Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair, Dave Drovetta. Introductions followed.

Committee members present: Dave Drovetta, Debbie Kring, Don Seifert, Dan Jones, Kent Seyfried, Paul Chaffee, Scott Martin, Megan England, Anne Melia, Mike Hey, Danielle Dulin, Kate Collum.

Staff present: Brandon Hearn, Craig Wood, Trent Thompson, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE) Commissioner Becky Fast

Guests present: Alan and Karen Ramsey with Food Cycle KC, Renee Bryant with Johnson County Department of Health and Environment and the Food Policy Council

Meeting Summary Approval

January’s meeting minutes will be voted on at the May 13th committee meeting.

JCDHE Program Updates

The following environmental updates were provided:

- Sustainability Program: Trent Thompson- Discussed the countywide waste vendor contract that the county is working on to consolidate internal waste collection from Johnson County Government departments.
- Education and Outreach: Brandon Hearn- Gave an update on education and outreach efforts going on currently as well as the grant that was received through KDHE for recycling audit. Ms. Kring asked about increasing education efforts around repurposing and reusing options in Johnson County.
- Landfills: Craig Wood- Gave an update about the upcoming waste audit with Blue Valley West, JCDHE staff is assisting. Mr. Wood also gave an update on several of the organizations and business we have worked with through the JCDHE Green Business Program.
Presentation by Food Cycle KC – Alan and Karen Ramsey

Alan and Karen Ramsey, own Food Cycle KC, a composting and food waste diversion company that services parts of Johnson County. They explained the background and how they got started; working with Climate Action KC and coming up with a way to address the issue of food waste, and its impact on climate change. Food waste was listed as the #3 area to focus on to address climate change by Paul Hawkin in his book “Drawdown”. The vision of Food Cycle KC is to help develop a closed food cycle that reduces food waste and greenhouse gas emissions and help eliminate food insecurity. Their goal is to collect food waste, process it into usable compost, provide this compost back out to residents and local restaurants, and provide a community garden location that local businesses can do farm to table. Providing a closed loop food cycle. Food Cycle KC currently works with individual residents, apartment complexes, churches, and other commercial entities, with plans to expand in a way that they can sustain.

Other Business and Announcements
Mr. Drovetta brought up the potential ban on plastic bag bans that the State of Kansas is looking into, and to what extent can the committee oppose this. Ms. England asked about the potential to record meetings, JCDHE staff will look into the possibility of this.

Public Comment
None.

Ms. England motioned to adjourn, Mr. Hey seconded this motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting - The next meeting of the SWMC is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2020.

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