

## State Marketing Board for Recyclables Minutes

June 7, 2012  
1:15 p.m.

Waste Management  
Rogers, AR

State Board Members Present:

George Wheatley  
Tim Freel  
Don Curran  
Patsy Weidanz

Others Present:

Laurel Matvla- EIO Co  
Brent Leas- ESCO  
Teresa Bechtel- ADEQ  
Tom Ginn- Bentonville/Bella Vista  
Chamber of Commerce  
Maylon Rice- Boston Mountain  
Solid Waste District  
Martha Treece- ORE-  
Recovered Material  
Randy Hall- Seb. Co RSWMD  
Donna Utter- Ripple Glass  
Garnett Wise- WM Sustainability  
Services  
Robert Hunter- ADEQ  
Bobby Fanning-Wal-Mart

### Acknowledgement of Notification of Media

George Wheatley called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. Teresa Bechtel confirmed the media notification.

### Discussion and Agenda

George Wheatley requested everyone in attendance to introduce themselves.

Patsy Weidanz read the minutes from the previous meeting. Tim Freel made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Don Curran seconded. Minutes were approved.

Tom Ginn-VP of Economic Development in Northwest Arkansas gave a snapshot of some of NW Arkansas recycling progress.

Below are some of the highlights of his presentation:

Currently working with 3 out of 4 school systems (Rogers, Springdale, negotiating with Bentonville)

- Benton County Environmental Affairs Office BC clean up at collection stations in Bentonville, Decatur and Garfield-collected 40,000 to 50,000 lbs. of old electronics
- Last year in Washington County in partnership with Environmental Services for the Boston Mountain Solid Waste District collected 300,000 lbs. in a 2 day exclusive for electronics
- Should have website up and running soon for a new asset management division, ReversetechLLC.com-refurbishing computer equipment and selling and shipping the equipment primarily in the USA.
- Broadening outside their current market to Border States OK, KS and TN; also a new location in Benton in central Arkansas.

#### **Bella Vista Recycles-Wally Sheldon**

- Collected over 2,500 tons each year the last five years and on pace to accomplish it again in 2012.
- Fewer newspapers and what they get is lighter as fewer people receive them
- Last month, 103 different people volunteered
- Currently 24 organizations are working with them on grants; the smallest is \$3,000.
- 2011 was a banner year gross revenue from selling the collected recyclables \$413,000; Gave away (donated) \$256,000 to 53 different organizations.

#### **Here are some District Highlights for Washington/Madison County-Maylon Rice**

- Maylon Rice, Director of the Boston Mountain Solid Waste District, is one of three solid waste director's state wide on the ADEQ Planning Committee for the State's 10-year solid waste plan. Rice heads the disposal committee component of this plan.
- The District in 2011 recycled 4,890 tons of materials.
- The District has begun a program to recycle glass with Owens Corning Fiberglass and Boulevard Brewing Co., through a partnership with Ripple Glass Inc., of Kansas City, Mo.
- The District has opened for more than a year a "drop off" recycling center in Springdale to augment their residential curbside recycling with Waste Management. This drop off center in the first six month of operation supplied almost 40 tons of recycling materials to the District's program.
- The District in the midst of a comprehensive waste and recycling survey conducted by the America Corp employee, Bill Dollar, who has met with all 15 mayors in the District to compile solid waste contracts, agreements and survey the amount of both solid waste and recycling from each community.
- EcoVista Landfill (the region's only operational landfill in Tontitown) is continuing with its planned modification, which should provide adequate landfill space for the next 20-30 plus years.

#### **Wendy Cravens-Benton County Solid Waste District**

- The main new thing going on for Benton County is that the Benton County Solid Waste District is building a new Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste facility. We anticipate it opening in September.

Bobby Fanning gave the next presentation concerning Wal-Mart's progress with its Recycling program. They are recycling 4.6 Billion pounds of cardboard a year. They are recycling at the rate of 80.9%. The last 19% is very difficult to achieve but they are

working on ideas. Some of the issues they are struggling with deal with pharmacy issues, organics, construction and demolition issues. There were 256 new stores in the US alone in 2012. Their dream goal would be to turn a recycle product into something that goes back on the shelf for sale and close the loop.

Donna Utter from Ripple Glass wanted to thank the Board for the letter they sent out to encourage Solid Waste Districts in the State to recycle glass. She advised us that the letter was the turning point for getting her “foot in the door” to meet with cities to discuss recycling glass.

Martha Treece wanted to compliment the Board on the new logo and website she thought it spoke well of Arkansas and its recycling efforts.

Having no more business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Patsy Weidanz  
Secretary