

Antrim County Solid Waste and Recycling Council

Minutes
January 25, 2016

Members Present: Heather Butler, Dave Kotwick, Mike McPherson, Kathy Peterson, Sue Reck,
Bob Wilson
Members Absent: Mike Domsic, Bob Ricksgers, Sue Schuler
Others present: Janet Koch, Linda Gallagher

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m. by Janet Koch, Associate Planner.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Organizational Meeting

Election of Officers

Chairman:

Sue Reck was nominated for Chairman by Bob Wilson.

Motion by Dave Kotwick, seconded by Heather Butler, to close nominations for Chairman of the Solid Waste and Recycling Council (SWRC) and to cast a unanimous ballot for Sue Reck. Motion carried - unanimous.

Vice-Chairman:

Dave Kotwick was nominated for Vice-Chairman by Sue Reck.

Motion by Mike McPherson, seconded by Heather Butler, to close nominations for Vice-Chairman of the SWRC and to cast a unanimous ballot for Dave Kotwick.

Motion carried - unanimous.

The remainder of the meeting was chaired by Sue Reck.

Selection of meeting dates/times:

Motion by Dave Kotwick, seconded by Mike McPherson, to set the SWRC 2015 meeting dates and times as the 4th Monday of April, July, and October at 3:00 pm in Room 211.

Motion carried - unanimous.

4. Welcome New Member

Kathy Peterson was welcomed as a new member of the SWRC.

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Dave Kotwick, seconded by Heather Butler to approve the minutes from the October 26, 2015 meeting as presented. Motion carried - unanimous.

6. 2016 Budget

Janet Koch, Associate Planner, went over the approved 2016 budgets for 101000-719 Resource Recovery and Fund 226000 County-Wide Recycling. She noted that the SWRC's per diem budget (#101000-719-710.001) will cover the cost of four meetings. She also said there are funds budgeted to pay for the Recycling Program through the end of the year (#226000-802.000). Ms. Koch said the budgets are available on the County's website and agreed to email PDF versions to the SWRC members.

7. Quarterly Recycling Totals

The SWRC had received a spreadsheet showing the quarterly totals in their agenda packets. Ms. Koch logged into the Re-TRAC website and showed the SWRC graphs of the County's recycling totals by month from October 2009 through December 2015. This clearly showed the peaks of use during the summer season.

8. Recycling Funding Update

Ms. Koch talked about her experiences at the various townships to which she'd presented information about the Recycling Program funding. She said of the eight townships that had declined to participate in PA 69 when the surcharge to households was described as up to \$25, six had also declined to participate if the surcharge amount was \$10 per house hold per year. Ms. Koch said she was scheduled to talk to both Chestonia and Warner Townships, who had not yet indicated whether or not they would participate with a \$10 surcharge. Five townships had indicated they would participate in PA 69, two had not yet responded.

The SWRC had a lengthy discussion of recommendations for the Board of Commissioners regarding recycling funding.

Motion by Mike McPherson, seconded by Kathy Peterson, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners enter into PA 69 agreements with each of the fifteen townships for \$25 surcharge per household per year to fund the recycling program and that the residents of non-participating townships will not have recycling privileges. Motion carried - unanimous.

9. Various Matters

Ms. Koch said she had recently attended the first day of the three-day No Spills conference in Traverse City. One of the presentations dealt with plastics pollution, which stated that plastics breaking down over time are the largest source of plastics pollution in the Great Lakes. The presenter also said that micro-plastics can't be cleaned up as they are too small, too dispersed, and too degraded.

Ms. Koch also told the SWRC they can sign up for an e-newsletter about recycling at www.resource-recycling.com.

10. Public / Member Comment

The next meeting date will be Monday, April 25, 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Antrim County Solid Waste and Recycling Council

Minutes
April 25, 2016

Members Present: Sue Reck, Heather Butler, Mike Domsic Dave Kotwick, , Bob Ricksgers, Sue Schuler
Members Absent: Mike McPherson, Kathy Peterson, Bob Wilson
Others present: Janet Koch

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Sue Reck, Chair of the Solid Waste and Recycling Council (SWRC).

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Dave Kotwick, seconded by Heather Butler, to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2016 meeting as presented. Motion carried - unanimous.

4. Quarterly Recycling Total

The SWRC and Janet Koch, Associate Planner, discussed the low tonnage and high number of pulls for the first quarter of 2016. Ms. Koch said the County is billed on a per ton basis for the materials in the recycling bins.

5. Recycling Millage

The SWRC discussed the ballot language for the August recycling millage vote, noting that 0.25 mills would bring in more revenue than the recycling program currently costs. Ms. Koch said the ballot language was for “up to 0.25 mills,” and that a lower amount could be levied.

Motion by Bob Ricksgers, seconded by Heather Butler, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners commit to levying a millage amount that will cover only the cost of the recycling program contract rather than the maximum 0.25 amount authorized. Motion carried – unanimous.

6. Various Matters

Alba Recycling Bins

The decision of the Alba Public School to have the recycling bins on the school property removed was discussed. Ms. Koch said she had received only a few phone calls about the removal of the bins. She added that she wouldn't look for a new location for bins in the Alba area until the recycling program's funding was secure beyond the end of the year. Ms. Reck noted the County might consider permanently reducing the number of bin locations in an effort to reduce costs.

Motion by Mike Domsic, seconded by Heather Butler, to change the next meeting date of the SWRC to July 18, 2016, and to invite as many news organizations as possible to attend. Motion carried – unanimous.

Ms. Koch was asked to invite a representative from American Waste to the meeting. She said she would bring data to the meeting regarding taxable values and the cost of the millages and data regarding the recycling amounts in the County.

The dates of the Household Hazardous Waste Days were noted as the following:

- Elk Rapids - Saturday, May 14, 2016
- Bellaire - Saturday, August 6, 2016

7. Public / Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Antrim County Solid Waste and Recycling Council

**Minutes
July 18, 2016**

Members Present: Sue Reck, Heather Butler, Mike Domsic, Dave Kotwick, Kathy Peterson,
Bob Ricksgers, Sue Schuler, Bob Wilson
Members Absent: Mike McPherson
Others present: Janet Koch, Laurel Durkin

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Sue Reck, Chair of the Solid Waste and Recycling Council (SWRC).

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Bob Ricksgers, seconded by Dave Kotwick, to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2016 meeting as presented. Motion carried - unanimous.

4. Quarterly Recycling Totals

The SWRC and Janet Koch, Associate Planner, discussed the recycling data for the second quarter of 2016. Ms. Koch said the June number of tons had significantly decreased from 2015. The SWRC discussed possible reasons.

Ms. Durkin, an Account Executive from American Waste, said their materials recycling facility was not at capacity. She said they are using recycled glass at the American Waste landfill for a roadbed surface and that was working well.

5. August 2 Recycling Millage

The SWRC discussed the ballot language for the upcoming recycling millage. Ms. Koch explained that, by statute, millages are subject to tax capture by Downtown District Authorities (DDAs), even if the ballot language doesn't explicitly state that fact. DDA tax captures include extra voted millages and general operating millages, but not school millages.

The SWRC discussed the possibility of sending out a press release to get more information about the recycling millage to the voters. Linda Gallagher, Associate Editor of the *Antrim Review*, said the only way to guarantee placement in the *Antrim Review* was to pay for a display advertisement. She recommended submitting something to the newspaper by Friday, July 22. Ms. Gallagher advised preparing 2-3 different versions of various sizes.

**Motion by Mike Domsic, seconded by Sue Shuler, to publish an informational display advertisement in the *Antrim Review*, at a not-to-exceed amount of \$200.
Motion carried – unanimous.**

The SWRC asked that Ms. Koch and Ms. Reck prepare the display advertisement, and that it include an explanation of the ballot language regarding DDAs and that it includes a title or subtitle of: "Please know the facts before you vote."

Ms. Gallagher added that that *Review* won't print letters to the editor regarding candidates, but will print letters in favor of or against millages. She said letters to the editor shouldn't be much longer than 350 words.

6. Various Matters

The next meeting date will be Monday, October 24, 2016.

7. Public / Member Comment

Linda Gallagher said she had heard from many people that they are not interested in paying for the recycling program with an additional millage.

Ms. Durkin said curbside recycling isn't cost effective in rural areas.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Antrim County Solid Waste and Recycling Council

**Minutes
October 24, 2016**

Members Present: Sue Reck, Heather Butler, Mike Domsic, Kathy Peterson, Bob Ricksgers, Sue Schuler, Bob Wilson
Members Absent: Dave Kotwick, Mike McPherson
Others present: Janet Koch, Mark Durance

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Sue Reck, Chair of the Solid Waste and Recycling Council (SWRC).

2. Public Comment

Mark Durance said he was new to the area and had experience with industrial recycling.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Bob Rickgers, seconded by Kathy Peterson, to approve the minutes from the July 18, 2016 meeting as presented. Motion carried - unanimous.

4. Quarterly Recycling Totals

The SWRC and Janet Koch, Associate Planner, discussed the recycling data for the third quarter of 2016. It was noted that the tonnage reported by American Waste had been down substantially for the previous five months (**see attached pg. 3**).

Ms. Koch said she would contact Mark Bevelhymer from American Waste for any additional information about the unusual pattern and would report what she'd learned to the SWRC.

5. Recycling Millage Update

A flow chart had been included in the agenda packets that detailed how a new millage approved by the Antrim County voters in August would be implemented. Ms. Koch said because of Mancelona Township's accelerated millage, that the millage language had to state that the millage would start in 2017. Extra voted millages are included with the December property tax bills (except for Mancelona Township) so the vast majority of the recycling millage revenues will be considered 2018 revenue.

The SWRC and Ms. Koch discussed the Board of Commissioners' motion of May 12, 2016 to limit the millage levy to the amount of the recycling contract. Ms. Koch said the recycling contract with American Waste had been extended and there had been a reduction from the current contract year amount of \$339,480. Ms. Koch noted, however, that the incoming 2017 Board of Commissioners could modify that motion. The extended contract amounts were noted as the following:

- October 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016 = \$115,000.00 Not to Exceed
- January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017 = \$317,000.00 Not to Exceed
- January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018 = \$326,000.00 Not to Exceed
- January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019 = \$335,000.00 Not to Exceed
- January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020 = \$339,000.00 Not to Exceed

6. Various Matters

Ms. Koch said an Antrim County resident had contacted her about placing a recycling bin at Lakes of the North and that the resident had intended to discuss the possibility with the association, however, she had not heard back from the resident.

The next meeting will be Monday, January 23, 2017.

7. Public / Member Comment

None.

Motion to adjourn by Bob Ricksgers, seconded by Kathy Peterson. Motion carried – unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Antrim County Recycling Tonnage

2016 Tons by Month		2015 Tons by Month		2014 Tons by Month	
January	92.77	January	125.29	January	148.25
February	97.19	February	83.08	February	139.25
March	98.31	March	93.44	March	130.29
April	114.08	April	86.36	April	133.41
May	142.98	May	214.85	May	175.55
June	141.88	June	255.26	June	211.61
July	169.55	July	290.96	July	251.6
August	161.94	August	264.97	August	218.54
September	127.69	September	219.05	September	190.45
October	0.00	October	232.86	October	171.78
November	0.00	November	161.47	November	148.7
December	0.00	December	131.56	December	178.14
Total 2016 tons	1146.38	Total 2015 tons	2159.15	Total 2014 tons	2097.57

First 9 months of 2015 **1633** *First 9 months of 2014* **1599**
% decrease from 2015 to 2016 **-42.4%** *% decrease from 2014 to 2016* **-39.5%**