

Calhoun County Solid Waste Management Planning and Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
April 16, 2014

**Advisory Members:**

Walt Obrinski  
Cheryl Vosburg  
Ken Kohs  
Chris Simmons  
Mark Kenworthy  
Tracy Bronson  
James Coury  
Bradley Wey  
Jim Porter  
Terris Todd

**Excused:**

Luke Perry  
Brandy VanHorn-Cherney  
John Laforge

**Meeting called to order:**

Kelly called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

**Introductions**

**Roll call:**

Roll was called by Solid Waste and Recycling Clerk

**Election of Officers:**

- Chair
  - Moved by Obrinski and seconded by Kohs to nominate Cheryl Vosburg as Chair of the Solid Waste Management Planning Advisory Committee

On voice vote, Motion carried.

- Vice Chair
  - Moved by Porter and seconded by Kohs to nominate Chris Simmons as Vice Chair of the Solid Waste Management Planning Advisory Committee.

On voice vote, Motion carried.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Moved by Bronson, seconded by Coury to approve the agenda of the April 16, 2014 Solid Waste Management Planning Advisory Committee.

On a voice vote, Motion carried.

**Public Comments:** none

**Communication:** none

**Old Business:** none

**Health Department:**

Sarah Kelly  
Paul Makoski  
Jim Rutherford  
Bob Overley  
Kim Morris

**County Administration:**

Brad Wilcox

**Absent:**

Don Vrablic

## Department Report:

- Logo: Discussion regarding adding County and State information into the logo. Question raised as to whether or not we should tie into what the State is currently using due to Michigan's new recycling initiative. Vosburg questioned if we should use the same tagline as what the County is currently using for Clean Water Partners to provide consistency within the county which is "You Make the Difference". Kelly will discuss the legality of adding this tagline with the designer. Members stated that example number one was liked above all but changing tagline to "It Starts with You". Kelly will have examples at next meeting.
- Recyclerama: Event is April 26, 2014 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM in Kellogg Community College's (KCC) parking lot "H". Advertisements are currently being run in the Battle Creek Enquirer, Shopper, and the Marshall Ad-Visor as well as the scrolling marquee at KCC's parking lot. Kelly requests volunteers from the Solid Waste Management Planning Advisory Committee. Discussion regarding volunteer responsibilities.
- Moving Marshall Recycling Center: Kelly states that county has been actively working to get the Marshall Recycling Center relocated as the County Road Department no longer wishes to be responsible for the site. They have met with the Cities of Marshall and Albion, and Emmett and Pennfield Townships. They all express interest but would like to see what an agreement would look like before moving forward. Kelly explained the recycling options the site currently offers and the possibility of expanding once a more permanent site is found. The importance of manned sites with security was discussed as this would discourage residents from unnecessary dumping. Kohs stated that he had heard Fire Departments may be getting kits for CFC light bulbs and batteries that could be distributed to residents and that this may be something we would want to investigate further. Kelly stated that Albion currently has a site that is located on a Brownfield site next to the Fire Department with 24 hour security but there are no recycling bins at this time.
- Compost Center in Marshall: Kelly stated that the Agreement went to Marshall City Council and Board of Commissioners. The Compost Center opened 4/14/14 and they were busy. Kelly stated that we will be working closely with the Compost Center to upgrade the quality of the product.
- Tire Grant: County received a tire grant from MDEQ for three tire collections to occur within Calhoun County by the end of the fall. We will be working with City of Marshall to coordinate a collection with them in addition to those covered by the grant.
- Sharps Disposal Program: Currently the Solid Waste Program offers a mail back sharps program for residents. This program is very expensive and under-utilized. The Calhoun County Health Department allows residents to walk in with sharps in an appropriate container free of charge. These are then stored appropriately and turned in during one of the HHW collections. Kelly stated that we are looking into discontinuing the Sharps Disposal Program and offering the above as a viable option for sharps collection as this could potentially save the SW Program up to \$20,000/year.

## New Business:

- Meeting Dates and Time: Kelly stated that SurveyMonkey showed that the third Wednesday worked best for most Advisory Members. The 5:00 PM time was the best compromise with members and also for the public.

Moved by Simmons, seconded by Obrinski to accept the Solid Waste Management Planning Advisory Committee meetings to be held on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:00 PM.

On a voice vote, Motion carried.

Kohs stated according to the by-laws that members should attend all meetings and if you are unable to attend, you must inform the Board Chair and Vice Chair in order for this to be excused. Members voiced some concern with monthly meetings. Kelly stated that due to the amount of work that the Solid Waste Program has to accomplish, monthly meetings are necessary at this time. Kelly will look into options of informing members of what was discussed if they are unable to attend.

- Albion Recycle Center: County received invoice from City of Albion. Kelly discussed that the County was somewhat involved in the development of the Recycling Center but there was no written agreement. Members discussed the need for written agreements prior to sites being developed. Kelly stated that this is how it will be done in the future. Vosburg requested a budget report and Kelly stated that this would be provided at the next meeting. Discussion regarding the future process of financial requests.
- Free Compost Day: Marshall Compost Center is requesting to hold a free compost day Monday May 5, 2014 from 9:00 to 12:00 AM and 2:00 to 5:00 PM. Residents can get a pickup truck filled with screened compost free of charge. Kelly stated that the Compost Center currently has an overabundance of compost that needs to be moved and thought this to be a viable solution. Compost Center is also looking into offering a weekend day later in the year if this one goes well. SW Program would provide advertisement for this event.

Moved by Coury, seconded by Kenworthy to participate with the City of Marshall in offering a Free Compost Day May 5, 2014.

On a voice vote, Motion carried.

- Compost for Sprout: Sprout Urban Farms currently offers community gardens across Battle Creek. The SW Program received a letter requesting \$500 worth of compost and trucking. Members discussed the value of this program and its importance within our community.

Moved by Todd, seconded by Simmons to provide Sprout Urban Farms \$1000 which will help provide approximately eight dump truck loads of compost.

On a voice vote, Motion carried.

**Member comments:**

Kohs expressed his interest in moving the committee into areas other than recycling and compost. He expressed interest in getting an update on the landfill, its future plans and objectives and goals. Porter stated that he could provide feedback about the landfill in a later meeting.

**Staff Comments:** none

**Public Comments:** none

**Announcements:** Next Solid Waste Management Planning Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2014 at 5:00 PM in the Garden Level Conference Room at the County Building.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM by Kelly