

**Minutes of the
Northern Coordinated Action for Recycling Enterprises (Northern CARE)
General Board Meeting, March 5, 2004,
Chateau Louis Inn & Conference Centre, Edmonton Alberta**

Attendance:

Gary Pollock, Chair	Town of Swan Hills
Pat Jacobs, Vice Chair	County of Grande Prairie No. 1
Lorna Storoschuk, Treasurer	Town of Bonnyville
Tom Baldwin, Executive Member	Northern Alberta Development Council
Alvina Schuhmacher	Town of Elk Point
Bonnie Raho	Regional Environmental Action Committee
Chris Kramer	Northern Sunrise County/East Peace Landfill Authority
Darrin Stubbs	Recycle Plus
Derek Gasper	Recycle Plus
Edgar Koehler	County of Athabasca
Gord Mach	County of Grande Prairie No. 1
Hussein Elkadri	Cold Lake Recycling Centre
James Waikle	Town of High Prairie
Jim Fay	Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
Jule Asterisk	Lesser Slave Regional Waste Management Commission
Margaret Daniels	Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement
Mary Cartwright	Woodlands County
Myron Goyan	Town of Elk Point
Owen Farnel	Town of Fox Creek
Ralph Whitford	Town of Lac La Biche
Ray Tannas	Village of Boyle
Rich Twach	Woodlands County
Richard Dubetz	Town of Smoky Lake
Rob Smith	Athabasca Regional Waste Management Commission
Roberta Windrum	Alberta Dairy Council
Roger Hall	Village of Boyle
Sam Wipf	Town of Valley view
Uli Wolf	Aquatera

Also in Attendance:

Judy Morris	Alberta Environment
Linda McDonald	Northern CARE
Michele Coutu	Mackenzie Municipal Services Agency

1. Call to Order

G. Pollock called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. He welcomed everyone in attendance and noted the County of Two Hills Waste Management Commission has recently become a member. Members in attendance introduced themselves.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

a. Additions or Deletions:

- i. New Business: 6n - Milk Container Recycling Program
- ii. Business Arising from the Minutes: Oilfield Waste Pails

J. Fay moved to adopt the Agenda with additions. CARRIED

3. Adoption of the Minutes

R. Windrum moved to adopt the Minutes of the December 5, 2003 General Board Meeting. CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

- a. **E-waste Transportation** – L. McDonald and T. Baldwin met with the Minister of Environment February 9, 2004 to discuss issues such as Northern CARE pursuing the initiative of being responsible for the transportation of E-waste from municipalities in northern Alberta. L. McDonald noted that the next step will be meeting with the Tire Recycling Management Association (TRMA), who has been delegated as the organization to manage the program, to discuss the opportunity of Northern CARE's involvement.

Both U. Wolf and R. Smith informed members that the Recycling Council of Alberta (RCA) requested their support in lobbying MLA's regarding the acceptance of the Transportation Stewardship Program. There was concern that the fees associated with the program may be perceived as a tax grab. When it goes to the standing review committee, they want everyone aware of it. It was suggested that Northern CARE contact RCA prior to going to the TRMA.

J. Morris stated it would go to a standing policy committee meeting at the end of the month.

P. Jacobs moved that Northern CARE send a letter to the Chair of Standing Policy Committee, northern MLA's, and Northern CARE members supporting the Transportation Stewardship Program.

CARRIED

- b. **Climate Control Central's Questionnaire** – L. McDonald reported that the survey will be available to Northern CARE the first week in May 2004.
- c. **Alberta Agriculture- Plastic Film Hay Wrap** – L. McDonald stated she spoke to the Department of Agriculture who informed her they have only received one inquiry on how to recycle the wrap. A clean-farm committee will be contacting Northern CARE with information on how to clean the plastic wrap, which L. McDonald will forward to members. E. Koehler suggested educating residents and informing them that a program that will deal with the wrap is in the works.
- d. **School Membership** – L. McDonald suggested that the Board consider \$100 for school memberships to cover the costs incurred when visiting a school and providing presentations. R. Smith suggested using funds received from the ink recycling program to help compensate those costs incurred.

L. McDonald also noted that Shell has currently put all grant funds on hold except those that were previously sent in. This means the applications for a future worm project and a school bin in Valleyview are also on hold. The Shell grant fund program will be structured differently and future resources may be lower. U. Wolf suggested members ask their respective municipalities for assistance with the funding of worm presentations at schools in their communities. L. McDonald stated that it would be a shame to lose the program as it has been very well received by schools. This past year, the worm program cost just over ten thousand dollars. The \$100 membership for schools would cover the expenses for one presentation. H. Elkadir suggested members of municipal councils watch a Northern CARE worm presentation in a classroom.

F. Jordan stated that the City of Cold Lake would probably pay for recycling program presentations, but worm composting wouldn't make that big of difference at the landfill, therefore Council may not approve funding for them. R. Windrum stated that teaching the students in the schools different ways of recycling helps keep various recyclables from going to the landfills. P. Jacobs suggested applying for funding from Alberta Learning (Minister Lyle Olberg). G. Mach suggested investigating the idea of organizations sponsoring the worm bins.

- e. **Recycling Council of Alberta (RCA) Transportation Study** – L. McDonald stated that the transportation study is completed financially and will proceed shortly. RCA has hired consultants to start the procedures of meetings in Slave Lake and Red Deer. Municipalities will be notified accordingly.
- f. **Northern Alberta Development Council Letter of Support re: Edmonton City Centre Airport** – L. McDonald informed members that a letter supporting the continuation of the Edmonton City Centre Airport was sent to the Northern Alberta Development Council on January 8, 2004. T. Baldwin thanked the Board for the support.
- g. **OilField Waste Pails** – J. Asterisk inquired as to the status of the financial planning for the Oilfield Waste Pail program. T. Baldwin stated that more time is to be designated to the oilfield waste pail feasibility study which would have to be included in Northern CARE's new business plan. L. McDonald will prepare an update for J. Asterisk as soon as the study is viable.

5. Financial Update:

L. Storoschuk presented a financial overview to the members. J. Fay moved to accept the financial update as information.

CARRIED.

6. New Business

- a. **Executive Director's Report** – L. McDonald noted that Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement will be hosting the next ERROW Meeting. She also requested member's input into speakers at the Conference. The Committee is looking into tours at Recycle Plus, the County of Grande Prairie's Landfill, and Grande Prairie's Architectural Clearing House. Alberta Environment will be speaking on e-waste. R. Smith will speak on regional landfill sites, Chuck

McBurney of Beaver County has been invited to speak as has Clayton Miller of MAXUS, and Dave Betts of Electronic Product Stewardship Canada. Speakers for construction demolition and sump pump waste are also being explored.

- b. **Northern CARE Business Plan** – T. Baldwin and L. McDonald will provide a draft Business Plan to members at the next meeting.
- c. **Develop Northern CARE Bylaws** – L. Storoschuk moved to have L. McDonald draft new updated bylaws to be discussed at the next Board Meeting. **CARRIED**

- d. **Non-Hazardous Oilfield Waste Survey Results** – J. Morris stated this information was sent out to all stakeholders and a draft discussion paper will be sent to all stakeholders inquiring if they feel there is a need for another meeting which is tentatively scheduled for April 2004 (if required). The next draft report is expected to be sent out in April 2004.

- e. **E-waste Update** – L. McDonald received an update from C. Della Costa at Alberta Environment as to the status of the E-Waste Survey. The E-Waste stakeholder meeting results were released and all members should have received copies of the documents. Phase I is to develop a formal program for a government time-frame and then it will proceed to Government standing committee for Policy. It is then ready for Phase II, which is the collection of E-Waste.

G. Mach was contacted by a E-waste recycler from Calgary who stated that he will place bins, and pick the E-waste up at no charge. He stated that he will do the sort and send unusable components to MAXUS for recycling. L. McDonald stated that Maxus would like all parts.

J. Morris suggested that anyone contacted by recyclers should research their information thoroughly prior to committing to any type of agreement.

P. Jacobs moved to have L. McDonald research recycler's fees for the collection of e-waste. CARRIED

- f. **Hazardous Waste – Stakeholder's Group** - J. Morris stated that referrals made to stakeholders are now in and a summary will be sent back out to stakeholders to be discussed at a meeting in April. A good number of responses were received and she looks forward to the next phase. B. Raho voiced concern that there is no environmental representation in the stakeholder group. J. Morris will make an inquiry as to why.
- g. **Landfill Bans** – L. McDonald thanked everyone who provided their input, but hasn't received anything back from Alberta Environment. J. Morris stated that a summary will be issued in May.
- h. **Minister of Environment Meeting** - *Reviewed during Agenda Item 4a*

- i. **5th Annual Northern Alberta Recycling Conference** – Scheduled for September 8-10, 2004 and is being hosted by the County of Grande Prairie and the City of Grande Prairie.
- j. **Tire Recycling Management Association (TRMA) and Beverage Container Management Board (BCMB) Membership** – L. McDonald asked if the Board was interested in having a member of the TRMA and BCMB sit on the Northern CARE Board as liaisons for their organizations.

J. Fay moved to invite a member from the TRMA and BCMB organizations to sit on the Northern CARE Board as liaisons for their respective organizations.
CARRIED

- k. **Landfill Costs for the Disposal of Vehicles** – G. Mach inquired if there was a standard fee for the disposal of vehicles at landfills. J. Asterisk reported that their landfill charges \$25/vehicle, which they are looking at possibly reducing in the near future. She also noted that their landfill occasionally gets paid by recyclers (\$10/vehicle) for the collection of old vehicles. Elk point doesn't accept them, Fox Creek charges \$20/vehicle, Cold Lake doesn't charge – someone comes and crushes them at no charge, J. Fay noted that old vehicles are not allowed at seven landfill sites in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo but they are collected at Fort Chipiwan. The RM pays for the removal of contaminants from vehicles and white goods. U. Wolf stated that Aquatera doesn't allow them. J. Asterisk stated that the Lesser Slave landfill removes the hazardous items and puts them in the hazardous waste roundup/cleanup. P. Jacobs suggested contacting manufacturers regarding mercury switches. J. Asterisk noted that in the oilfield, the industry is responsible for the expired and old equipment. Also suggested was to contact the Salvage Recyclers Association.

J. Fay moved to have L. McDonald investigate proper disposal of vehicles by contacting manufacturers as well as the Provincial Government, and bring an update back to the next meeting.
CARRIED

- l. **Landfill Costs for Class III Waste** – Lesser Slave Landfill currently charges \$45 per tonne, Athabasca charges \$47/tonne. It was suggested that someone speak about Class III Waste at the 2004 Recycling Conference.
- m. **Appointment of Northern CARE Technical Representative for Alberta Environment Landfill Measurement System Seminar Committee** - It has been requested that Northern CARE send a representative to be part of the Landfill Measurement System Seminar Committee.

R. Windrum moved to have R. Smith represent Northern CARE at the Alberta Environment Landfill Measurement System Seminar Committee.
CARRIED

- n. **Milk Container Recycling Program** –R. Windrum reported that the Minister of Environment is considering placing milk containers under deposit. Currently the voluntary stewardship program costs less than \$2 million/year.

If milk is placed under deposit, the price will increase not only by the deposit amount, but also because of increased recycling fees. Currently, only 1 and 2-litre cartons and 2 and 4-litre jugs carry a recycling fee of 1 or 2 cents. Under the deposit program, all sizes of containers would carry a handling fee, including the small cartons currently used in school milk programs throughout the province. A price increase may in effect put a strain on dairy producers who are already feeling the effects of the BSE crisis. There are many implications of putting jugs on deposit including having an impact on fixed and low income families, and children.

The Alberta Dairy Council will be meeting with Minister of Environment at the end of March 2004 to discuss further. If the Minister decides to place milk under deposit, it would be the first jurisdiction in North America to implement a deposit on a food item.

R. Smith stated that the recycling of plastics has increased because of the collection of milk jugs - you need the jugs to market mixed plastics. R. Windrum stated it would be a shame to shut down a new program without seeing what can be accomplished. R. Whitford reported that recycling milk jugs has increased in Lac La Biche. M. Goyan stated that Elk Point has in fact gone the opposite direction. R. Windrum suggested a comprehensive recycling program for all recyclables, including the jugs is recommended and that the Alberta Dairy Council has a portable baler that they are piloting which could be used by Elk Point. M. Daniels reported that Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement has collected 2 or 3 bags of jugs since Christmas. Residents are also recycling cardboard instead of burning it in their homes. Adding other commodities such as the jugs increases recycling.

P. Jacobs moved Northern CARE write a letter of support for the Milk Container Recycling Program to the Minister of Environment and cc northern MLA's. CARRIED.

E. Koehler moved that each member municipality provide a letter of support for the Alberta Dairy Council's Milk Container Recycling Program. CARRIED

7. Information Items

- a. **Letters from Northern Alberta Development Council and Hon. Environment Minister Lorne Taylor re: E-waste Stewardship Program –**
J. Asterisk suggested to change the letter to state oilfield pails not oil pails.
- b. **Letter from Recycle Plus re: December 5, 2003 General Board Meeting –**
D. Stubbs requested clarification as to how the information presented by the Executive Director at the December 5, 2003 meeting was established. L. McDonald stated it was information that was discussed at a Northern Alberta Development Council meeting, which she had been invited to. R. Windrum suggested that Recycle Plus contact NADC regarding the concerns that came from their meeting. G. Pollock stated that the municipalities of Rainbow

Lake, High Level and the Municipal District of Mackenzie have been contacted and more info will be available at the next meeting.

Recycle Plus recently distributed a survey to its members requesting input into Recycle Plus' service, which 90% of them were okay, stated D. Stubbs, the majority of municipalities are happy with their service. Cardboard collection is a concern with most municipalities, however a full truck load weighs 800 kg compared to the truck's capacity to hold 20 tonne. Recycle Plus has a contract with Aquatera to take their cardboard because of their location. Recycle Plus' newsletter or statistics sheet will be provided to Northern CARE's admin department, and will be forwarded to its members.

- c. **Letters Requesting Membership** – members received copies for information.
- d. **Wild Wild Waste Conference** – members received information on upcoming Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) Conference.

8. Round Table

R. Windrum stated that four municipalities have leased balers from the Alberta Dairy Council to bale milk jugs. They are leased out for 6 months and the cost is \$1.

L. Storoschuk spoke to her local Health Unit re: needle collection (sharps). Do other municipalities collect differently? M. Daniels stated that needles are collected in yellow bio bags that go to the drug store in Boyle. G. Mach refers needles back to vet clinic, hospital clinics, and health units. U. Wolf stated that drug stores in Grande Prairie are acknowledged publicly if they accept them. J. Fay stated the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo facilitates with the health board, but does accept them during hazardous waste week.

O. Farnel – brought photos of cardboard recycling centre in Fox Creek. L. McDonald requested they be provided to Northern CARE for addition to the website.

J. Fay – thanked the Northern CARE Executive for their efficiency noting that it was a very professional meeting.

H. Elkadri recently purchased a truck with a front-end loader attached during his recent trip to Toronto. He also purchased the portable baler from Northern CARE which was donated by the City of Lloydminster.

R. Whitford stated that the Town of Lac La Biche is always trying to divert more recyclables from landfill.

R. Hall stated that the Village of Boyle's blue box program working well. Use of the blue-box is 80-85% and costs residents \$7 per month for the pickup of recyclables.

U. Wolf stated that Aquatera has officially opened its electronic waste depot.

M. Daniels apologized for not having a representative from Buffalo Lake at the East Region Reduction On Waste (ERROW) meeting February 27 in Smoky Lake. Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement would like to host the next ERROW Meeting June 18, 2004 in conjunction with their ribbon cutting/unveiling of their recycling site. L. Storoschuk requested Bonnyville host the ERROW meeting following the June meeting. M. Daniels suggested Buffalo Lake Jigging Group and Sam Arts as entertainment at the 2004 recycling conference.

B. Raho stated that Regional Environmental Action Committee (REAC) will be making presentations in schools and the theme will be "clean water".

J. Asterisk is currently writing a script for "Life as a Tire" and the Premier of Alberta has allowed for ½ hour meeting to be incorporated into the video. She also noted that the Town of Slave Lake now has an active recycling group.

D. Stubbs congratulated REAC for the many years of providing school presentations in their area.

R. Twach stated that he enjoys the Northern CARE Meetings – good information is discussed.

M. Cartwright informed members that Woodlands County is putting in a Take-It or Leave-It area at their transfer station.

J. Waikle from High Prairie stated that their landfill was capped.

C. Kramer stated that Northern Sunrise County and area is very interested in getting a cardboard recycler. Peace River would like to use shredded cardboard for sludge cover.

S. Wipf suggested to his Council that there should be a recycling/deposit fee placed on fast food containers. J. Asterisk noted that was why the bottle deposit system was originally implemented: litter control.

E. Koehler stated that the County is doing what they can to keep their commission going. They could use more garbage but broadening every day has become a worthwhile effort.

F. Jordan stated that the City of Cold Lake is struggling with budget and trying to increase revenue. She requested Northern CARE survey its member municipalities to find out what they charge residents for garbage and recycling.

M. Goyan stated that tenders are out this week and the commission should be operational this fall. Two or three transfer stations are also under construction. Hazardous Waste and E-waste Roundups are being scheduled and may include the collection of sharps. He suggested inviting the incinerator company as well as Chuck McBurney from Beaver County to future Northern CARE meetings as delegations.

A. Schumacher will also make inquiries into needle collection. She also noted that the Town of Elk Point will be in contact with R. Windrum of the Alberta Dairy Council regarding the lease of a baler for milk jugs.

R. Dubetz stated that Smoky Lake Council and staff were very impressed with the ERROW meeting, the information that was discussed, as well as the expertise of the group.

G. Pollock stated that the Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility is operated by the current leaseholder, Earthtech. The organization is hiring a new member to the sales team. They are looking at increasing the amount of waste to be treated as receipts of waste treated has gone down in the past year. Should hazardous waste be land-filled if the capability is available for cleaning it?

9. Next Meeting Date and Location

The next Northern CARE Meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2004 in the Executive Room at the Chateau Louis Conference Centre beginning at 10:00 am.

10. Adjournment

J. Waikle moved adjournment at 1:21 p.m.

CARRIED