

**Recycling Commission Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 5:30-8:30pm**  
**Borough Administrative Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Chizmar Room**

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**1. ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners:** Karl Monetti - Chair, Jimmy Fox, Paul Knight, Karl Hough, Brett Parks, Elliot Wilson, Ariane Staples

**FNSB Staff:** Bob Jordan, David Bredlie, Dave Halverson; Jane Steeves, Secretary

**Liaisons:** Becca Brado, Brittany Smart, GSIA; John Davies, FNSB Assembly

**Guests:** Patrick Cotter, PDC Inc. Engineers; Ken Simington, Alaska Waste; Rodney Guritz, Arctic Data Services; Rodney Gaskins, Fairbanks Rescue Mission; Chris Bowen, K & K Recycling; Allen Ballew, Chena Power

**2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

(Approval of Consent Agenda passes all routine items indicated by an asterisk (\*) on the agenda. Consent Agenda items are not considered separately unless so requested, in which case the item is returned to the general agenda. Said item will be discussed prior to public comment period, or under New Business, at discretion of Chair.)

A. \*Approval of Agenda -

**MOVED:** Karl Hough

**SECONDED:** Jimmy Fox

**DISCUSSION:** None

**PASSED:** Unanimously, but one. Brett Parks abstained due to not having attended the previous meeting.

B. \*Approval of minutes of 01/21/2015 meeting.

Included in 2A above.

**3. MESSAGES**

A. Chairman's comments –

None

B. Communications to the Recycling Commission:

i. Report on Air Force Community Partnership: Commissioners Ariane Staples, Paul Knight

Commissioners Knight and Staples joined separate groups. Both made contacts and connections for future communication. Paul Knight's group was not interested in a major way in recycling. Recycling for this group was a small part of the bigger picture of the major housing issue. The group is willing to work with the Recycling Commission at a more appropriate time in future. Ariane Staples' group is interested in joining resources to prevent the current overlap of

services which exists in some areas of current recycling. Ex: Eielson AFB staff is looking for partnerships to purchase de-icing fluid. Eielson staff is interested in the results of the feasibility study. There are no plans to continue Air Force Community Partnerships meetings in future.

ii. Report from Recycling Task Force: Becca Brado, Executive Director, Green Star of Interior Alaska (GSIA)

Participation was exceptional. The Task Force envisions a strategic plan, aligned with the Commission goals, that by 2020 recycling will be 'normal' in the community of the FNSB, Fort Wainwright and Eielson. The short term priority is a "bring your own bag" campaign. A very productive meeting occurred at Fred Meyer West. Freddy's will put stickers on shelves to indicate recyclable items, their buyer will investigate recyclable packaging and their cashiers will be encouraged to wear recycle buttons. Freddy's is very open to supporting the use of reusable bags. Commissioner Hough suggested that Becca Brado discuss with Freddy's the reconfiguration of the checkout stands to reduce/eliminate any cashier problems with filling reusable bags. The Task Force is working to strengthen liaisons with interested parties and entities.

iii. Report on Arctic Winter Games recycling bin survey: Deb Hickok, President and CFO Explore Fairbanks

Deb Hickok could not attend this evening. The survey yielded very positive results. Most bin needs were met during the Games and there is a demand from individuals and businesses for more bins to be made available. Deb Hickok may well submit a proposal to the Commission in the next quarter for funding for additional bins.

iv. Report on Progress of Recycling Commission budget request: John Davies, FNSB Assembly Liaison

The Recycling Commission's budget request appears to be moving through the process with no opposition. Chairman Monetti has spoken with the Mayor, who expressed the same opinion. The budget will be voted on tomorrow evening, May 14, 2015.

v. Report of current Recycling Commission FY15 budget: Bob Jordan, Solid Waste manager

See attached spreadsheet. The remaining funding must be used before the end of June, 2015 or it reverts back to the FNSB. The monies can be used for other activities than the current specified purpose, but the monies need to be encumbered by June 3. Current open purchase orders can be carried over to FY16 - a specific request is required and it is expected that the monies would be used in the early stages of FY16.

**4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

(Note: our policy is to encourage public comment. All items on the agenda will be open for public comment unless otherwise noted. If you would like to comment on any agenda items and cannot stay until such items come up for consideration during the meeting, you may comment at this time. You may also suggest a future agenda item to the Commission at this time. Each speaker is limited to 3 minutes, with 30 minutes total time allotted.)

A. Agenda items  
None

B. Items not on the agenda  
None

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Items on agenda scheduled for public hearing  
None

B. Items on agenda not scheduled for public hearing  
  
None

**6. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS/PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS**

A. Items on agenda scheduled for public hearing  
None

B. Items on agenda not scheduled for public hearing  
i. Presentation of MACTEC Recycling Plan update: Patrick Cotter, PDC Inc. Engineers

Patrick Cotter delivered a Power Point presentation of recycling research and recommendations built on MACTEC Study which covered transfer site and landfill drop-off recommendations. (Contact Chairman Monetti for electronic copies of the presentation.)

Much discussion took place indicating great interest from the meeting participants. (Please forward all comments, questions, and concerns, etc. to Chairman Monetti, who will collate the inquiries and communicate with Patrick Cotter to obtain clarification.)

## Recommendations

- Development of a central facility to accept source separated recycling materials
- Consolidate the recycling stream, providing financial support to a single entity
- Coordinated outreach and education, a branded "look & feel"

Near-term (0-5 years): develop a central facility

Long-term (5+ yrs): move toward limited transfer site collection

There will be a presentation to the Assembly on June 4<sup>th</sup> which will incorporate the current report, comments from this meeting, and comments from FNSB staff.

The transfer site plan will take into consideration the recommendations from this report.

John Davies: The Assembly is looking for the comparison of the cost of recycling to the FNSB versus the cost to bury it in the landfill. Mr. Davies is planning to write an ordinance from the combined information.

Chena Power has several recycling sites. Lots of action and lots of community dedication. Chena Power has some smaller sized equipment and is actually using it for recycling purposes.

- ii. Discuss and act on "Fairbanks North Star Borough Support for Electronics Recycling Green Star of Interior Alaska Project Proposal: FY16, March 31, 2015 \$72,000.00

MOTION: To accept the proposal as submitted.

MOVED: Brett Parks

SECONDED: Paul Knight

DISCUSSION: Jimmy Fox expressed concern about whether the amount will be sufficient, given the ongoing increases in electronics recycling. Greenstar can always come back to the Commission for additional funding. Greenstar will need at least 2,000 sq ft of space in the new facility. Greenstar is looking at a pilot project to deal with the stockpile of used florescent bulbs around town. The cost to recycle is \$1.15 per pound of unbroken bulbs.

PASSED: Unanimously

MOTION: To extend the meeting time to cover the remaining agenda.

MOVED: Jimmy Fox

SECONDED: Brett Parks

DISCUSSION: None

PASSED: Unanimously

- iii. Discuss and act on a Resolution to include composting as part of the overall Borough recycling plan

Rodney Guritz, Arctic Data Services, proposal from January 2015 meeting: a misunderstanding led to the Mayor's denying the proposal. The Mayor has requested a meeting with Rodney Guritz and Chairman Monetti with the intent to set aside funds for the proposal in FY16.

**MOTION:** To resubmit this proposal, which was approved by the Commission at the January 2015 meeting, to the Mayor.

**MOTION:** Brett Parks

**SECONDED:** Paul Knight

**DISCUSSION:** There is no harm in reapproving the proposal and resubmitting to the Mayor. This vote will reinforce the continuing support of the Commission for the proposal.

**PASSED:** Unanimously

In general, the Commission wants to pursue the recycling aspects of composting. Chairman Monetti will prepare a resolution for consideration at the next meeting.

Methane from the landfill: Bob Jordan stated that little measurable methane has been produced to date. Another round of testing will be done on a warmer day, probably in June. The Anchorage landfill is providing enough methane gas to produce electricity on JB Elmendorf-Richardson. Bob Jordan expects the need for active collection of the methane to arise in future. It can be flared off, or used productively, but at this stage it is difficult to put a value on the amount. Food waste and greenery produce the purest methane, which could affect decision-making around the composting issue.

## **7. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS**

Elliot Wilson is retiring as a Commissioner. Kalee Meurlott, part-time GSIA employee, will be applying. Chairman Monetti recommended that Becca Brado speak with the Mayor about the portion of funds that were denied for signage and education. (an additional \$11,000 was approved as a result of that meeting) Ariane Staples would like clarification of the sorting issues at the recycling collection sites. The Commission needs to discuss the ongoing need for recycling education in the community with the Mayor. Jimmy Fox thanked Elliot Wilson for his service, Bob Jordan for arranging the Chizmar room and Patrick Cotter for his presentation. The Commissioners expressed an interest in using the Chizmar room for future meetings. Bob Jordan suggested Chairman Monetti contact the FNSB for availability.

## **8. ADJOURN**

**MOVED:** Karl Hough

**SECONDED:** Brett Parks

**DISCUSSION:** None

**APPROVED:** Unanimously