

# Solid Waste Management Committee

JOHNSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT  
OLATHE, KANSAS  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020  
6:30 P.M.

## Call to Order and Introductions

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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, 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, Charles Marx, Brian Alferman, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE) Commissioner Becky Fast

Guests present: No guest speaker presented due to online meeting limitations.

## Meeting Summary Approval

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May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes will be voted on at the July 8<sup>th</sup> committee meeting.

## JCDHE Program Updates

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The following environmental updates were provided:

- Sustainability Program: Bryan Alferman- Gave update on Climate Action KC. Noted that it was not just for Johnson County, but a 10-county region. Presenting at MARC on May 14. Updated Leed project certification for all of Johnson County.
- Education and Outreach: Brandon Hearn- Gave an update on education and outreach efforts going on currently and all the changes due to Covid. Noted he is fielding a lot of questions about procedures for haulers/residents about yard waste and recycling. Updated group on cancelled environmental related events. He also reported helping with media relations surrounding Covid and gave a quick update on the County provided testing.
- Landfills: Craig Wood- Updated current inspection schedule. Noted a new cell is opening in the Johnson County Landfill and should be completed mid-October. Also discussed sampling efforts on ground water and Haze Creek. C and D landfill still getting a lot of waste generation and pointed out that it is the only landfill compliant with most HOA's.

Craig has also been helping with the haulers and discussed the impact of Covid on field operators. Noted that haulers are doing their part with deconning equipment and using the proper PPE. Also discussed that there were not too many service disruptions in curbside residential trash and recycling removal. Also talked about the grocery store social distancing consultation project.

- Green Business: Charles Marx- Gave update on the “new” re-tooled Green Business program including online certification, better tracking, more accountability, free consultation, and financial assistance. Also updated hauler inspection and hauler compliance.

#### EPA/Blue Valley grant and project – Charles Marx and Craig Wood:

Johnson County KS Environment was approached by the EPA and K-State pollution prevention to partner on a food waste project for the Blue Valley School District. This grant would help cover costs associated with achieving a sustainable food waste diversion program in all schools. JCDHE was more than excited to help, partially because they had a history with some of the Blue Valley schools and already had established contacts. Also, with the previous work and success with the Shawnee school district’s JCDHE has the experience and models to help with the success of this project. The scope of work outlined in the grant is as follows:

- Reducing food waste at the source
- Tracking progress and sustainability
- Provide waste audits and consultation
- Provide signage and food waste bins
- Track tonnage diversion rates
- Research and apply composting: on-site vs. off-site

#### Other Business, Announcements, and Conversations:

-Renee Bryant announced the EPA Food Recovery Challenge Award. It was one of three awarded in Johnson County. This award was based primarily on food waste diversion work with the Shawnee Mission School District. She also updated that the save the food campaign was currently on hold. However, curbside food delivery was a great success. Several neighborhoods have organized and have already provided over 650 pounds of food that had already been delivered to the food insecure.

-Dave Drovetta updated the group on Food Cycle KC attempting a grant to help pay for composting equipment and asked for the committee’s support.

-A brief discussion was had about reusable bags vs. plastic bags during this time of covid.

#### 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