

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

**SOLID WASTE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
JUNE 29, 2005**

PRESENT: Councillor Reg Rankin, Chair
Councillor Debbie Hum
Councillor Jim Smith
Councillor Gary Meade
Councillor Harry McInroy

REGRETS: Councillor Krista Snow
Councillor Bill Karsten
Councillor Dawn Sloane

STAFF: Mr. Jim Bauld, Manager, Solid Waste Resources
Ms. Laurie Lewis, Diversion Planning Coordinator, Solid
Waste Resources
Ms. Stephanie Kilfoil, Solid Waste Engineer
Ms. Sherryll Murphy, Legislative Assistant

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOVED by Councillor Meade, seconded by Councillor McInroy that the minutes of May 19, 2005, as distributed, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions:

8.1 Medical Waste - Councillor Smith

MOVED by Councillor McInroy, seconded by Councillor McInroy that the agenda, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES** - None

5. **TONNAGE REPORT**

- A report entitled Waste/Resource System Mass Balance, Year to Date 01 April 2005 - 31 May 2005, was before the Committee.

Mr. Bauld reviewed the report noting that residential refuse is slightly reduced over last year. He went on to note that organics were down by 7.82%. However, over the two last weeks tonnage has exceeded capacity. This is in large part due to the fact that the rainfall in May kept residents from mowing their lawns. Mr. Bauld noted that the excess tonnage tonnage has been transported out of HRM.

Referring to the transport of compostables outside HRM, Councillor Rankin asked that staff consider the possibility of utilizing the Otter Lake facility when exceeding capacity at organics sites. This would save money on transportation costs. Mr. Bauld indicate staff could consider, however, no action will be taken that might jeopardize the primary purpose of Otter Lake.

In response to a question from Councillor Hum, Mr. Bauld noted that the collection contractors have indicated that there is a need to better balance the number of households per day over the five collection days. He went on to suggest that staff could include information in their reporting regarding kilogram per household to provide further comparative data.

The Chair suggested that staff provide information on the grass recycling program to the Councillors for inclusion in newsletters.

Ms. Lewis advised that information regarding the Materials Exchange Program had been distributed to Council.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 SOLID WASTE FACTOID (COMMUNICATION/EDUCATION)

- A draft information sheet, Solid Waste Factoids, dated June 22, 2005 was before the Committee.

Mr. Bauld noted that staff would be using this as a tag in letters to HRM businesses, in Naturally Green newsletters, on transit buses, etc.

The Chair requested that this information be provided to members of Council.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Medical Waste - Councillor Smith

Councillor Smith asked if the company which has been awarded the contract for bio-medical waste is the same one that had given a presentation to Committee some time ago.

Mr. Bauld noted that this was not the case and, in fact, the presentation made to the Committee had to do with international waste created on ships and airplanes. He indicated that this waste is primarily galley waste and can carry all types of disease (i.e. potato blight or mad cow disease). Mr. Bauld noted that this company has developed a facility in Burnside to handle this waste.

Mr. Bauld went on to report that the bio-medical waste stream has not been before this Committee. The Province awarded a recently issued tender to Bio-Medical Atlantic who intended to establish a facility in the East Hantz Industrial Park. Bio-Medical was unable to meet the time line and consequently have withdrawn.

The Province then awarded the tender to the second lowest bidder, Medical Waste Management Inc. from Ontario. This organization is proposing to establish an autoclave facility in Burnside and ship the waste requiring incineration to their facility in Ontario. Mr. Bauld cautioned that the December 31st deadline has to be accomplished in order to meet the contract requirements.

9. NEXT MEETING DATES

The Committee agreed that September 29 and November 24, 2005 be set as tentative meeting dates.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Sherryl Murphy
Legislative Assistant