



# WOOD COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

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## POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Jim Carter, Chairman

Brad Espen

John Quinn

Donald Bechstein

Patricia Bacon

Jack Ritchie

Skip Baltz

## POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

October 13, 2009

Minutes of Meeting

A meeting of the Wood County Solid Waste District Policy Committee was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2009, in the Wood County Commissioners' Hearing Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 1 Courthouse Square, Bowling Green, Ohio.

Commissioner Jim Carter called the meeting to order at 8:28 A.M. The following attended...

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jim Carter, Pres., WC Commissioners  
Patricia Bacon, City of Northwood  
Skip Baltz, North Baltimore Recycling  
Donald Bechstein, Plain Twp. Trustees  
John Quinn, Mayor, City of Bowling Green  
Patricia Bacon, City of Northwood

### THOSE ABSENT:

Jack Ritchie, Phoenix Technologies  
Brad Espen, WC Health Department

### ALSO PRESENT:

Ken Rieman, WC Solid Waste District  
Lauren Schall, WC Solid Waste District  
Amanda Gamby, WC Solid Waste District  
Erica Bruielly, WC Solid Waste District  
Mick Torok, N.A.T. Transportation  
Kristin Tillison, WC Health Department  
Dan Raezer, Waste Management  
Steve Lonneman, Waste Management  
Vic Gable, C.E.S.

Commissioner Carter began the meeting by asking for review of the minutes from the August 11, 2009 meeting. Commissioner Carter stated that the Commissioners approved all four items that were discussed at the meeting. Ken Rieman added that the request for the Sheriff's Litter Collection Grant was continue only if funds are available. Mr. Rieman said that due to budget issues, the contract has been suspended at this time. With no corrections, Skip Baltz made a motion to accept the minutes and Pat Bacon seconded that motion. Members present voted yes, motion carried and minutes approved.

Commissioner Carter moved to Item II. Amanda Gamby reported on Technical Assistance and Education & Awareness for the Solid Waste District Office. A detailed outline of education awareness activities and upcoming events is attached (see pages 5-6). Mr. Rieman also mentioned that Ms. Bruielly has been working about eight to nine hours per week at the Landfill. Her job has been split into two part-time positions that make up one full time position. That adjustment was made with some of the budget considerations that are taking place.

Commissioner Carter moved to Item III, Health Department Report. Kristin Tillison reported that since the last meeting in July, there have been four large generators of infectious waste inspections and three infectious waste treatment facility inspections. Five Class IV Composting Facilities, one Class II Composting Facility, and all the Landfills also received monthly inspections.

Ms. Tillison also reported there have been six new solid waste complaints and three were finalized. She is currently going over the solid waste applications to renew 2010 licenses. Also, the Health Department recently sent out a letter because of an Ohio Attorney Generals opinion that came out for solid waste haulers. The Attorney General's opinion stated that the Health Department does not have the authority to do inspections or register solid waste haulers. As a result, the Health Department will not be doing any inspections or requiring a fee for this year. Ms. Tillison also announced that Kim Burnham from the Ohio EPA is no longer overseeing Wood County. The new contact is Brent Goetz.

Mayor Quinn asked who will have the authority to inspect the solid waste haulers. Ms. Tillison said that nobody will have the authority. Mr. Rieman added that it is not in the Revised Code despite the fact that for the past 25-30 years,

haulers have been licensed and inspected by health departments. The Attorney General's opinion is that there is no authority in the Revised Code to do that.

Mick Torok from N.A.T. Transportation addressed some concerns on the subject. He stated that the Revised Code does not specifically allow local health departments to inspect trucks and charge a fee. The reason for that is because the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) has exclusive authority over their operations. That authority includes drivers' safety, cargo securement, etc. The only time the health department is involved is if a nuisance is created. If there is no nuisance, then the health department has no reason for an inspection. The inspection is done by qualified commercial vehicle inspectors who work for both PUCO and State Highway Patrol. He said these inspectors are qualified by the State through the Department of Transportation to inspect the trucks. Mr. Torok explained it has been a contentious issue between the haulers, the industry, and those in the various health departments that sanitarians are not qualified to inspect trucks because inspectors go to school to become a commercial vehicle inspector.

Pat Bacon asked about the fees that have been paid all these years? Mr. Rieman said that will depend on whether or not somebody will file a claim for fees that have been charged over the years. Mr. Rieman said in these economic times it could be a major issue.

Commissioner Carter moved to Item IV, Landfill Reports. Ken Rieman reported that the Wood County Landfill has reduced their Saturday hours due to budget issues. That seems to have worked so far but the real test will be next spring when the weather is nice. The haulers have also adjusted to the new hours.

Mr. Rieman reported that the Landfill has finished construction on a three-acre cell area with clay liner. It has been covered with sand and drainage fabric and approval with the Ohio EPA was submitted last week. The Landfill is hoping that within the next week the EPA will give them approval to begin placing trash on top of the area for frost protection. Mr. Rieman also announced they will be accepting bids at 11:00 a.m. today on the force main project. He said that volume wise they are where they expected to be, which is down about 10% from a year ago.

Dan Raezer reported on operations at the Evergreen Landfill. He reported that Evergreen has seen a 10% decline in volume from the second to third quarter. They are starting to see a little more fluctuation and larger gaps, which is typical with seasonal volumes. July was a very low volume month and that was a big contributor to the decline from second to third quarter. He also reported that Evergreen has been doing some construction. They are working on a gas project upgrade where they are installing new headers for landfill gas collection and re-drilling some new wells. All of this will help them to better capture and utilize the landfill gas and it also helps with odors and leachate. Evergreen is also extending their litter fence further to the north. They have been setting up new poles and new netting to help with blowing litter from the Landfill. Mr. Raezer said they are also seeding about 30 acres and is an ongoing project.

Commissioner Carter moved to Item V, Program Updates. Vic Gable reported on updates from Community Employment Services (C.E.S.). He said he is happy to report that all the Wood County school districts are back up and running. He said that several schools are even making an effort to expand their recycling this year. Haskins Elementary, Eastwood Junior High School, Lake, and Penta Schools have all increased the number of containers at their schools and also their recycling efforts. Hopefully that trend will continue. He also mentioned that C.E.S. has partnered with the Bowling Green Recycling Center and Blue Ridge Plastics (the company who buys the commingled plastic from the Center) on a DVD case reclamation project. There is some pretty significant volume with that. He also noted that the Bowling Green Recycling Center was selected by the Association for Persons in Supported Employment (APSE) as the Employer of the Year for the state of Ohio for their work with employing people with disabilities. They were recognized for that accomplishment and will also be nominated for national recognition. Mr. Gable wanted to thank the Recycling Center for support of their program.

With the absence of Dave Spengler, Ken Rieman reported on program updates for the Bowling Green Recycling Center. Mr. Rieman added that Vic Gable also received many awards at the APSE awards ceremony for his hard work and dedication. Mr. Rieman said that Mr. Gable has done an excellent job and has been with the program for a long time.

Mr. Rieman reported on the sort line. He said that sorting commingled recyclables is not fun and that the workers from C.E.S. do an excellent job. Much of the commingled operation's success is because of Mr. Gable and his organization.

Mr. Rieman reported that the sort line is running 7 to 8% trash. The worst area is collected from the college students and it will be a constant education process because the students are forever changing. The adjustments made with the contract have helped the Center to break even month to month. The glass equipment is up and running. All the material that has been collecting and waiting for the equipment to be fixed has been processed. Mr. Rieman mentioned that the facility is almost 30 years old so there are some repairs here and there; however, they are holding back on any major expenses.

Next Skip Baltz reported on updates at the North Baltimore recycling. He said that they are doing well. He would also like to commend the employees in the Solid Waste District Office for their fine job of educating the students of North Baltimore. He also said that more teachers are getting involved in recycling with their students through the efforts of Vic Gable and C.E.S.

Mr. Baltz also mentioned a concern with the North Baltimore recycling facility. He said the concrete floor is crumbling and it is a serious liability issue. He has spoken before with Mr. Rieman about getting the floor fixed or replaced. Mr. Rieman stated that money was actually approved to do this project a year ago. They did not go ahead with the project at that time because the Village was still deciding whether or not they were going to keep the building. He said the building is very old and it is great for the recycling location and housing a couple balers and a glass crusher. However, that floor was not built for a forklift and two balers sitting on top of it. Mr. Rieman also said the equipment has been in the building since 1993 and that the crumbling floor needs to be replaced. The original estimates were roughly \$5,000.00 and it must get done in order to maintain the recycling access for the Solid Waste Plan requirement.

Mr. Rieman also added mention of the organic recycling in Luckey and provided a newspaper article that was published in the Sentinel-Tribune. Mick Torok said N.A.T. Transportation started the organic recycling program with about 110 households in Luckey. The program is now up to 123 houses out of over 400 total houses in the entire Village. Their goal was to collect over 1,000 pounds. Mr. Torok said there have been two collections to date with each collection weight of approximately 2,500 pounds. The material received has been extremely clean with no foreign materials (metals, glass, plastic, etc.) and more residents are calling about the program. Mr. Torok also said the idea came from a conference on anaerobic digesters he attended with Mr. Rieman in Wisconsin last year. At the conference Mr. Torok and Mr. Rieman also attended a COOL 2012 (Compostable Organics Out of Landfills by 2012) Workshop. He said Luckey is the second community in Ohio to launch a residential food scraps program. Mr. Torok also mentioned that the September 2009 issue of Waste Age magazine published an article that states that there are only 50 cities and counties in the country that collect food waste. Most of it is being collected in California and Washington. He would say that Wood County is one of less than 100 in the nation and one of two in the State participating in this program. He said to date the program is working out well and has even received congratulations from the Ohio EPA's Division Manager from the Solid and Infectious Waste Division.

Mr. Rieman stated one reason this program works because of Hirzel's Class II composting site, which was established because of the Hirzel Canning operation. The other reason for the success of the organic recycling program is Mr. Torok's willingness to collect the organics. Mr. Rieman said organic recycling is the next frontier in looking at keeping materials out of the Landfill.

Commissioner Carter moved to Item VI, Solid Waste Draft Plan Deadline. Ken Rieman mentioned there are not many changes to the Plan but there are specific requirements that must be met. They must have sufficient capacity for disposal, which is provided by the two landfills in Wood County. He said they must have at least 15 years capacity. Evergreen's capacity projection is 28 years (that depends on how much tonnage is received) and Wood County capacity is about 18 years. Mr. Rieman added that the District is also required to have a 25% residential recycling rate or 90% recycling access.

Mr. Rieman said the State is also increasing emphasis on the education and technical assistance. The District already meets many of the requirements, which includes having a website, having an outreach program with educators, and having a resource guide (the Household Recycling Directory). The biggest challenge of this plan is including the flexibility to adjust the District's programs based on finances. Their main goal though is to meet the State objectives (sufficient disposal capacity, the 25% residential recycling, and 90% recycling access). Another requirement of the plan is including a 15-year budget, which is a challenge. Mr. Rieman said the Draft Plan is due on November 11, 2009 and the Ohio EPA has 45 days to review the draft plan before providing a non-binding advisory opinion. After that is provided, the Policy Committee should meet to review the opinion.

Mr. Rieman also discussed the Solid Waste District Budget and provided some figures to the Committee. He said a preliminary review of the Annual District Report was very complimentary and the District has been able to maintain about a \$400,000.00 cash balance budget.

Commissioner Carter moved to Item VIII, Other Business. Steve Lonneman from Evergreen Landfill said he wanted to comment on Item II, Section B, which was passed over. He said after the last meeting, he met with Dan Raezer and Ken Rieman to discuss the host community agreement at Evergreen Landfill to see what they can do to draw volume without impacting revenue from the county. Based on that, Evergreen sent a letter to Mr. Rieman to submit to the Commissioners for a proposal to eliminate the 250-radius provisions. The economy is unlikely to support that now but as the economy turns, Evergreen may have opportunities with that provision and at least it would be delayed until 2013. Mr. Rieman said that the letter has been sent over to the Commissioners but the District has been busy working on the Solid Waste District Draft Plan. Mr. Rieman said he spoke with Mr. Raezer about how to do this and one of the concerns is the fee (\$2.00 for in-county and \$4.00 for out-of-county) and because of the federal requirements, it reverts back to \$2.00. He said it would be great if everything coming from outside the County would pay \$4.00. Mr. Rieman also said they also have

Northwood's support on the issue. It is definitely an issue that they need to iron out the specifics. Commissioner Carter said that they will probably be busy with budget hearings over the next few weeks. Mr. Lonneman said that is not a problem because it is not a pressing matter.

With no other business to discuss, the next Policy Committee Meeting was scheduled for **January 12, 2010 at 8:30 A.M. in the Commissioners' 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Hearing Room.**

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Quinn made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Pat Bacon seconded the motion. All members present voted yes, meeting adjourned around 9:18 a.m.

**WCSWMD Policy Committee Meeting – EDUCATION REPORT                      October 13, 2009**

**A. Technical Assistance, Education, & Awareness**

**Updates to State Solid Waste Management Plan:**

Work has begun on the District's State Solid Waste Management Plan. District employees have been writing the majority of this plan in an effort to cut the costs of hiring an outside consulting firm. They have attended meetings on the latest updates and requirements of this new plan. A significant mandate of this new plan will be the expansion of the Education and Technical Assistant portion.

Excerpt from this presentation:

*“Each SWMD shall, without exception, provide all of the following resources: a web page; a comprehensive resource guide; an infrastructure inventory; and a speaker/presenter. In addition, each SWMD shall provide education, outreach, marketing, and technical assistance on reduction, recycling, composting, reuse, and other alternative waste management methods to identified target audiences using best practices.”*

**Wood County Storm Water Management:**

**Clean Your Streams Event:**

Education Staff have been coordinating efforts with Jason Sisco and the Wood County Engineer's Department to help meet the state requirements for the county's Storm Water Management Plan/Report. The 13<sup>th</sup> annual Clean Your Streams event was held on September 12<sup>th</sup>. The Wood County Solid Waste District partnered with The Wood County Engineer's Office and Partners for Clean Streams to host several clean up sites in Wood County. More than 600 volunteers participated in Wood and Lucas counties this year. For more information on getting involved, please visit [www.PartnersForCleanStreams.org](http://www.PartnersForCleanStreams.org). We hope to see you next year!

**Events:**

**Wood County Fair:** The Wood County Fair was held from August 4<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup> this year. We offered “Every Day Solutions” at our educational booth at the Wood County Fair. Brochures, flyers and other material that provided information on how to go green in every area of the home were available this year. Our Education staff was also on hand to answer many questions that local residents had about recycling and disposal of uncommon items in the home.

**Share Workshop-Wyandot County Solid Waste District:** Amanda & Erica attended this sharing session hosted by Wyandot County in an effort to learn new ideas for “green” holiday alternatives and crafts.

**Eastwood Nature Day:** Amanda attended this annual event hosted by Eastwood’s 6<sup>th</sup> Grade teachers on a local farm. Six (6) presentations on nature’s recycling (compost) were given to over 150 students and their parents during the day as the groups rotated through several educational sessions.

**Grant Writing Workshop:** Amanda & Erica attended a Grant Writing Workshop given by Carolyn Watkins with OEEF. Some grant opportunities may be available to help cover the cost of new educational initiatives and program activities. Grants will be submitted within the next couple of months in an attempt to receive some of this funding.

**Presentations & Tours:**

During the past three months (July, Aug., & Sept.) since the last Policy Committee Meeting, Amanda and Erica have given forty (40) educational presentations; fourteen (14) Wind Farm Tours; four (4) Wood County Landfill Tours; and five (5) Bowling Green Recycling Center Tours reaching an estimated 1,001 residents.

**B. Marketing & Community Outreach**

1. Advertising has been stopped at this point and we continue to rely heavily on the District’s website and the BGRC Display as a means of providing current information;
2. All brochures, advertisements, reports, displays, and all other marketing material continue to be created in-house by the two education employees;
3. Erica has been working to design and update a new Educational Resources Brochure to distribute to local schools, day cares, and community groups. While we have remained very busy with tours and presentations, we would like to reach more individuals and educate new teachers on the opportunities our office can offer them at no charge.

**C. Upcoming Events:**

**November:**

**Saturday, November 21, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Bowling Green Holiday Parade  
Main Street, Bowling Green, Ohio**

The Solid Waste District will once again be partnering with the Bowling Green Recycling Center to sponsor a float and the popular recycling wagon train! The float will be designed to encourage the use of the Bowling Green Recycling Center’s 24 Hour Drop Off and to remind parade attendees to recycle their holiday waste.

**December:**

**December 5 - December 19**

**Old Home Holiday Tour, Wood County Historical Museum**

**Monday-Wednesday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Thursday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

**Weekends 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Take a break from the hustle and bustle of the holidays and visit the Museum in all of its holiday and historic splendor. Reminisce of holidays past as you tour over 30 rooms, outbuildings, and grounds decorated by community members and organizations. Garden clubs, Red Hats, Scouts, local merchants, county organizations, and even local theatre pool creativity to turn the former Infirmary into a Victorian home filled with warmth and life. Join us as we celebrate the holidays with the Wood County Historical Museum during this family event! Look for our tree featuring information on recycling and solid waste disposal. For more information please visit [www.woodcountyhistory.org](http://www.woodcountyhistory.org).