

**Meeting Minutes
Capital Region Solid Waste Management Partnership
SWMP Steering Committee**

Date: 6/23/09

Time: 4:00PM

Loc: 200 Henry Johnson Blvd.

CHA Project No.: 19283

Steering Committee:

David Phaff--CANA	Mike O'Brien—Albany Common Council
Gregg Sagendorph-Bethlehem	Kurt Larson--NYSOGS
Bill Bruce-City of Albany	
Dick Forgea—NYSDEC Region 4	

Consultants and Others in Attendance:

Frank LaVardera--CHA	Mary Ellen Mallia—University of Albany
Ken Gallagher--CHA	Aimee Allaud—Citizen
Suzanne Christopher--CHA	Julie Elson--Citizen
Tim Truscott-Citizen	Tom Casaregola—ICCA/Ecodeco
John Schnebly—E-Rewables	Sharon Fisher—Town of Bethlehem
Jim Travers-Citizen	Tom Ellis - Citizen

Introductions were made by each person in attendance.

There was acceptance of the last meeting minutes.

Tom Bourne & Allan Hamilton from Norterra Organics did a presentation for the committee on their privately owned organic waste composting facility located outside of Kingston, Ontario. Norterra Organics is a division of the Scott Environmental Group, a privately owner company that has been established since 1996. Their power point presentation will be sent to us so we may place on our web site.

Their facility began operations at a 13 acre site in 2008 and can process 20,000 tons per year of organics and another 20,000 tons per year of leaf and yard waste. The Facility uses the in-vessel technology developed by the W.L. Gore company of Germany, which is employed at over 172 plants in 26 countries.

Mike O'Brien asked if they had curbside collection in Kingston and Mr. Hamilton noted that such a program had been established for residential organics. He noted that this required an extensive education and promotion effort, through newspaper and magazine articles, and a customer service phone line. Bill Bruce and Frank LaVardera asked about paper bags and commercial boxes, which they receive very little of. They explained that the Gore System reduces odor by 90—97%. They use <.75 kwh/ton of energy. The percentage of recyclables and organics diverted from the waste stream is approximately 65%. The balance of the material goes to a landfill facility. Bio-aerosol emissions reductions are greater than 99%. Their tipping fees

vary by the type of material, but it was pointed out that landfill disposal fees were high in Canada, around \$100C/ton. Norterra has offered a field trip to our committee members.

A hand out was given summarizing the field trip visits to OHSWA & OCRRA facilities. Ken Gallagher provided an overview of each system. Frank LaVardera indicated that the key is flow control and the tipping fee is used to cover the cost not just of disposal but for all other programs as well.

Dave Phaff suggested that the committee look at this plan from two different perspectives: one side being the technology perspective and the other being the administrative structure. Of significant importance is the size of the Planning Unit. We should determine if the plan should be more of a regional plan as opposed to the current Planning Unit. In addition, the issue of flow control should be examined. Dave also suggested taking steps to get support from other regional entities. It was discussed that CHA will do a draft letter to all counties and towns to ask for their input or to have a discussion meeting.

There was no old business to discuss.

There was no new business to discuss.

Under public comments, Aimee Allaud asked when and where the next meeting would be: July 21st at 200 Henry Johnson Blvd. Tom Ellis asked if the committee would hold a meeting if less than ½ of the members were present. Bill Bruce said yes. Tim Truscott asked why there are counties not involved in this SWMP Committee. Frank L. explained that Municipalities need to join to be involved. In addition, it was asked about our public education regarding recycling and enforcement of current laws. Frank L. & Bill B. indicated that each municipalities needs to look at each recycling laws and enforce them.