

Solid Waste Management Committee

JOHNSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
OLATHE, KANSAS
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021
6:30 P.M.

Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair, Dave Drovetta. Meeting was presented via Zoom due to Covid social distancing restrictions. Introductions followed.

Committee members present: Dave Drovetta, Paul Chaffee, Don Seifert, Kent Seyfried, Anne Melia, Kate Collum, Raymond Manley, Dan Jones, Debra Kring, Scott Martin, Mike Hey.

JCDHE Staff Present: Mary Beverley, Susan Meier, Brandon Hearn, Craig Wood, Michael Makenzie, Trent Thompson, Brian Alferman, Charles Marx, Eric Nelson, Arlen Morrison, and Commissioner Jeff Meyers.

Presenter: Tom Jacobs and Lisa McDaniel Mid-America Regional Council

Guests Present: Kathy Richardson, City of Lawrence; George Constable, Constable Sanitation; Meredith McAllister, Compost Collective

Meeting Summary Approval

January meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Presentation: Tom Jacobs – Environmental Program Director MARC, Lisa McDaniel Solid Waste Management Program Manager MARC

Mr. Jacobs and Ms. McDaniel spoke in depth about the new Climate Action KC Plan.

Over 1000 people involved in the process. Challenges noted due to Covid and having to do a lot of the work virtually. The plan built on existing local plans and successes. Working towards the Paris Accord targeting net zero by 2050. Stronger and healthier climate action solutions. Leadership comes from all of us. Based on a flexible framework and working together. Resilience builds from previous investments from “trees to transit”. Greenhouse gas emissions inventory and noted that 3% comes from the waste sector. Climate risk and vulnerability assessment was done surrounding the three national hazards: drought, flood, extreme heat. Nine action areas were highlighted: Mitigation, greenhouse gas reduction (CO2 reduction), energy efficiently, transportation, sequestration, circular economy, food, and agriculture. Also discussed was the importance of adaptation, social equality, food

and agriculture, nature-based solutions, finance and innovation, organic waste, resilience, infrastructure, and resources.

Next steps: Form a regional climate action and policy committee, involve local governments to act.

Lisa McDaniel highlighted the solid waste portion. Industry and resource management sector of the plan. Greenhouse gas inventory based on solid waste disposal from the following sectors: residential buildings 29%, commercial 32%, waste sector 3%, transportation 34%, manufacturing 2%. A solid waste working group was established identifying 2 goals: Increased waste diversion and reducing methane emissions from landfills. Strategies also defined: reducing waste, increased recycling, diverting organics, reduce food waste, green supply chains, recycling education, and advocacy programs.

- Breakout discussions were had on how we “sell” the climate action plan and what are we doing to get people on-board.

Action Item generated by Brian Alferman sustainability manger JCDHE: Should the SWMC give an endorsement for the Climate Action Plan. A motion was made to endorse by Kate Collum and was seconded. The committee unanimously approved the endorsement. A subsequent letter was later drafted and presented.

JCDHE Program Updates

The following environmental updates were provided:

- HHW and Programs: Trent Thompson- All solid waste programs in compliance. The HHW is at fully compacity with no slowdown in appointments. Finally caught up and appointment wait time is down to about a week and a half. Saturday events will resume in March and will continue through October. Mary and Trent presented to the Capital Appovement Board in February for the securement of funds for a new HHW facility. The Board will vote for approval later this summer. Very aggressive timeline since the current HHW facility will be demolished in July of 2023. Mobile HHW events being researched with private industries. Current survey modified and another external survey developed to further collect demographic data.
- Sustainability: Brian Alferman- Graciously thanked the committee for the Climate Action Plan endorsement. Commented on the new courthouse being LEED registered. Explained how the demolition of the old court courthouse was apart of that and a percentage of the demolition had to be diverted from the landfill. Materials were identified to harvest such as generators, historical pieces, lettering, desks, marble. Noted that it was pretty labor intensive, but the contractor did a good job of tracking everything. Also updated recycling efforts for JoCo buildings.
- Education and Outreach: Brandon Hearn- Presentations to schools still being held via Zoom. March is usually his busiest time, but not quite the same as pre-Covid. Drafted two articles in the JoCo magazine highlighting the solid waste and HHW programs. Recycle right campaign being planned for May. This is a recycling waste audit that will take place

with most of the JoCo staff teaming up with HOA partnerships. Also planning on doing a waste sort at the recycling facility to see if audits are effective. Working on an e-waste and shredding event around Earth Day. Possibly teaming up with Kiewit Contractors for using their space. Also partnering with Secure E-Cycle and Pro-Shred. Working on the county wide website rebuild and it should make for a more user-friendly site.

- Landfills: Craig Wood- Updated compliance status. Most recent inspection was at the Johnson County landfill. Got to observe a new gas pipe being installed. Noted this gas is reused in the hauler trucks. Two new e-waste companies in Johnson County in Q1. Partnered with KDHE to issue permits. Noted both companies are E2 certified and have very good best business practices. Noted a new family run roll-off company that picks up a lot of organic matter decided to get into the composting business. Trent and Craig went down for an initial inspection and meet and greet. Pretty exciting. Illegal dumping complaints on a slight uptick. Started the process for the annual SWMP update.
- Green Business/Haulers: Charles Marx- Updated hauler inspections and hauler compliance. Noted we have 10 permitted haulers that operate in Johnson County. Most tonnage reports have been received. Working on compiling the numbers. Resuming inspections on a weekly rate. Green business update: Explained the correlation of the Climate Action Plan and the Green Business Program. Updated recent consults. Reaching out to all the cities of JoCo to help get the word out about the GB program.

Other Business, Announcements, and Conversations:

- Commission Meyer introduced a new participant for the SWMC.
- Kent Seyfried's retirement announced and celebrated.

Public Comment

None

Meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting - The next meeting of the SWMC is scheduled for Wednesday, May 12th, 2021.

c: Ed Eilert, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners
Solid Waste Management Committee
Tom Winn, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, NEO
Penny Postoak-Ferguson, County Manager
Donald D. Jarrett, Chief Counsel, BOCC
Larry McAulay, Legal Services Director
Gayla Speer, Johnson County Conservation District
Darryl Basham, Waste Management
Nolan Sunderman, City of Shawnee