

**SOLID WASTE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 11, 2003**

PRESENT: Councillor Jim Smith, Chair
Councillor Gary Meade
Councillor Dawn Sloane
Councillor Linda Mosher
Councillor Reg Rankin

OTHERS: Councillor Russell Walker

STAFF: Mr. Brad Anguish, Director, Environmental Management Services
Mr. Jim Bauld, Acting General Manager, Solid Waste Resources
Ms. Laurie Lewis, Coordinator, Collection and Processing
Ms. Patti Halliday, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councillor Smith called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

It was agreed that an additional Public Participation session would be held following item 5.3 Solid Waste Resource/Management System Review - Presentation.

The following item was added to the agenda:

- 6.1 Enviro Depot Concerns
- 6.2 Information Report - Disposal of Stabilized Organic International Waste

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that the Agenda be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 5, 2003

MOVED by Councillor Meade, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that the minutes of June 5, 2003, be approved, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Wyatt Redmond

Mr. Wyatt Redmond, Enviro Depot operator, addressed the Committee expressing concern regarding the bottling handling fee and the effect it is having on the Enviro Depots, even causing some to close down. Mr. Redmond requested the Committee's support in urging the Province to expedite a resolution to this crisis situation.

In response, the Committee put forth the following motion:

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Mosher, that a letter be sent to the Province requesting that a resolution to the Enviro Depot bottling handling fee issue be expedited.

Councillor Mosher noted she would speak to this issue further later in the meeting.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Operations Report

With the use of overheads, Ms. Laurie Lewis, Coordinator, Collection and Processing, presented the Waste/Resource System Mass Balance Year to Date 01 April 2003 - 31 July 2003, to the Committee.

Responding to a question of Councillor Sloane, Ms. Lewis stated the weekly green cart collection pilot program commenced during the second week of July.

There being no further questions, Councillor Smith thanked Ms. Lewis for her presentation.

5.2 Weekly Summer Green Cart Collection Pilot Project - Verbal Update

Mr. Jim Bauld, Acting General Manager, Solid Waste Resource Management, provided the Committee with a verbal update regarding the weekly summer green cart collection pilot program. Draft survey questions to be sent to those participating in the project were circulated to the Committee. Mr. Bauld noted these questions will also be provided to all members of Council for input before the survey is conducted.

Mr. Bauld reviewed the objectives of the study noting that once the survey is complete, the data will be tabulated, analyzed and a report will be brought back to the Committee at its next meeting.

In response to a question of Councillor Sloane, it was noted that comments on the survey will also be tracked.

5.3 Solid Waste/Resource Management System Review- Presentation

With the aid of overheads, Mr. Dan O'Halloran, O'Halloran Campbell Consultants Ltd. presented the Solid Waste/Resource Management System Review to the Committee.

Councillor Sloane expressed concern that not all members received a copy of the report. It was noted that those who did receive it were members of the Community Monitoring Committee. Mr. O'Halloran advised that the report was not yet final and has been provided to staff as a draft. He noted that comments from the Committee at today's meeting could

impact the final version.

Following Mr. O'Halloran's presentation, another Public Participation session was held.

Mr. Don Mason, Executive Director, Community Monitoring Committee

Mr. Don Mason addressed the Committee regarding the comments of the Community Monitoring Committee on the Solid Waste/Resource Management Review. A document outlining the comments was circulated to the Committee. Mr. Mason noted two meetings have been held between the consultants and the Community Monitoring Committee, and he stated the CMC would like to have another session on the items they would like discussed further. In response, Mr. Bauld stated another meeting could be arranged. He also noted that it is the intent to have a public document on the Solid Waste web site for access.

Mr. Barry Friesen, Solid Waste Resource Manager, Department of Labour

Mr. Friesen expressed congratulations to staff and the Committee for their work on this project and stated he is looking forward to the waste characterization study.

In discussion of the presentation, Councillor Sloane suggested there were not enough composting facilities in HRM. Mr. O'Halloran agreed that some consideration should be given to a third plant. With regard to multi-unit apartment buildings, Mr. O'Halloran stated some are setting a good example while others need more encouragement. He stated that, as manager of the system, HRM has a role to play in this.

Responding to a question of Councillor Mosher, Mr. Bauld stated after receiving input from the CMC, the report will be brought back to the SWRAC for another review. He stated staff will endeavour to get the report out to all Committee members next week.

In response to a question of Councillor Walker, Mr. O'Halloran stated there is considerably more revenue being obtained than anticipated which offsets the increased costs. Councillor Walker suggested this should be reflected in the report.

Councillor Rankin cautioned the Committee that there is a huge dollar amount associated with an additional composting facility. He suggested that there be a critical evaluation of the infrastructure that is already in place to see if there is more HRM can do during the periods of the year when there is an increase in material collected. The Councillor stated deficiencies in the system and alternatives to address them need to be examined.

Mr. Bauld asked that Committee members forward any additional comments to him before the next meeting. Staff and the consultants will review the comments and see what

opportunities there are to address specific comments in this report. He noted a separate report may be required.

Councillor Smith thanked Mr. O'Halloran for his presentation.

6. ADDED ITEMS

6.1 Enviro Depot Concerns - Councillor Mosher

Councillor Mosher requested a staff report regarding Youth Live and what profits it may be taking from the private industry, the effects on insurance for the depots by requiring them to take paint, and possible changes in fees for non-recyclables that people have illegally dumped at the depots.

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that this matter be referred to staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.2 Information Report - Disposal of Stabilized Organic International Waste

In review of the Information Report, Councillor Sloane requested a staff report regarding a breakdown of the type of materials, what potential effect this will have on our own cells, if it is possible for the inert product to go to a composting facility or any other opportunities for which it could be used.

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Mosher, that this matter be referred to staff for a report.

Mr. Bauld suggested a representative from International Disposal Services could be invited to the next meeting to respond to questions. Councillor Sloane suggested a representative from Canadian Food Inspection also be invited.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed the date of the next meeting will be Thursday, October 30, 2003

Councillor Meade suggested the Committee should receive a tour of Miller and New Era Farms in November.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Patti Halliday
Legislative Assistant