

State Marketing Board for Recyclable Minutes

November 18, 2014
2:00 p.m.

ADEQ
5301 Northshore Dr
NLR, AR 72118

State Board Members Present:

Don Curan
Matthew Buchman
George Wheatley
Tim Freel
Patsy Weidanz

Others Present:

Ed Majors AEDC
Teresa Bechtel ADEQ
Sean Whiteley Delta Plastics
Joe Maneiro Recycle Bikes
For kids
Michele Gillham ADEQ
Cherie O'Mary, ARC

Acknowledgement of Notification of Media

George Wheatley called the meeting to order at 2:06. Teresa Bechtel confirmed the media notification.

Discussion and Agenda

George Wheatley welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested everyone in attendance to introduce themselves.

Patsy Weidanz read the minutes from the last meeting. Don Curan made a motion to approve the minutes read. Tim Freel seconded and Minutes were approved.

The previous minutes stated that the Board would wait until we received a letter requesting a rule change or waiver concerning storage of shredded rubber from West River Valley RSWMD before we would take action. George Wheatley stated that we have not received the request at this time.

Sean Whiteley CEO from Delta Plastics gave the first presentation. Their business model is a national and international provider of high volume, sustainable solutions to customers through innovative "closed-loop" and recycling systems that preserves future generations. They are the largest recycler of used plastics. In 2010 they used 20 million pounds of plastics. In 2014 they used 60 million pounds of recycled plastics. They have collected nearly 1 billion pounds of used plastic since 1998.

Delta Plastic was founded in 1996 in Stuttgart, AR where everything was housed. Now they have a Little Rock plant with 21 lines. The Stuttgart facility is dedicated to collecting and processing dirty plastic. They have just bought 208 acres across the street from the Stuttgart plant, eventually they will double their capacity. Their recycled plastics are mainly in the agriculture arena. They collect pit/pond liners, polytube, green house film, bunker covers, bale and silage wrap, nursery trays and pots, mulch film, drip lines and other LDPE.

Their polytube conserves water, saves labor. It is replaced annually with a low investment cost. They have just introduced polytube in Brazil and Argentina. They want to build a plant in South America and should know the details in the next few months.

They have developed a software program to reduce water use by 20% by the year 2020. This program is free to farmers.

Their new Revolution Bag is made of 91% recycled materials.

Joe Maneiro gave the next presentation for the Recycle Bikes for Kids program. Ron King is the CEO of the company and known as the "Bike Dude". Ron went on a lot of mission trips through the years and decided it was time for him to find some new project and stop traveling so much. One night he was watching the local news and saw where the Little Rock police gave away 100 unclaimed used bikes to children at Christmas. He decided that everyone remembers his or her first bike so he started the program. He found that a lot of people had bikes to give away. He made a shop to fix used bikes. The first year he gave away 300 bikes. In 2014 they will give away more than 2,000 bikes. He started a volunteer program and has, on the average, 30 volunteers a day. They are located on East 6th next to Heifer International. If an adult volunteer works for 3 hours they can have a used bike to fix for their personal use.

Other businesses help collect bikes for them such as ABC Scrap. In Saline County they collected 300 bikes during an e-waste event.

All tandem bikes go to the School for the Blind.

Bikes for Kids have been in operation for 6 ½ years and have not needed any funds to operate. They have reached the size of operations that they have applied for a 501C.

After the presentations, George ask for public comments. Michele Gillham reported that the latest recycling numbers are in and we had a 5% drop in material going to the landfill. She advised we have gone from 2012 recycling 35% to 2014 recycling 39%.

Michelle also reported on the Logo Slogan contest that had taken place. They had over 2000 slogans submitted. The winner of the contest was Tim Leigh from Conway, AR. His winning slogan was "Keep Arkansas Natural Recycle". Michelle encouraged everyone to use the Logo and Slogan when ever possible.

George reported that Brian Pugh from the City of Fayetteville was conducting a door to door recycling study. Some of the questions they are asking residents are what they recycle and what they dislike about recycling.

Don Curan provided the Board with literature on paving with recycled asphalt shingles across the country.

Ed Majors passed around some recycled material that they are looking for ideas on products that might be made from the materials. He asked for any help we could give his committee.

Having no more business the meeting was adjourned.

Patsy Weidanz
Secretary