

Summary of Meeting Recording
Indiana Recycling Market Development Board (RMDB)
IDEM Indianapolis Shadeland Office
2525 N. Shadeland Ave.
Indianapolis, Indiana 46219

Thursday, August 5, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

Members present: Chairman Bruce Burrow, Vice-Chairman Kelly Weger, Terry Guerin, Debbie Hackman, Craig Lutz, Andrew Nunan, Tara Wesseler-Henry, and Sandy Whitehead

Non-Voting Ex-Officio Members: Representative Donna Schaibley, Representative Donna Schaibley, Senator Shelli Yoder

IDEM staff included: Kevin Bump, Pat Daniel, Deanna Garner, Tom Leas, Alison Taylor, T’Awni Jones, Kristen Koesters, Kathy Mills (via MS Teams), Jessica Payton

Other: Jessie Biggerman, Johnson County Recycling District; Marla Cherney, IRC; Dan Graeter, GT Environmental; Drew Klacik, IU Public Policy Institute; Brian Krostofic, Ardagh Glass Packaging; Jennifer Lawrence, Boone County Solid Waste Management District; Allyson Mitchell, IRC

Chairman Bruce Burrow called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The summary for the RMDB meeting held on May 6, 2021, was approved.

3. IDEM UPDATE

Pat Daniel, Recycling, Education, and Quality Assurance Section Chief shared Office of Program Support (OPS) updates which included:

- The Pollution Prevention (P2) Conference is being held September 23rd. Board members interested in attending can talk to Deanna to arrange for payment of the registration fee.
- The Governor’s Awards for Environmental Excellence will be awarded during the P2 Conference. There are seven awards, and one is for recycling.
- The Community Recycling Grant Program (CRGP) has been approved to award \$500,000 in grants to schools, nonprofits, solid waste management districts, and municipalities. Requests for applications will be going out the first week of September. The program has been very popular and IDEM was able to award 36 grants the first round and 21 the second year.
- Allyson Taylor, of the recycling staff, manages the CRGP has submitted her resignation, but still has everything prepared to go out for the next grant round.

4. STATUS UPDATE OF EXISTING GRANTS

Deanna Garner took a moment to recognize and welcome the newest Board member, Senator Shelli Yoder. Senator Breaux is no longer assigned to the Board.

Deanna then provided the status update of existing grants. Two FY20 grants have grant term extensions. Growing Green’s term was extended by an additional year and CW Recycling’s grant term was extended by six months and will expire in October. The rest of FY20 grants have been completed and closed. FY21 grants have been executed and are submitting progress reports are at the halfway point. No issues have arisen with any of the grants in progress.

Deanna next introduced Andrew Nunan, of the Board, who is employed by Electronics Recycling International (ERI). ERI received a previous grant to build a mobile electronics recycling shredder truck. The truck was made available to tour at the end of the Board Meeting. Andrew provided a brief overview of the 2019 grant. The project included a semi plus trailer with multiple mobile shred units that could shred, hard drives, data tapes, and CDs. The strength of the mobile shredder is the ability to travel and educate on the importance of proper secure electronic shredding and recycling. There has been a delay due to Covid-19 with getting the trailer to the public. ERI is ramping back up to get the truck out to the communities including a tox-away day in Northwest Indiana and provided a demonstration to an undisclosed company that is also very interested.

Terry Guerin asked for an update on Cox Recycling's asphalt recycling project. Cox Recycling had been exploring the idea of selling the grant equipment due to a slow rollout of the product and a contract with the City of Anderson being pulled. At this time, Deanna explained that Cox Recycling wanted to still pursue the project. IDEM has provided them some contacts with the Indiana Department of Transportation to assist with generating a market for their service.

Bruce Burrow then asked for an update on the current grant round applications and the approved budget the board has received. Deanna replied that there was over 4.7 million dollars in requested funding for the next grant round and over 20 applicants. The board was approved to award the full 2 million dollars appropriated by state legislators. She explained the board will be receiving the proposals at the beginning of September to review and the funding will be awarded at the October 21st board meeting.

Andrew Nunan then inquired about the scoring and review process. Deanna explained that detailed instructions, a proposal summary, and proposal evaluation criteria will be provided with the proposals. In addition, the board will be provided with IDEM's scores and project rankings, which has already been completed. She explained that at the moment, the Compliance and Technical Assistance staff were conducting site visits and phone calls to confirm that the applicants are in compliance before moving forward with the application process.

5. REMOTE MEETING ATTENDANCE POLICY

Deanna reviewed the drafted remote meeting attendance policy and opened the floor for discussion and a vote from the members. Discussion was had to the current amount of voting member that must be physically present at the meeting location. A decision was made to revise the draft policy to match the state stature regarding public meetings, 'the minimum number of members who must be physically present at the place where the meeting is conducted must be the greater of: a) two of the members; or b) one-third of the members.' A roll call vote was conducted to approve the policy with this revision. The motion carried unanimously.

6. RECYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY FINAL REPORT

Next, Dan Graeter from GT Environmental provided a final report on the completed Recycling Infrastructure and Economic Impact Study. Drew Klacik from the IU Public Policy Institute was invited to participate and provide answers to any questions regarding the economic impact portion of the study that he conducted. The PowerPoint presentation included an overview of the partners and stakeholders, the results of the infrastructure and economic impact portions of the study and the key recommendations.

Results of the study were further discussed and opened for questions from the board and audience. The study identified the waste and recycling infrastructure in the state and estimated the state's total economic potential of manufacturing output associated with recycling commodities. This information is helpful to prioritize funding for selecting projects by the board but more data analysis is needed.

Challenges include getting recycling data outside of the material recovery facility (MRF) supply shed. Also, manufacturers/end users do not report the recycling tonnage for demand side use. The study was not able to estimate the total tons of recyclables used by in-state manufacturers /end users and what percent of recyclables was supplied from in-state sources nor indicate the MRF capacity.

7. OTHER

Next meeting will be held October 21, 2021.

8. ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made. The meeting concluded at 11:32 p.m.