

Notes
WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON RECYCLING

Thursday, June 22nd, 2017
 John's Disposal Service, Inc.
 7311 Omega Circle, Franksville, WI

<p>Council Members Present: Jim Birmingham, Gary Harter, Jarrod Holter (by phone), Dave Keeling, Heidi Woelfel, Jeff Zillich DNR: Jennifer Semrau Public: Brian Jongetjes, John's Disposal; Timothy Mallach, Village of Union Grove; Sharon Ehrhardt, Jefferson County; David Castillo, Daniels Sharpsmart; Jason Johns, National Waste and Recycling Association (NWRA); Bill Herrick, Aurora Health Care; Mark Ratzmann and Eric Gajewski, Milwaukee County House of Corrections.</p>	
Tour	Council members and guests toured the John's Disposal single stream recycling processing operation.
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 1:52 p.m.
Approval of Minutes (April 27 th , 2017)	Motion made by Gary Harter and seconded by Dave Keeling to approve the minutes of April 27, 2017. Motion carried (5-0).
Introductions and Announcements	Council members and guests introduced themselves.
DNR Updates	<p>Jennifer Semrau, DNR informed the council of various DNR staffing updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new Bureau Director (formerly held by Ann Coakley- renamed Program Director), has been announced as Joe Van Rossum. • The Deputy Director position (termed Field Operations Director via the alignment process) is in the interview process with an announcement expected by the end of June. • The Waste and Materials Management (WMM) program will soon have all Section Chief positions vacant. Joe Van Rossum was promoted, vacating the Recycling and Solid Waste Section Chief; Colleen Storck, Business and IT Section Chief retired in June; Ed Lynch, Hazardous Waste Section Chief is retiring July 14th. • WMM is seeking to fill a Communication LTE position and a Recycling Data LTE position, to backfill some of Angela Carey's work. • The NE regional supervisor position is currently vacant, with various staff filling in until a replacement is brought on board. <p>Jennifer Semrau, DNR informed the council of non-staffing updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Responsible Unit (RU) annual report was due on May 1st, as April 30th fell on a Sunday. Nine RUs are facing probation for failure to submit the required annual report on time. • DNR hosted E-cycle and RU workshops at the DNR Service Center in Fitchburg on May 31st. The workshops were very well attended with the RU workshop maxing out attendance and a waiting list developed. DNR hopes to hold additional dual-topic workshops in the future, potentially in different regions. • The WI Recycling Markets Directory is ready to be re-launched.

	<p>UW-Green Bay has been working to update the site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR has opened the nomination period for the Recycling Excellence Awards (REA). The REA program recognizes communities and organizations in four categories including innovation, special events, projects and initiatives, and overall program. Nominations are due Aug. 31st. • UW-Steven’s Point will host the Midwest Composting School July 11-13th. • The Recycling Partnership is providing \$50,000 in competitive grants for recycling professionals to attend the Resource Recycling conference in Minneapolis, MN Aug. 28-30th. Dave Keeling mentioned the National Recycling Coalition (NRC), in association with the Resource Recycling conference, is holding a town hall on recycling markets and other informative sessions and training opportunities.
<p>Recycling Markets from Regional Perspectives</p>	<p>Brian Jongetjes, John’s Disposal Service Inc. represents a private, southeast WI-area Material Recovery Facility (MRF) and hauling operation. B. Jongetjes provided a brief overview of the history of the company, which was founded in 1969. Overall markets are above average. The aluminum market is poor as a result of international markets and China’s “National Sword” (increased import inspections/rejections) campaign. Tin/steel is doing well, likely owing to automotive and construction activity. HDPE (#2) plastics are also up, possibly due to positive composite lumber markets. PET (#1) plastic is stable. Glass recycling is all about logistics. John’s is using Strategic Materials, which is building a larger facility in Delevan, WI. John’s also sends some glass to Resource Management Corporation in Chicago. To further diversify markets, John’s has just begun working with the City of Watertown on glass as an aggregate substitute. Old corrugated cardboard (OCC) is doing well, with boxes in demand due increasing online shopping. The mixed paper market is also doing well, as up to 85% of the fill layer of cardboard comprised of mixed paper. Pratt Industries is building a new converting plant in Beloit. John’s currently produces OCC and mixed paper grades only (no newspaper grade). John’s is still able to move mixed rigid plastics, but the #3-7 plastic market is ‘dead’ due to the National Sword. John’s is giving the material away and still struggling to find a home. Finally, B. Jongetjes reported recycling residuals are increasing due to their market expansion and additional commercial material, which tends to be more contaminated.</p> <p>B. Jongetjes identified several market concerns, the largest being the impact of China on U.S. markets. Access to rail (to ship commodities to Chicago) is a large advantage. The average value of single stream material is around \$100/ton, with approximately \$65/ton needed for processing, so the profit margin is not large. However B. Jongetjes is optimistic, especially with continually increasing OCC generation. John’s is focusing on getting communities to convert to weekly automated collection with 96 gallon carts. Issues include: customers not emptying and flattening boxes, customers placing plastic bags in curbside collection carts (and equipment/maintenance issues those bags cause at the MRF) and the overall glass market.</p> <p>D. Keeling indicated there are approximately 18,000 retail locations which accept plastic bags for recycling. These materials have value; there is no market for curbside collected plastic bags/film. The biggest value is in</p>

	commercially collected film. J. Birmingham stated that \$60 million worth of plastic film is landfilled each year. J. Semrau stated that EPA Region 5 has signed an agreement with the WRAP program to increase film/bag recycling.
Recycling Markets Sub-Committee Next Steps/ Next Meeting Date and Location	J. Birmingham provided an outline for the next two meetings: Sept. meeting in Green Bay with tours at two NE WI paper mills (Fox River Fiber and Green Bay Packaging); Nov. meeting at Strategic Materials' new glass processing operation in Delevan (post construction). J. Birmingham also indicated he would like the Recycling Markets Sub-Committee Chairs (D. Keeling and J. Zillich) to draft a year-end report of the council's activities for distribution to the legislature and governor's office. The end of the year report should be presented to the council at the Jan., 2018 meeting, with the final version ready for distribution at the Mar., 2018 meeting (likely at the WI Integrated Resource Management conference, 2/28-3/2, Elkhart Lake).
Public Comment	Sharon Ehrhardt, Jefferson County informed the Council her board wants her to do more promotion of WRAP for plastic bag/film recycling. H. Woelfel commented that retail stores should also do more promotion. S. Ehrhardt further reported that recycling efforts were underway for porcelain tubs/toilets with the City of Watertown and on upcoming recycling events for appliances and electronics in Jefferson County and New Berlin. D. Keeling shared that Gurnee, IL provides continuous collection of car seats for recycling.
Other Business	J. Semrau informed the council that Waukesha County hosted an informational meeting on Jun. 22 at 10:00 a.m. for Simple Recycling, a company interested in providing curbside collection of textiles. D. Keeling reminded the council that Associated Recyclers of WI (AROW) members are NRC members and eligible to participate in NRC's free monthly webinars. J. Birmingham also expressed his disappointment with the DNR decision to cease participation in the state fair, noting it is a missed opportunity to provide outreach to thousands of WI citizens.
Meeting Adjourned	Meeting adjourned at 3:05 pm; motioned by Dave Keeling and seconded by Gary Harter. Motion carried (6-0).