

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT POLICY COMMITTEE

NIRPC AUDITORIUM, PORTAGE, IN

June 6, 2013

Members/Guests Present: Lee Botts, Andrew Pelloso, Jeff Langbehn, Dorreen Carey, Susan MiHalo, Julie Rizzo, Gia Wagner, Bob Daum, Mark Reshkin, Richard Morrisroe, Michelle Caldwell, Cathy Csatari, Natalie Johnson, Dave Shafer, Lauri Keagle, Charlotte Read, Maggie Byrne, Deb Backhus, Dan Plath, Jennifer Gadzala, Sherryl Doerr, Kay Nelson, Michael Kuss, Nicole Barker, Geof Benson, Pat Wisniewski, Dennis Rittenmeyer, Carey Hamilton, Jon Micah Goeller

NIPRC Staff: Kathy Luther, Amanda Pollard, Bill Brown

Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

Due to Chairman Breitzke and Vice Chair Hendricks attendance at another meeting, immediate past Chairman Geof Benson called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions.

Approval of May 2, 2013 EMPC Minutes

On motion by Charlotte Read and second by Jennifer Gadzala the May 2, 2013 EMPC minutes were approved.

Upon request by Chairman Benson, the agenda was changed to allow for the presentation to be made before the NIRPC business was addressed.

Presentations:

a. Recycling's Economics and Jobs Connection – Carey Hamilton-Executive Director, Indiana Recycling Coalition

Carey noted that a recycling dialogue expected in the upcoming legislative session and may ask EMPC for a position to be taken, but that remains to be seen. The IRC's mission is to advance waste reduction, reuse, composting and recycling activities in Indiana and is a statewide coalition formed in 1989. Two areas of focus include education and advocacy and programs and projects. Membership includes business/industry, governments, universities/non-profits and individuals and the IRC Board also represents all of those sectors as well. Public policy for Recycle Indiana began in 1990 with the adoption of statewide waste reduction goals and creation of solid waste management districts. In addition the State Solid Waste Management Fund (SWMF) was created by a \$.50 tipping fee, which is the 2nd lowest fee out of eight Midwest states, levied for every ton of material that enters an Indiana landfill and now generates almost \$6m annually. The fund is designed to fund competitive grants to the private sector and public entities such as cities/towns, SWMDs and colleges/universities. In 2009 the Fund was frozen due to the state budget crises, but after consulting with Senator McKinley \$500,000 annually was reinstated into the business side of the Fund. The real challenge in the minds of state legislators in 1990 was how to limit flow of materials to landfills. A few subjects faced in recycling today are competing with virgin materials; capturing the embodied energy of recovered commodities; creating jobs and business opportunities; sustainable materials management and supply chain management. Building a recycling economy is one of the challenges. Resources are not handled well and is exemplified by glass, plastic, and aluminum industries, which have strong markets in Indiana, scramble to get materials locally instead of shipped in while three billion beverage containers worth tens of millions of dollars are thrown away each year in Indiana. Glass has been brought into Indiana from as far away as Canada and Iowa with only about 10% collected in Indiana. Legislative discussion is being held regarding instituting a bottle deposit law and is driving a large dialogue around recycling. An important environmental piece is the energy conservation that occurs when recycling is done. 95% of energy is saved when resources are recycled to make the same resource instead of using raw materials. USEPA conducted an analysis for Midwest and southeast states mapping out demand for recycled materials. Indiana has the greatest demand with 60 manufacturers while other states have only 25 or 30. USEPA's 2010 breakdown of municipal solid waste before recycling reflects that the majority of the waste is recyclable or compostable. If materials are put in a landfill that is pretty much the end of the line. However, if materials are collected, transported, processed and manufactured it results in local jobs and is an important piece of the story to share with legislators. In the last couple of years IRC has put a lot of energy into working with industry stakeholders to

try to find common ground on policy initiatives to advance recycling in Indiana. Starting in 2012 a series of stakeholder dialogues were held. From the meetings the consensus was a need to invest in recycling which resulted in a letter sent to the Governor in January 2013 requesting the reinstatement of the State Recycling Fund from the \$500k in 2009 to \$3.4m with \$1.8m going to the private sector grants and \$1.6m to the public sector grants. Mid-session, the dollars were put into the budget but close to the end of the session only \$1m was left in the budget which starts July 1. Future legislative options include new funding for infrastructure and education; new recycling goals and data collection requirements; extended producer responsibility laws; bar and restaurant container recycling requirement; bottle deposit law; disposal bans on certain commodities and multi-family housing requirement. IRC has commissioned with the Bowen Institute for Public Policy on a study to demonstrate job creation potential of increased recycling rates in Indiana and highlight the job creation resulting from Indiana's 2009 e-waste law. A question and answer session took place after the presentation with discussions on topics some of which included the State Recycling Fund monies, County Solid Waste Districts and their roles, the status of the bottle bill, economic incentives for bottle returns, lack of quantifying numbers for recycling, the need for public policy, providing the correct sized recycling totes which has made a big difference in recycling in Ogden Dunes, economic factors including the pay as you throw program and the need for a unified approach from Indianapolis. After the discussion Geof Benson asked the attendees who knew what they paid for garbage to provide the data for Carey. Prices quoted were \$19/month, \$16/month, \$600/year, \$17-\$18/month, \$20/month, \$30/month, \$260/year, \$16/month, \$35/month with recycling at another \$15/month, \$17/month for both garbage and recycling, \$45/month (Illinois), \$16/month, and \$19/month. It was noted that most people don't know what they pay per month and it is an out of sight, out of mind mentality.

NIRPC Business:

a. CMAQ funding timelines

CMAQ stands for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality and is federal transportation dollars included in MAP-21 which is the new transportation bill. Applicants who are directly and indirectly eligible for CMAQ monies were covered by Kathy. Projects submitted must demonstrate the three primary elements of transportation identity; emissions reduction and location in or benefitting a nonattainment or maintenance area. MAP 21 places considerable emphasis on select project types including electric and natural gas vehicle infrastructure and diesel retrofits as well as particulate reductions. Projects must be included in a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Plan (2040 CPR) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Funds may be used for projects anywhere in Lake and Porter Counties. Projects located in or benefitting the urbanized area is/are especially encouraged. In the past a CMAQ stakeholder group has been assembled and involves discussion on how much money will go to what category and then the same group ranks the proposals and allocates the money. This round there will be a change in the process and the stakeholder group will only meet once to determine the categories. From there, the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) will select congestion mitigation-highway projects, Ped, Pedal, and Paddle (3PC) will select non-motorized and EMPC will select projects with only air quality benefit. The bulk of the project categories EMPC will be reviewing will include emission reduction and fuel infrastructure. The estimated available funding is \$3-4 million for all Lake and Porter Counties. Federal share is 80%. A draft funding timeline with an estimated project start date of July/August 2014 was presented by Kathy. An EMPC subcommittee will be formed and their responsibilities will include attending the July the stakeholder work group session, meet twice to draft application scoring criteria, meet to review and score applications received and make recommendations to November EMPC. Geof Benson, Deb Backhus, Michael Kuss, Kay Nelson(?) and Maggie Byrne volunteered to be on the CMAQ subcommittee. A 2007 CMAQ funded US Steel project to replace 100 year old locomotive engines and sponsored by City of Gary has finally gone through INDOT and has been started. Who can vote was addressed and Kathy indicated the EMPC roster established and distributed at a prior meeting will be sent back out to the Committee.

Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund

- b. NIRPC partnered with the RDA and cities of Gary, Hammond and East Chicago and was awarded with an \$800k grant from EPA for a Brownfield Revolving Loan Program. The loan fund will be tied to development projects to get the brownfield cleaned up for reuse. The ground work needs to be established for how that will happen. The money will

probably not be available until fall 2013 and by that time the Board will be established and will include representatives from the RDA, city, and NIRPC. The first regional brownfield grant which was through the Common Sense Initiative and part of the steel sector and its role in helping to educate the involved communities in how to do brownfield work and the having RDA and NIRPC help with the financial aspect of brownfield work to take that burden off the communities were mentioned.

Announcements:

Kathy Luther announced the retirement of NIRPC's long time transportation and air quality modeler Bill Brown. He will be retiring at the end of June.

Various upcoming events and activities were announced. The announcements will be forwarded to the Committee in an email.

Geof Benson announced the birthday of Nicole Barker.

Nicole Barker announced the release of Ken Schoon's new dunes book release at Westchester Library Service Center Thursday, June 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Michael Kuss announced activities that will be taking place in Michigan City for Coastal Awareness Month.

Dan Plath introduced Jon Micah Goeller the new NWIPA intern through the GLISTEN program. He will be assisting NWIPA with the inventorying of all the water trails in northwest Indiana. Jon will also be interning at the Dunes Learning Center this summer.

Due to the July 4th Holiday, there will not be a July meeting and the next EMPC meeting will be August 1, 2013.

Meeting adjourned.