



Notes  
**WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON RECYCLING**

Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Building  
Room 713  
101 S Webster St, Madison, WI

<p><b>Council Members Present:</b> Jim Birmingham, Gary Harter, Jarrod Holter, Dave Keeling, Heidi Woelfel, Jeff Zillich  <b>DNR:</b> Jennifer Semrau, Joe Van Rossum, Kate Strom Hiorns, Kari Beetham  <b>Public:</b> Sharon Ehrhardt, Jefferson County; Meleesa Johnson, Associated Recyclers of Wisconsin (AROW)/Marathon County; Greg Hubbard and Betsy Hartje, Waste Management</p>	
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 10:04 a.m.
Introductions and Announcements	Council members and guests introduced themselves.
Approval of Minutes (March 2, 2018)	<b>Motion made</b> by Gary Harter and seconded by Heidi Woelfel to approve the minutes of March 2, 2018. Motion carried (6-0).
Election of Officers	<i>Jennifer Semrau, DNR</i> reviewed the duties of officer positions. Jim Birmingham nominated Dave Keeling, Chair; Gary Harter, Vice-Chair, Heidi Woelfel, Secretary. No other nominations were presented. Slate of officers approved by voice vote (6-0).
DNR/Legislative Updates	<p><i>Jennifer Semrau, DNR</i> informed the council of various DNR staffing updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last week, Samara Hamze started as the new Green and Healthy Schools Coordinator.</li> <li>• Dennis Gawronski retired May 1 after 10 years of service as the Owner Financial Responsibility Coordinator. This vacancy is currently posted with applications due 5/15.</li> <li>• A new Recycling and Solid Waste Reporting Specialist position will be posted (with the vacancy created by the retirement of the Medical Waste Coordinator). This position will assist in reviewing/approving annual reports; analyzing/disseminating data and evaluating local government recycling programs.</li> </ul> <p><i>J. Semrau, DNR</i> informed the council of non-staffing updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible Unit (RU) annual reports were due 4/30. A small number of RUs did not submit their annual report on-time and will face probation or other potential enforcement action.</li> <li>• The program is looking at a number of new RUs in 2018: the Northwoods Recycling Coalition Responsible Unit may be dissolving and a township may be leaving the Richland County RU.</li> <li>• DNR's Air Program is the first in the agency to pilot e-signature, using US EPA's Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Rule. If successful, e-signature could be utilized for various Waste and Materials Management (WMM) reports.</li> </ul> <p><i>J. Semrau, DNR</i> informed the council of upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DNR will host an E-cycle Stakeholder meeting on 5/30 from 9:00</li> </ul>

	<p>a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Pyle Center in Madison.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The next Waste and Materials Management (WMM) Study Group meeting is scheduled for 6/27 at 12:30 p.m. at the Portage County Library in Steven’s Point.</li> </ul> <p><b>J. Semrau, DNR</b> informed the council of legislative updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2017 Wisconsin Act 284 signed into law, exempts certain facilities (gasification and pyrolysis) from solid waste facility regulations. It basically removes these facilities from the WMM program.</li> <li>2017 Wisconsin Act 285 signed into law, exempts iron and steel slag from the definition of solid waste. Any necessary WMM modifications will be addressed via the NR 538 revisions (already underway).</li> </ul>
<p>Introduction of New Recycling/Solid Waste Section Chief</p>	<p><b>Kate Strom Hiorns, DNR</b> shared she was happy to be back at the DNR where she previously worked in the Fisheries Management Bureau. Other past experience includes work for the Legislative Audit Bureau and the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.</p>
<p>National Sword Update</p>  <p>China Update 4.18.pdf</p>	<p><b>J. Semrau, DNR</b> provided an update on China’s importation restrictions/ National Sword. J. Semrau indicated one MRF/hauler was potentially seeking clarification from the DNR on when ‘recyclable’ materials could legally be landfilled (i.e. at a certain percentage of contamination or if certain hazardous materials were present, such as needles/sharps or gasoline). Jim Birmingham expressed his concern at the precedent this could set, as WI has been a leader in recycling. Jeff Zillich stated that there must be a market for collected materials. Meleesa Johnson reminded that education on what to recycle as well as what NOT to recycle is important. J. Birmingham stated mixed paper composition is different today than in the past. David Keeling said we may see more pulping of mixed paper in the U.S. as pulp can go into China. D. Keeling also stated that the National Recycling Coalition (NRC) is planning a recycling markets forum in July in Atlanta and Chicago in Sept. and have been holding quarterly conference calls.</p>
<p>Waste and Materials Management Study Group Update</p>  <p>WMM Study Group COR 5.18.pdf</p>	<p><b>J. Semrau, DNR</b> updated the council on the work of DNR’s Waste and Materials Management (WMM) Study Group. The WMM Study Group serves as a forum to receive input from, and provide information to, stakeholder organizations. It also provides the DNR WMM program with constructive feedback on policy and technical issues and works collaboratively with DNR staff to find workable solutions. Present priorities include Construction and Demolition (C&amp;D) materials management, alternative landfill caps, organics management, groundwater monitoring at closed sites and recycling innovations.</p>
<p>Associated Recyclers of WI (AROW) Update</p>	<p><b>Meleesa Johnson, AROW</b> shared that at the recent AROW Board meeting they also elected officers and she was honored to serve as President for another term. One focus of AROW is to build new capacity in the industry through its Emerging Leaders program. AROW also owns and manages Recycle More WI (RMW- formerly a BeSMART asset) which strives to be a portal for all things recycling in WI. There is movement towards potentially merging the AROW and RMW websites. The AROW Education Committee is working on a Recycling Right campaign. Legislatively, the focus of the Product Stewardship Committee has been on paint product stewardship, which is based on an extended producer responsibility model called PaintCare employed in other states. This year, AROW and SWANA (Solid Waste Association of North America- Badger Chapter) merged their Government</p>

	<p>Affairs Committee. The committee will evaluate interested legislators for paint stewardship introduction/sponsorship. AROW also recently conducted an online survey of MRFs and RUs to assess the impact of China's importation restrictions/National Sword. Nationally, there is support for MRF infrastructure development. AROW is also working jointly with SWANA and WCSWMA (WI Counties Solid Waste Management Association) on producing an episode of <i>Into the Outdoors</i> focused on solid waste management. The idea is to tell the story of recycling and solid waste management in WI. The program would be narrated by teenagers and target middle and high school students. The organizations have raised \$47,000 of the \$60,000 needed. More information can be found at <a href="http://BecomingStewards.org">BecomingStewards.org</a>. Expanding knowledge of solid waste management is the goal. M. Johnson shared a video on the project (located at the <a href="http://BecomingStewards.org">BecomingStewards.org</a> website).</p>
Recycling Markets Sub-Committee Report	<p><b>Dave Keeling, Council Chair/Steel Recycling Institute (SRI)</b> stated that the council is trying to travel around the state to get regional perspectives and conduct appropriate tours (paper mills, glass processing facility, etc.). Each meeting the council tries to have a local MRF operator or representative present or call-in. Joe Van Rossum suggested if the council meets in western WI, Wayne Gjerde from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Recycling Market Development Program would be a great speaker.</p>
2018 Priorities/Goals/Objectives/Next Steps Discussion	<p>D. Keeling stated a goal should be to increase the relevance of the council. In so doing, the council welcomes suggestions for topics and tours. A continual focus will be on recycling markets and could include economic development. D. Keeling said the council hasn't been to northern or western WI in the past 1-2 years; perhaps Eagle Waste and Recycling in Eagle River could be a next meeting location.</p>
Council Vacancy Discussion	<p>One vacancy still exists on the council. J. Van Rossum stated the DNR was previously asked to vet David Pellitteri, Pellitteri Waste Systems. J. Birmingham will provide D. Keeling with the contact information for the Governor's appointment office.</p>
Public Comment	<p>None.</p>
Other Business	<p>D. Keeling shared that the US Green Building Council (USGBC) is holding regional events and will hold IMPACT, April 8-9, 2019 in St. Paul, MN. IMPACT will provide updates on LEED, green business programs and new technologies. USGBC is providing scholarships to selected applicants for conference registration. Also upcoming is the Resource Recycling Conference, October 22-24 in St. Louis, MS. The Recycling Partnership is offering scholarships for the third year. The NRC is looking to hold another Recycling Town Hall at the conference, this year focused on recycling infrastructure. J. Birmingham shared that WasteCap was successful in getting funded again by Department of Administration (DOA); they are trying to get away from a year-to-year contract.</p>
Next Meeting Date and Location	<p>The council will seek to hold the next meeting potentially in Eagle River in July. J. Semrau will send a Doodle.</p>
Adjourn	<p>Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm; motioned by Jim Birmingham and seconded by Heidi Woelfel. Motion carried (6-0).</p>