

BARRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Tyden Center Conference Room
121 South Church Street, Hastings, MI

Approved Meeting Minutes February 10th, 2023

Call to Order

Chairman Frank Fiala called the meeting of the Barry County Solid Waste Oversight Committee to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Jay VanStee
Catherine Getty
Tom Rook
Jodi Pessell
Sarah Nelson
Sarah Moyer-Cale
Jim Brown
Frank Fiala

Members Absent:

Dave Jackson
Matt Rosser
Craig Stolsonburg

Members of the Public:

Don Johnson
Jerrie Fiala
Rachel Frantz

Approval of Agenda

Per Chairman Fiala, we will proceed with agenda as presented.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the January 13th, 2023 meeting minutes as presented made by Catherine Getty, seconded by Frank Fiala and the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Public Comment

None.

Recycling Coordinator Report (Rachel Frantz)

See Recycling Coordinator Report January 2023 as well as the Recycling in Barry County Schools District Survey handout (both documents were emailed to committee on 02/06/23).

Sarah Moyer-Cale asked if it would be beneficial to ask the school(s)/district(s) that are not recycling why they are not recycling; what barriers are keeping them from implementing some of these programs? Rachel Frantz agreed that this would be beneficial to add onto the survey and she will do so.

Motion to approve Rachel Frantz's "Recycling in Barry County Schools District Surveys" with the modification mentioned above made by Jim Brown, seconded by Jay VanStee and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

See Treasurer's Report December 2022 (report was emailed to committee on 02/06/23).

Sarah Moyer-Cale stated that she had a few questions about the Treasurer's Report, so she is going to reach out to Luella Dennison at the County and see if there is a time she can stop in to discuss this report to make sure she's understanding how the county is doing the accounting. Hopefully, then she can provide this committee with a much better report than the one she'll be giving today, which is there doesn't look like there were really any significant changes between last month's report and this month's report, just a few dollars.

Old Business: Status Update on May Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Event & Liability Waiver

Per Jodi Pessell, she doesn't really have any updates regarding the next upcoming HHW collection event other than it is still going to be held on June 3rd; everything is reserved at the Expo Center and we are all set with Stoddard for the oil. What she really thinks we need to do is start thinking about the volunteers for the tires because we always struggle with that, and usually a lot of people bring tires for the first collection of the year. Chairman Fiala asked if anyone has any ideas on how to get more volunteers for these events or if anyone knows if getting the inmates and/or cadets to volunteer like they have in the past is still an option? Jay VanStee answered that in terms of the inmates, we've been told repeatedly by the Sheriff that using the inmates is off the table as there were some changes to the inmates they are housing and what-not so that is no longer an option. Jim Brown then asked "well, what about people on parole?" Jodi Pessell responded that she has been in contact with the head of the people that need volunteer service hours and we usually get one (1) or two (2), but sometimes people say they are going to be there and then don't show up. We also have the City workers that are basically our life line because we wouldn't be able to do this without their help. Rachel Frantz suggested having the school athletics or the football team volunteer? Jay VanStee replied that we have tried that route in the past (because it's a great idea), but unfortunately at the last minute they don't show up. Sarah Nelson pointed out that we have had this conversation before, but she fully supports contracting an organization to provide labor; however, we've already discussed this before and we don't want to do like a stipend to individuals or even pay individuals because then it's a liability issue. Sarah Moyer-Cale explained that they would be volunteers and we would be donating, not paying them; however, they would need to sign the waiver forms ahead of time, which obviously would be a bit of a challenge in itself. Jim Brown stated we should be a \$ on it, make it worth their while; for example, this committee would donate \$50.00 per person for anyone from their organization that shows up to volunteer on the day of the event; so if five (5) people show up this committee would donate \$250.00 to their organization. Jay VanStee shared that ideally we would need ten (10) volunteers (then we wouldn't need the City workers), but realistically five (5) volunteers would be an amazing help.

Chairman Fiala, asked Sarah Moyer-Cale for an update on the Liability Waiver that she created; she replied that the Liability Waiver has been approved by the County so it's all set. We just need to make sure that we actually have a contract with the people we are contracting with because it sounds like based on what happened last year with someone, that person (as she understands it) believed they were hired/contracted within some manner and it was our question that they were maybe more of a volunteer. So if we are going to contract with businesses, we actually need a document stating this, which typically they would be able to provide if they do this on a regular basis; we just need to know in advance. She had thought that for the City (since they already have an ongoing relationship with this committee and have done this a bunch of times), for them it is not as big of a deal as they usually just do a Memorandum of Understanding with this group establishing that how we have done things in the past is how we plan to continue to do them. So, she thinks the volunteer part, that box is checked; however, it's the contracted part that we're not really clear on, who's contracted and who's not. She could be incorrect but just wanted to use that one example to show that there is possibly some level of confusion.

Old Business: Status Update on May Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Event & Liability Waiver (Continued)

Chairman Fiala expressed that for the upcoming event in June, each individual "working/volunteering" would sign a real simple Liability of Waiver document, which identifies the conditions and waives liability except for gross negligence; he wouldn't so much care whether they are a volunteer or under contract or whatever, that's just how he sees it in his mind. Sarah Moyer-Cale stated that if we are contracting for a service those terms are already then in the contract, so we should've already established what that means and if we are contracting them it means they are working for someone else and are under their insurance or whatever their employment relationship is, which probably will vary. She just wants to make sure that if we are viewing someone as a "volunteer," then that person also is viewing themselves as a "volunteer" just so that we are on the same page about what our relationship is. Jay VanStee replied that asking them to sign the Liability Waiver that says hey, "I'm a volunteer, I waive liability" is sufficient enough for now, but if we get pushback we can take it from there; it seems realistic that we should ask people ahead of time (make it mandatory) to sign these waivers just to make sure there's no confusion (ahead of time).

Jodi Pessell stated that Liz Lenz has a whole new policy that they are implementing too because of the incident with the needle last year, so she will reach out to her to see if she will share their new policy with us as well as express some of our thoughts/concerns and get her opinion on this; she will then bring the information to next month's meeting for further discussion at that time. Jay VanStee volunteered to reach out to maybe the Hastings & Thornapple Kellogg Varsity Football coaches just to see if this would something they might be interested in working with us on (\$50.00-\$100.00 per player) and then go from there. Everyone agreed to keep our arrangement with the City for some of their employees to volunteer. Chairman Fiala requested that he, Jay VanStee, Catherine Getty & Sarah Nelson meet with Michael Brown to discuss some of these more complex questions that the committee has been discussing regarding liability and then they can share their findings with this committee at next month's meeting (Chairman Fiala will reach out to Michael Brown with our questions/concerns and will try to arrange for us to have a face-to-face meeting with him).

New Business: Recommendation to the County Commissioners for the Formation of the Material Management Planning Committee (MMPC)

Rachel Frantz stated our next steps are still a way off for the formation of the MMPC, but the Board of Commissioners has to sign & submit the Notice of Intent within 180 days of when the Bills go into effect, which is said to be March 29th; however, EGLE & MRC had stated that might not actually take effect until next fiscal year. Then after they that, they have 120 days to appoint the committee; so we are taking about at least nine (9) months away still. There will be huge focus on the MMPC during her presentation on Tuesday so timing isn't too big of a deal, but she thinks it is a good idea for when we get to that step that we ask them to appoint us to make those recommendations for that committee. Rachel Frantz stated that the MMPC will assist the Designated Planning Agency (DPA); for the MMCE grant the DPA was herself & Michael Brown, but she isn't sure who it will be for the MMPC. However, that person will be responsible to work with the MMPC as they are a separate person or entity that will actually put all the things that the planning committee suggests into the plan, then will have to hold a public hearing in front of the Board of Commissioners and then submit it to the State. The Board of Commissioners is technically who is in charge of making sure that what is said in the plan is what's actually done and from what she is understanding/hearing, is that they have kind of passed that off to this committee to make sure that things are happening and we will just report back to the Commissioners.

Public Comment

None.

Chairman Comments

Per Chairman Fiala, it appears that when doing the officer elections last month, the position of Vice-Chair was overlooked, so he would like to nominations for that at this time. **Motion to nominate Tom Rook for Vice Chair made by Jay VanStee, seconded by Catherine Getty and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Member Comments

Jay VanStee – None.

Catherine Getty – None.

Tom Rook – None.

Jodi Pessell – None.

Sarah Nelson – just wanted to share that they will be having their Faces of Conservation event on February 24th; it's a social event at the Waldorf from 7:00-9:00 pm and there will be good food, drinks, music, etc. It's a great opportunity to mingle with and get to know different groups that work within a whole bunch of different conservation areas within the county.

Sarah Moyer-Cale – None.

Jim Brown – about three (3) weeks ago Waste Management came out and looked at their facility to see if they would potentially be able to come take care of the collection on their end and they were supposed to get back to him by the end of the month, but he hasn't heard anything yet. Other than that, he is still receiving phone calls from unhappy people that they can't come there anymore.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Frank Fiala at 9:52 a.m.

Approved at the 04-14-2023 meeting

January 2023 Report

Recycling Coordinator Task Deliverables

Administrative Assistance to the Solid Waste Oversight Committee (SWOC)

- *Attend SWOC committee and subcommittee meetings, provide monthly progress reports to the SWOC*
 - Attended January 13 SWOC meeting and presented December coordinator report
- *Administer the County's Solid Waste mini-grant program and provide technical assistance to applicants*
 - Reached out to Prairieville Parks to request meeting for photo with parks staff at Gull Lake park
- *On behalf of the SWOC, report to the County Board of Commissioners to provide program updates*
 - After consulting Michael Brown, submitted agenda request for BOC presentation at February 14 meeting
- *Coordinate with neighboring county recycling programs*
 - Met virtually with Kate and Nicole from Clinton County to discuss programs and MMP (1/13)
- *Serve as a representative in recycling user groups*
 - Recycling News
 - "Glass collection has become a challenge in many areas, but communities are finding ways to keep glass in programs via source separation...There is much to consider when bringing a drop-off glass program into any community. But as more municipalities are finding, proper planning can make for glass collection that is economically sustainable, providing a key recycling benefit to residents."
<https://resource-recycling.com/recycling/2022/12/14/overcoming-obstacles/>
 - Grant Opportunities
 - "The Recycling Partnership, through funding from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) is offering grants to communities to enhance residential curbside, drop off, and multifamily recycling programs. Grant applications will be due March 10, 2023 with grant awards made in April 2023." <https://recyclingpartnership.org/MichiganRFP/>
Available Grants:
 - Quality Improvement Grant – \$3/HH for drop off or \$4/HH for curbside programs to help develop and implement a comprehensive education and operations behavior strategy (Feet on the Street/Site) to decrease contamination from curbside and drop-off recycling programs while increasing recycling capture and improving quality.
 - Multifamily Grant – Open to all MI communities with multifamily properties interested in implementing new recycling infrastructure or improving quality and participation at existing multifamily recycling programs. Grant provides funding to work with up to 50,000 multifamily units or a maximum budget of \$100,000.



Solid Waste Management Planning

- *Assist with applying for a Materials Management Planning grant and implementation of the grant, at the direction of the SWOC*
 - Created MMP handout to present at board meetings over the next few months - see **Assistance to Local Units of Government (LUG)** section below
 - Emailed Christina Miller, EGLE Materials Management Division, in response to the cancellation of the January MMP planning group meeting to let her know I will be briefing the BOC and LUG boards on the new MMP requirements over the next few months. (1/17)



Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events

- *Assist with Household Hazardous Waste collection events, under the direction of the BEDHD and the SWOC*
 - Sent all dates for electronics collections to Padnos - will finalize all details 3-4 weeks prior to events as per Sandy's suggestion
 - Confirmed dates with Morgan Feldpausch for ERR tire trailers for 2023 HHW events
 - Created and made public HHW event on Facebook
 - Updated dates on the website for HHW and Nashville electronics collection events

Recycling Outreach and Education to County Residents

- *Write educational articles and press releases*
 - Wrote and published *How You can Resolve to Reduce Waste this Year* in the Hastings Reminder (1/21)
- *Produce printed materials. Once SWOC-approved, print and distribute these materials*
 - Finalized the  BCSWOC 2022 Annual Report.pdf after receiving the financials from the county
- *Update and reformat the 2Go-Zero Guide*
 - Brittany Loffredo, ReCollect Systems Inc. gave me an overview of Waste Wizard recollect.net/waste-wizard
Embedded and mobile app examples:
 - Wayne County:
<https://www.waynecounty.com/departments/environmental/landresources/household-hazardous-waste.aspx#>, [Apple App](#), [Android App](#)
 - Orion Township:
https://www.oriontownship.org/departments/public_services/garbage_recycling/collectionschedule.php
 - Metro Nashville Waste Services:
<https://www.nashville.gov/departments/water/waste-and-recycling>, [Apple App](#), [Android App](#)
 - Pulaski County: <https://recycle.pulaskigov.com/phone-app-2/>, [Apple App](#), [Android App](#)
 - Clinton County <https://www.clinton-county.org/679/Waste-Wizard>
 - SOCRRA (12 municipality conglomeration in Oakland County)
<https://www.socrra.org/waste-wizard/>
- *Maintain and serve as the primary contact for the website: barrycountyrecycles.org*
 - Email from Middleville resident asking for information on recycling foam packing products.
- *Produce online/electronic content to be published on the website and social media*
 - Created Valentine DIY post and Caps and Lids Recycling post for Facebook
- *Participate in public events*
 - Scheduled to participate in Science Night at Hastings Public Library (2/8)
- *Coordinate volunteer efforts as needed*
 - Began coordinating volunteers for 2023 electronic collection events
- *Work with community groups to promote recycling awareness in the local schools*
 - Completed *Recycling in Schools Survey* for schools and district administrators. Plan to print and mail with QR code for either physical or digital completion options.  Recycling in schools
 - Created K-5 activity packet for students and materials management activity and sent to Sara Syswerda at Pierce Cedar Creek Institute for feedback and grade level appropriateness.

Assistance to Local Units of Government (LUG)

- *At the direction of the SWOC, serve as a liaison to local units of government within Barry County, and offer support.*
 - Created  BCR Letterhead_MMP for Lugs.pdf and information packet LUGs to be presented at upcoming LUG meetings, see  2023 Municipality Meeting Schedule for proposed meeting date schedule

Recycling in Barry County Schools District Survey

Administrators, please complete and return this form by March 31, 2023, to Rachel Frantz at recycle@barrycounty.org or mail it to 1611 S. Hanover St., Suite 105, Hastings, MI 49058

OR scan the QR code to complete it online.

1. School District _____

2. Contact Person _____

3. Contact Phone/E-mail _____

4. Number of Schools in District _____ 5. Number of Students in District _____

6. What kind of recycling is **currently available** to staff and students in your school district? (select all that apply)

- Paper
- Cardboard
- Returnables (bottles and cans)
- Food waste (composting)
- Non-returnable plastic
- Non-returnable metal
- Non-returnable glass
- Other: _____

7. Who handles the trash and recycling (i.e. brings bags to dumpsters, etc.)?

- Contracted out to hauler
- School administration staff
- School maintenance staff
- Other: _____

8. Which would you be **interested in adding** to your school district? (select all that apply)

- PaperGator bin
- Mixed recycling
- Returnables
- Food waste (composting)
- Textiles
- Other: _____

9. Would you be interested in more information about grant opportunities to fund waste reduction and recycling in your district?

- Yes
- No

Scan the QR code to complete the online form
or visit <https://forms.gle/Z9Bq2WmE1fXMypoU8>



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OR scan the QR code to complete it online.

1. School District _____
2. Contact Person _____
3. Contact Phone/E-mail _____
4. Number of Students in School _____
5. What kind of recycling is **currently available** to staff and students in your school building? (select all that apply)
 - Paper
 - Cardboard
 - Returnables (bottles and cans)
 - Food waste (composting)
 - Non-returnable plastic
 - Non-returnable metal
 - Non-returnable glass
 - Other: _____
6. Who handles the trash and recycling (i.e. brings bags to dumpsters, etc.)?
 - Contracted out to hauler
 - School administration staff
 - School maintenance staff
 - Other: _____
7. Which would you be **interested in adding** to your school? (select all that apply)
 - PaperGator bin
 - Mixed recycling
 - Returnables
 - Food waste (composting)
 - Textiles
 - Other: _____
8. Would you be interested in more information about grant opportunities to fund waste reduction and recycling in your school?
 - Yes
 - No

Scan the QR code to complete the online form
or visit <https://forms.gle/chmChsJR8fyLnALo7>



BARRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

TYDEN CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM, HASTINGS MI

SIGN-IN

FEBRUARY 10TH, 2023

NAME

1. Jay Kuske
2. Catherine Gaddy
3. Tom Rook
4. Jeff Fessell
5. Sarah Nelson
6. Sarah Mayer Cole
7. Jim Brown
8. FRANK FIALA
9. ~~JERRIE FIALA~~ Guori
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

EXCUSED

1. CRAIG STOLSENBERG
2. DAVID HATFIELD
- 3.
- 4.

GUEST

- Don Johnson
- JERRIE FIALA
- Rachel M. Dwy
-

Barry County Solid Waste Oversight Committee
Tyden Center Conference Room, Hastings, MI

February 10, 2023

Agenda

- XIII.** Call to Order
- XIV.** Approval of Agenda
- XV.** Approval of January 13, 2023, Meeting Minutes
- XVI.** Public Comment
- XVII.** Recycling Coordinator Report
 - A. Recycling in Schools Surveys - **vote to approve**
- XVIII.** Treasurer's Report
- XIX.** Old Business
 - A. Status Update: May HHW Event and Status of Memo RE Liability Waiver
- XX.** New Business
 - A. Recommendation to County Commissioners for the Formation of the Materials Management Planning Committee (MMPC)
- XXI.** Public Comment
- XXII.** Chairman Comment
- XXIII.** Member Comment
- XXIV.** Adjournment

Attached documents:

Attachment 1: January 13 Draft Minutes

Attachment 2: January Recycling Coordinator Report

Attachment 3: Recycling in Schools Surveys (District and School)

2023 HHW Collection Dates: June 3 and September 23 at Barry Expo Center
Electronics Only: July 15 at Nashville Transfer Station