

**Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District
Board of Directors Meeting**

July 11, 2022

Clermont County Water Resources – 4400 Haskell Lane, Batavia Ohio

Members in Attendance

| Adams County | Clermont County |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Ty Pell | David Painter |
| Diane Ward | Bonnie Batchler |
| Barbara Moore | |

Attendees:

Hannah Lubbers, Doug Snyder, Jennifer Haley, Tracie Braun, Angie Livesay, Kat Zelak; Clermont County
Warren Trefz; Adams Brown Recycling

The meeting was called to order at 10:48 AM by Mr. Pell.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Ward moved to approve the minutes from the 04/18/2022 meeting. Mr. Painter seconded and the motion passed without dissent.

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Lubbers reviewed the financial report.

- Ms. Lubbers noted that the Clermont County Auditor's Office has moved away from Crystal Reports and is now using Cubes as their new reporting system.
- Ms. Lubbers explained the new format of the reports and asked the Board their preference of how much historical data should be included with future reports. Mr. Painter stated that just the recent quarter's data would be sufficient.

Mr. Painter moved to approve the financial report. Ms. Batchler seconded and the motion passed without dissent.

3. GRANTS

Ms. Lubbers requested authorization for the District Director to sign an application for the USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Pilot Grant, along with a \$5,000 cash match contribution for a feasibility study.

- Ms. Lubbers spoke on the importance of food waste diversion, as food waste constitutes 20 – 30% of all household waste. Ms. Lubbers explained that there may be a demand for a large scale composting facility in this region, and the District is open to collaborating with a business or agency interested in constructing and/or operating such a facility. A feasibility study would could be conducted at a cost not to exceed \$5,000 in order to determine the scope of such a project.
- Ms. Lubbers gave a brief overview of Valley View in Milford, which operates the only local food composting facility, and explained some of the technical aspects of their operation. Valley View

currently operates their composting facility under an exemption, and is working with retired ACSWD Director Paul Braasch to obtain licensing and permits.

- Ms. Lubbers explained that the proposed USDA grant funded project involves a collaboration between Valley View and neighboring Pattison Elementary School, where Valley View would accept scrap food from the school for composting. Valley View may use received grant funds to purchase an all-terrain vehicle to collect and transport food scraps and compost material. It is unknown how much grant funding will be requested, but Valley View would be responsible for contributing the 25% required match in the form of in-kind services. No cash match would be contributed by the Solid Waste District.
- Mr. Painter asked about the long-term objectives for this proposed project. Ms. Lubbers explained that ultimately Valley View could become a demonstration site to show that a large scale composting facility is feasible.
- Mr. Pell asked for clarification regarding the final product remaining after the composting process has been completed. Ms. Lubbers explained that basically the final product is a soil amendment to be mixed with top soil, and farmers and gardeners were the targeted end user of the composted material.
- Ms. Ward spoke about how a project such as this could be beneficial to the agricultural community, and emphasized the importance of food waste reduction. Ms. Ward suggested partnering with the Farm Bureau as a participant.

Ms. Ward moved to authorize the District Director to sign an application for the USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Pilot Grant, and to authorize the expenditure of \$5,000 for a composting feasibility study. The motion was seconded by Ms. Moore and passed without dissent.

4. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Director's report was given by Ms. Lubbers:

Goshen Tornado Clean-up

Ms. Lubbers gave an overview of the progress on the clean-up efforts since the July 6th, 2022 tornado. Several photographs of the storm damage and the debris staging site were shown on the overhead projector.

- Ms. Lubbers stated that the debris field from the tornado encompasses areas in Miami Township, Goshen Township, and Wayne Township, with Goshen Township sustaining the largest amount of damage.
- Ms. Lubbers explained the responsibilities of the Solid Waste District regarding natural disaster clean-up as required by the Ohio EPA, and the role the Solid Waste District has been serving since this event. Ms. Lubbers noted that both she and Mr. Snyder were on site at some point every day since the tornado hit, including both days last weekend. They will be returning to the site after the Board meeting.
- Ms. Lubbers spoke of the assistance from the public works departments from multiple jurisdictions that have already started helping with the clean-up efforts. The dump trucks are currently hauling all debris to a staging site in Goshen, where the trash and construction debris is going into dumpsters and the woody debris is being piled up for future chipping. A future staging site at Stonelick State Park may be opening soon as well.
- Ms. Lubbers estimated that there may be approximately 10,000 yards of woody debris that the Solid Waste District will be responsible for disposing of. BZAK is will be grinding the woody debris, and will most likely have a tub grinder on site and operational by the first week of August.

- Mr. Pell asked about what will happen to the wood chips generated by the tub grinder. Ms. Lubbers answered that BZAK will most likely be hauling them back to their facility for future use as mulch.
- Ms. Lubbers noted that Rumpke has been helpful with getting roll-off dumpsters and portable toilets on site. The dumpsters will be switched out by Rumpke as needed.
- Ms. Lubbers stated that as of right now, it is estimated that the Solid Waste District will be incurring costs between \$20,000 to \$30,000 for the clean-up efforts, but those costs could dramatically increase depending on the amount of debris that continues to be hauled to the staging site.
- Mr. Painter stated that he felt that State reimbursement would be unlikely, and Ms. Lubbers agreed. Ms. Lubbers asked the Board for direction regarding how much of a financial burden the District is willing to accept for the clean-up efforts. Ms. Lubbers was told to use her best judgement.

Ms. Lubbers requested authorization for the District to spend up to \$5,000 to cover the costs of overtime pay for District employees engaged in work related to tornado clean-up activities.

Mr. Painter moved to approve spending up to \$5,000 to cover the costs of overtime pay for District employees engaged in work related to tornado clean-up activities. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ward and passed without dissent.

Annual District Report

Ms. Lubbers gave a brief overview of the required Annual District Report that was submitted to the Ohio EPA on May 24, 2022.

- Ms. Lubbers did not note any issues regarding the report.

Compost Bin Sale

Ms. Lubbers gave an update on the District's compost bin sale. Compost bins were sold by the District in conjunction with the Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District's annual plant sale.

- Ms. Lubbers noted that the \$60.00 sale price covered the original purchase cost per bin that was incurred by the District.
- Ms. Lubbers reported that 160 compost bins were ordered by the District, and most have been sold.

Litter Events: Spring Litter Clean-up, Ohio River Sweep, Brush Creek Clean-up

Ms. Lubbers gave a summary of several litter clean-up events that were held at multiple locations in Adams County and Clermont County. All of the events were well-attended and successful.

- The annual Spring Litter Clean-up was held at multiple locations in Clermont County on Saturday April 23, 2022.
- The Brush Creek Clean-up in Adams County was held on Friday May 13, 2022.
- The annual Ohio River Sweep was rescheduled from Saturday April 23, 2022 and instead held on Saturday May 14, 2022 at the Clermont County sites. River Sweep was held on Saturday June 25, 2022 at the Adams County sites.

Recycling Drop-Off Sites

Mr. Snyder gave an update on several of the public recycling drop-off sites in Adams County and Clermont County. Several photographs were shown on the overhead projector.

- **Cherry Fork, Adams County**
 - o The new compactor at Cherry Fork was installed by A&L Compaction on June 8, 2022 and went into service the following day.

- Township Trustee Jimmy Tadlock previously indicated that it has been working out very well.
 - Originally the unit had the hopper facing the wrong direction and the keypad controls were missing, but those issues were resolved.
 - There are still a few minor issues to be resolved before payment will be released to the vendor. That remaining work is scheduled to be performed later this week.
- **East Fork and Stonelick State Parks, Clermont County**
 - Recycling drop-off dumpsters were placed at both parks on May 5, 2022 at the camper check-in parking lots.
 - Originally the containers at both sites were emptied on an on-call basis, however the containers are now going to be emptied on a monthly basis due to increased usage.
 - New signage was designed and installed at both locations advising users about what materials are acceptable and not acceptable for recycling.
 - New signage was installed near the park's trash dumpsters to inform the public about the location of the new recycling containers.
 - The recycling dumpsters were not placed next to the existing trash dumpsters in an effort to avoid overflow trash ending up in the recycling dumpsters.
 - **Goshen Township, Clermont County**
 - The recycling dumpsters at Goshen Township took a direct hit from the July 6th, 2022 tornado and all four either were toppled, moved, and/or damaged.
 - The containers were moved to the debris staging area and are temporarily being used for household trash.
 - The containers will be moved back to their original location and the recycling site re-opened as soon as possible.

Employee Updates

Ms. Lubbers gave updates on staffing:

- Laura Lair is currently out on maternity leave and is expected to return to work in mid-September.
- Jennifer Diesel-Slone left her position as Executive Assistant at Clermont County Water Resources and was replaced by Jayme Foster.

Grants Funds Awarded

- **Ohio EPA Recycle Ohio Community and Litter Grant**
 - Ms. Lubbers stated that the District was awarded funding from the 2022 Ohio EPA Recycle Ohio Community and Litter Grant.
 - Ms. Lubbers gave a brief overview of how the awarded grant funds would be used. These funds will be used towards the 2023 Spring Litter Clean-up Event and for the purchase of several outdoor recycling containers to be placed in public parks around Clermont County and Adams County.
- **Ohio EPA Academic Institution Grant**
 - Ms. Lubbers stated that the Merwin Elementary was awarded funding from the Ohio EPA Academic Institution Grant. The District assisted in writing the grant and will be partnering on implementation.
 - Ms. Lubbers explained that the grant money would be used to purchase several items to support Merwin Elementary School's food waste reduction program, including a refrigerator to save sharable foods and drinks, a sorting table to sort and separate items normally sent to the landfill, and other carts and trays.

- **Association of Ohio Recyclers Grant**

- o Ms. Lubbers stated that Mr. Snyder wrote a grant funding request to the Association of Ohio Recyclers and that a \$500 grant was awarded to the District, with no match required.
- o Ms. Lubbers explained that the funds will be used for new educational signage to be used at the public recycling drop-off locations. Two additional A-frame sign stands will be purchased with the funds as well.

5. EDUCATION/OUTREACH REPORT: CLERMONT COUNTY

Ms. Zelak gave a presentation regarding various environmental education projects in Clermont County:

- 290 pounds of useable school supplies were collected from various schools at the end of the 2021-2022 school year and donated to NEST through CNE and the Cincinnati Recycling & Reuse Hub.
- Food Waste Audits were conducted at three schools and one homeschool group, surveying 1,781 total plates.
- 24 programs with solid waste topics as a primary focus were held, and 29 programs with solid waste as a secondary focus were held.

6. AWAR TRANSFER STATION, ADAMS COUNTY RECYCLING, AND ADAMS COUNTY EDUCATION/OUTREACH REPORT

AWAR Transfer Station & Adams County Recycling Report

Mr. Trefz gave an update on the AWAR Transfer Station and Adams County Recycling:

- Recycling poundage has followed a similar pattern month-to-month when compared to last year.
- Some common commodity prices are down by 44% since the beginning of the year, however Adams-Brown Recycling is trying to tighten their margins to keep the highest price for returns to the public.
- The amount of garbage removed from the recycling stream increased to 27.3%, which is a 5.6% increase above the yearly average. It is speculated that this may be resulting from customers leaving Rumpke due to recent price increases.
- Mitchell Tackett, the new part-time attendant at the station, is doing well.

Ms. Lubbers added that she has gotten feedback in Clermont County from residents complaining about Rumpke's recent price increases as well. Several townships have recently expressed interest in franchising their waste hauling as a result of the price increases, but now may not be the best time to go out bid due to record high fuel prices.

Education/Outreach Report: Adams County

Mr. Trefz gave an update of various environmental education projects in Adams County.

- Ms. Edge was not able to attend this meeting as she is currently presenting at the Adams County Fair with the Green Machine.
 - Several litter collection events were attended by Ms. Edge in Adams County, and has distributed supplies for other events.
 - Education events and programs will be presented in the Adams County schools this fall.
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7. PUBLIC INPUT

No public input was received.

8. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT

The next board meeting of the Adams Clermont Solid Waste District will be held at 10:30AM on Monday, October 24th, 2022 at the Adams County Commissioners Building located at 215 N. Cross Street, West Union.

Mr. Painter moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion as seconded by Ms. Moore and passed without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:06PM.