

CVSWMD – Community Services Project – Advisory Committee – January 30, 2017 Meeting Notes

Participants:

Rob LaClair – Barre Town;
Dana Hadley – Berlin;
Joan Goodrich – Chelsea;

Jon Jewett – Hardwick;
Dona Bate – Montpelier;
Betsy Ziegler – Plainfield.

CVSWMD Staff: Cathleen Gent, Bruce Westcott

Recap from Materials Sent in Advance of Meeting

There were no changes to the November 30 meeting notes. Cathleen and Bruce recapped the discussion from the November 30 meeting, including the priorities list to address solid waste related challenges and future CVSWMD programs and the “how much would you pay” for hard-to-recycle materials or HHW survey results.

Alternative Concepts and Options

Cathleen and Bruce presented alternative concepts and options for a permanent HHW facility, local satellite locations, and a central collection point.

- Permanent HHW Facility
 - Cost and income information
- Concept of expandable facility with sufficient land and potential for expanded indoor and outdoor storage space
 - Begin with HHW facility
- ARCC – remain in same location or move services to new location, including potential capital costs.
- Satellite services – provide local outlets for materials currently collected at the ARCC (actual materials collected will vary per local outlets)
- Central collection point – warehouse collection point in core area for collection of materials collected via satellite locations and the ARCC

Staff noted that, based on research to date, the scenarios will produce net losses for CVSWMD. The income sources are not expected to equal program costs.

Review Staff Recommendations

Bruce and Cathleen reviewed the staff preliminary recommendations for the Community Services Project:

- Co-Locate ARCC, central collection point, HHW year-round facility
 - Into ARCC type facility
 - Separate facilities are not viable financially or operationally
- Initiate Local Satellite Program focused on CVSWMD-led special events
 - Larger variety of materials can be collected and brought to central collection point
 - Reduce contamination issues
 - Less reliance on local staff and volunteers
 - Services offered in all member municipalities at least twice a year (no Barre City,



Montpelier, Barre Town)

- CVSWMD collections via a Rover truck, with local partners

In addition, Bruce and Cathleen discussed the potential transition of the CVSWMD Business Organics Program to the private sector, given that private haulers are now beginning to offer commercial hauling services in central Vermont. Staff are recommending that CVSWMD pursue the transition of the Business Organics Program, which also would allow program resources to become available for other programs.

The Advisory Committee made the following recommendations (through consensus, not a formal action):

- July 2017 – Pivotal time for CVSWMD
 - CVSWMD may transition Business Organics Program at that time
 - Committee general support for that transition to occur
 - Will see how organics markets and hauling operators respond with Act 148 requirements
- Continue to lease space at ARCC until 2019
 - Finding suitable option by July 2017 is highly unlikely
 - Take the two years to do feasibility study, find location(s), and involve District local officials – “sell it” to communities
 - In those two years, we can develop opportunities to partner to provide satellite services in specific communities
- CVSWMD staff should continue to work with Towns to clarify goals and opportunities:
 - Advisory Committee can continue to be a sounding board for program ideas
 - Meet later this summer
 - CVSWMD needs to:
 - Be nimble with respect to markets, and be ready to add/discontinue materials (field programs)
 - Be careful that we can afford rent or ownership for any facility.
- CVSWMD should communicate more regularly with elected officials and the public
 - Come to Selectboard meetings to share information about progress
 - Serve as a conduit/resource about recycling and solid waste guidelines (even if the District does not operate transfer stations or do hauling)

Next Steps and Wrap Up

The Advisory Committee did not schedule another meeting, but expressed interest in meeting this summer once CVSWMD has a better sense of what will be happening with the Business Organics Program and the July 1 deadline for certain Act 148 requirements kick in (primarily related to hauler organics collections).

CVSWMD staff will follow up to schedule a meeting this summer.

