed installation of fiber optical sorters
- Increased costs associated with people, parts, equipment, and transportation

- Extreme market volatility

Cly's full presentation slide deck can be given out by request. Email mwiebe@bouldercounty.gov for that request.

After the presentation, members were able to ask Cly questions.

- Michael Springer asked where the lithium ion battery fires have happened. Cly responded that fires generally happen on the tipping floor.
- Lisa Evans asked what things contaminate the glass. Ceramics are a contaminate. Cly also mentioned that glass particles from being crushed go to the landfill as they cannot be recovered.
- Eric Loof asked about the per month or per year trend in tonnage that the BCRC is processing. Cly said that the inbound materials by year are trending downward since 2020.
- Michael asked if the new glass process will be able to collect the fines or if it will be better at cleaning out the fines. Cly said that it will clean out and possibly eliminate the fines. There's no use for the glass fines as far as she knows.
- Lisa asked where the materials are going. Cly said that all materials are going to outlets in North America, primarily in the U.S. Glass goes to Glass to Glass in Broomfield. Plastics generally go to the South East state in the U.S. including Alabama and Georgia. Bulk of the fiber goes to paper mills in Oklahoma and Texas. Some cardboard goes on rail cars to Mexico.
- Angie asked if there were fire suppression systems for material that is kept outside. Cly responded that the system the BCRC is installing could be installed inside or outside. The system has heat tracking software that can identify hot spots.
- Angie also asked what major contaminates can RCAB members help educate their respective communities about to reduce them coming to the BCRC. Cly mentioned plastic bags are still a major contaminant. She said overall the community is doing a good job of putting the right thing in the right bin. The current residue rate is 12%.

4. Robert's Rules Review

Angie gave a short review of Robert's Rules and how they are utilized for RCAB. She uses this [webpage](#) as a template. Highlights from the review include:

- o To adjourn the meeting, someone will need to motion and second the motion.
- o For voting, there needs to be a simple majority of members present.

5. RCAB Bylaws Discussion, cont'd

Meghan Wiebe, RCAB liaison to the Board of County Commissioners, talked through some of the changes to the bylaws and opened the meeting up to discuss members thoughts and comments.

- o David Snapp asked if there was a reason to go down to one hauler in the membership section. Meghan explained that although there is only one hauler in the new membership, there is a different category that haulers

could fit into if they want. From the county's perspective, there is not a strong reason to have two haulers over the rest of the sectors.

- Zan Jones believes recognizing the importance of local entities playing a big role in the county should be called out. She believes that important players in the regions waste reduction efforts should be highlighted as an asset for inclusion in the board. Eric Loof agreed with Zan's comments.
- Zan also asked for clarification on the Circular Economy Funding Subcommittee protocol.
 - Cody Lillstrom clarified that the subcommittee makes its recommendations known to RCAB but there is no further discussion from the whole board about the recommendations. Then the recommendations go to the commissioners.
- Meghan gave clarification on the membership section. To align with the county's vision and practices is to have seats that are open by sector rather than call out specific businesses or non-profits.
 - Hannah Miller agreed with the change to sector representation.

Hannah Miller motioned to approve the new RCAB Bylaws. Cody Lillstrom seconded that motion. Over the course of the meeting, several board members left. There were nine members present during this agenda item which gives the meeting its quorum to vote. Seven of the members voted to approve the new RCAB Bylaws. Since the majority of members present voted in favor, the RCAB Bylaws are approved.

6. RCD Update on Circular Economy Fund Applications

Cody Lillstrom gave a quick update that 23 applications were received and over \$600,000 was requested.

7. Subcommittee Updates

The Deconstruction subcommittee would like members to fill out their survey. Meghan will send the survey out to members that have not filled it out yet.

8. Community Updates/Organizational Updates

Taishya Adams for City of Boulder: The Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan update has been launched.

9. Adjourn

Hannah Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting. Angie adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.