

MINUTES

**NORTHERN CO-ORDINATED ACTION FOR RECYCLING ENTERPRISES (CARE)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING - FRIDAY MARCH 30, 2007 10:00 a.m.
NISKU INN AND CONFERENCE CENTRE
NISKU, ALBERTA**

Attendees:

Ron Tomlinson	Porta Crush
Amanda Mahoney	Porta Crush
D. Kolak	Porta Crush
Steve Nearing	North Peace Regional Landfill
Uli Wolf	Aquatera, Grande Prairie
Geoff Milligan	East Peace Regional Landfill
Myler Savill	M.D. of Big Lakes
Pat Palechuk	Town of smoky Lake
Jarrold Peckford	R.M. of Wood Buffalo
Jim Fay	R.M. of Wood Buffalo
Dwayne Yaremkevich	Town of Elk Point
Mary Anne Lehman	Woodlands County
Alvina Schuhmacher	Town of Elk Point
Edgar Koehler	County of Athabasca
Rob Smith	Athabasca Regional Waste Commission
Jim Young	Big Jim's Recycling, Lac La Biche
Robert Windrum	Alberta Dairy Council
Janet Altmiks	Alberta Plastics Recycling Association
Steve Madden	County of Grande Prairie
Hussein Elkadri	Town of Cold Lake
Giselle Beaudry (filling in for Christine Della Costa, AB Environment)	Alberta Environment
Andy Wakaruk	M.D. of Bonnyville
Vern Billey	Smoky Lake County
Barton Caady	Smoky Lake County
Dareld Cholak	Smoky Lake County
James Waikle	Town of High Prairie
Gary Pollock	Town of Swan Hills
Pat Jacobs	County of Grande Prairie
Linda McDonald (Executive Director)	Northern CARE
Maureen Breathnac (Recording Secretary)	

Regrets sent by:

Lorna Storoschuk
Samantha James
Jule Asterisk
Bonnie Raho
Chris Kramer
Christine Della Costa
Sam Wipf
Corinne Haberdeau

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1. Call to Order

Chairman Pat Jacobs called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. She asked each attendee to introduce themselves and the organization they were representing.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOVED by Pat Palechuk that the Agenda be adopted as presented **CARRIED**

3. Adoption of the January 5, 2007 Minutes of the General Board Meeting

MOVED by Dareld Cholak that the Minutes be adopted **CARRIED**

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

- a) **Letter to Premier Ed Stelmach - sent**
- b) **Letter to Minister of Environment, Rob Renner - sent**

MOVED by Gary Pollock to accept items 4a and 4b as information **CARRIED**

Linda McDonald mentioned as an item of information that arrangements have been made for **Northern CARE to meet with the new Minister on Wednesday April 25, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.** to discuss various items of concern.

c) AENV C&D Waste Reduction Update

Giselle Beaudry reported that a summary of the recent feedback will result in documents that will be sent out by Judy Morris, Alberta Environment.

- the new program will consist of the following components:
 - deposit
 - disposal
 - surcharge
 - unclaimed deposits
 - a pilot project which will include input from more focus and discussion groups
- it is hoped that **draft** legislation will be ready for September 2007
- the “Working Group” for drafting the legislation will consist of the following representatives:
 - Alberta Environment
 - Alberta Construction Association
 - Permit experts
 - Recycling groups

Discussion ensued and Geoff Milligan asked about disposal of demolition and construction materials, specifically if the individual would be responsible or the Landfill authority would administer the program. Giselle indicated there is talk of tying it to a permit. Concern was

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expressed by Uli Wolf about the length of time that was being taken to put the legislation in place. He indicated that by the time, the working group, pilot project, etc would be completed it would result in 2 years of inaction. He would like to see some steps taken to start the program sooner with an allowance for later adjustments to be incorporated. Giselle is to take the members concerns back to AB Environment.

d) AENV Paint Stewardship Update

Giselle Beaudry reported that no concrete dates have been set for the public opinion meetings. The approval process is moving slower than expected.

MOVED by Rob Smith to send a letter to Judy Morris, Alberta Environment, expressing Northern CARE's concerns over the lack of progress on these two issues CARRIED

e) ERROW AND PRWRAC Regional Committee Meeting Hosts and Dates

Uli Wolf proposed Thursday May 10, 2007 for the Peace Regional West meeting and that it be held in Grande Prairie. Linda McDonald will e-mail him a list of potential attendees.

Andy Wakaruk volunteered to arrange the ERROW Regional meeting likely for sometime in May. Again, Linda McDonald will e-mail him a list of participants.

f) ABRC – Green Recycling Regional Bin Distribution

As of yesterday, 200 bins will have been placed in Northern Alberta communities, hockey rinks, swimming pools, etc. Page 2 of the Executive Director's Report has more details and locations.

5. Administration

b) Executive Director Report – hand out

Linda McDonald highlighted some items from her report. Composting projects have been completed. 1651 students received the Worm Composting Presentations funded by Northern CARE and Alberta Environment Education Branch.

Northern Alberta Recycling Conference set for September 5 – 7, 2007 in Athabasca.

Northern CARE conducted a scrap metal survey among 45 member municipalities and 8 non-members. The steering committee will compile results and hold a meeting / workshop with Northern CARE members. The intention is to create a long term scrap metal recovery plan for Northern Alberta and the N.W. Territories. Some of the challenges being experienced include transportation, debris left over after processors leave site, and scheduling difficulties.

Discussion ensued about landfills paying to have scrap metal picked up and processed versus the collectors cost concerns if they have to purchase metal from the landfills. User fees for recycling fridges and white goods were discussed. Rules for metal recycling are now more stringent before mills will accept metal items e.g. removal of mercury switches, batteries, gasoline, etc.

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MOVED by Edgar Koehler to accept the Executive Director's report as presented CARRIED

a) Financial Statement

A new book keeper from Leduc has been contracted. Linda McDonald presented a "Draft" Financial Statement for December 1, 2006 – February 28, 2007.

It was reported that Northern CARE's bank balance as of March 1, 2007 was \$51,155.37

MOVED by James Waikle to accept the Financial Statement as presented CARRIED

6. New Business

- a) A representative from ARMA will be a Speaker at the June 15th General Board Meeting to review and provide new information relative to updates on the provincial e-waste program.**

MOVED by Dareld Cholak to allot 1 hour at the June 15th meeting for the ARMA Speaker. CARRIED

- b) Northern CARE Contract – Northern Alberta Scrap Metal Recovery Survey.**
Linda McDonald reported that when the survey is finalized, it will be circulated to our Members.

7. Other New Business

- a) Northern CARE – Northern Municipal Waste Audits.**

Waste audits are a good educational exercise. Roberta Windrum said that the Alberta Dairy Council has had waste audits conducted. She will pass on the information about the waste audit company they used as their audit protocol might be useful for consideration. Rob Smith indicated that there is possible federal funding available for waste audits which are part of a bigger plan.

8. Information Items

MOVED by Mary Anne Lehman that Items 8a) through 8f) be accepted as information CARRIED

9. Round Table Discussions

- **Town of High Prairie** – James Waikle reported that Spring clean-up & recycling is scheduled for June. White goods will be received at no charge.
- **Smoky Lake County** – Vern Billey said that they are working on building more major transfer sites. Smaller sites are in progress. The M.D. of Bonnyville is also planning to haul waste over to them
- **Town of Cold Lake** – Hussein Elkadri informed the meeting that they charge \$4.00/load for Recycling and \$1.00/load for waste. He has the City of Cold Lake Contract which is a 2

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million dollar contract.

- **County of Grande Prairie** – Steve Madden reported that they have started their first transfer station and expect it to be completed this summer.
- **Alberta Plastics Recycling Association** – Janet Altmiks reported that they have a plastics waste audit in progress for the entire province.
- **Alberta Dairy Council** – Roberta Windrum reported that they have completed a study to determine the number of containers in the ICI Stream. They will be starting the Partnership initiatives, which is a pilot project to collect milk containers from coffee shops in Edmonton and Calgary. For the school program we will provide bins. The difficulties with recycling programs in the schools is that “garbage” can’t be stored in schools, and it can’t be left outside due to vandalism and animals. Schools have to have an outside storage shed available or someone to pick up the cartons daily. Calgary Board of Education is looking for ways to expand its recycling program.

The Alberta Dairy Council’s Memorandum of Understanding is due to expire soon. They are to meet with the Minister about extending it. The Dairy Council is especially strong in their communication and education programs.

Roberta encouraged Northern CARE to lobby for milk containers to remain as part of the voluntary recycling program rather than charging a deposit. A deposit would impact seniors, the poor, and school programs. Milk containers are a valuable product that is marketable and should not be included in the deposit system. The present recovery rate is impressive: 52.7% for plastic jugs & 28% for milk cartons. Discussion ensued about the inherent problems in using the deposit system for milk containers especially if they are unwashed. This could pose a health risk to handlers.

MOVED by Geoff Milligan that Northern CARE include the above issue in their discussions at the upcoming meeting with the Minister on April 15th and that a letter be sent to the Alberta Dairy Council indicating our support for their voluntary recycling program.

CARRIED

- **Big Jim’s Recycling, Lac La Biche** – Jim Young reported that Lakeland County will start charging \$20/\$30 for white goods at landfills effective April 1, 2007. Styrofoam and mixed plastics are overwhelming; he has over 30 bales just from residential users, none from industrial/commercial. He brings it to 170 th Street in Edmonton where it is sent to Hong Kong and made into insulation. The plastics are separated out in Hong Kong and any milk containers are counted and the numbers sent back for inclusion in Dairy Council’s stats.
- **Athabasca Regional Waste Commission** – Rob Smith reported they are planning for a new landfill cell. Transportation is a concern as their recycling facility is located a distance away
- from the landfill. They are charging \$72/tonne for construction / demolition waste. If companies won’t separate recyclables and burnable lumber from waste they are charged

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double, i.e. \$144 / tonne. There is currently no means for the facility to sort the recyclables out of mixed loads. Separate bins are available for sorting construction materials. Tipping fees are \$52/load. Eventually “mixed bins” will be available and contractors will be charged \$144/tonne which will include the fee for facility sorting. Cardboard and paper market is currently good.

- **County of Athabasca** – Edgar Koehler reminded everyone about the Northern Alberta Recycling Conference set for September 5 – 7, 2007 in Athabasca and that hotels need to be booked soon. Members should also consider using camp grounds. He expressed concern about contractors who don’t want to sort and felt that they should have to pay additional fees. He gave Canadian Waste as an example of a company that doesn’t do any recycling.
- **Town of Elk Point** – Alvina Schuhmaker reported that they are ready for Spring clean –up. The local fire department will assist with residential hazardous waste collection.
- **Woodlands County** – Mary Anne Lehman reported that they have had a fire in their landfill cell. It burned for 7 days and is believed to have been caused by spontaneous combustion. They are now in recovery mode.
- **R.M. of Wood Buffalo** – Jim Fay reported that they charge \$42 / fridge and no charge for white goods recycling. They are planning to be involved in Enviro week activities June 3 – 9. They are preparing for a general residential clean-up. They have a new landfill bridge plan. Industry is being involved in contributing to a temporary murf. The R.M. of Wood Buffalo appreciates and will continue to support the efforts of Northern CARE.

Jarrold Peckford also reported that they completed the FCMs grant application. He said that they have partnered with Shell Canada for 40% and another 50% leaving them with only 10%. Their recycling stats show a 91% usage increase over 2005. In 2007 they plan to expand their facilities by 75%.

- **Town of Smoky Lake** – Pat Palechuk reported that everything was going well as part of the Evergreen Regional Waste Management. She indicated they also needed to start a milk carton recycling drive.
- **M.D. of Big Lakes** - Myler Savill reported that they had been asked to get involved in the disposal of animal carcasses, but they have declined as it is outside of their scope. They don’t charge for white goods recycling because their philosophy is that charging would encourage people to dump them in ditches and side roads.
- **East Peace Regional Landfill** – Geoff Milligan reported that their landfill is doing well. They are in the planning stages for an industrial cell. They are using alternative cover materials due to a lack of the conventional ones. Their mixed loads are handled by a

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neighbouring regional landfill although there is some question about how they are handled. The Peace Citizens Recycling Society has had some success with funding to build their Eco Centre, i.e. \$300,000 from federal sources, \$300,000 from provincial sources, leaving \$300,000 from East Peace Regional Landfill Authority. They are looking for a F/T manager for their recycling operation which will include the Eco Centre. They have been looking at mixed load and cardboard mixed load and whether large producers should be encouraged to have their own balers due to collection costs. Those that do have their own balers ship the bales themselves to the processing plants.

- **Aquatera, Grande Prairie** – Uli Wolf reported another correction for the last set of Minutes: \$55/tonne is for contaminated cardboard; \$35/tonne is for clean cardboard. The construction of their new shop and office building has started. The County of Grande Prairie has joined them in recycling household hazardous waste. They will be charging \$52 - \$60/tonne starting May 1, 2007.
- **North Peace Regional Landfill** – Steve Nearing reported that they are replacing some of their landfills with regional transfer sites.

General discussion ensued about the fact that some municipalities are banning plastic grocery bags and issuing or offering for sale cloth type reusable bags. It was mentioned by Roberta Windrum that the re-introduction of paper bags would be an expensive alternative due to their weight and transportation costs.

- **Town of Swan Hills** – Gary Pollock reported that they are planning for a comprehensive Spring clean-up. They are experiencing problems with Recycle Plus not picking up in a timely manner especially when they have been notified that bins are full. Citizens are frustrated when they continually find the bins full and then tend to dump their materials beside the bin. Apparently Recycle Plus is now under new management and they have promised to resolve the issues.

10. Next Meeting and Location

The next meeting will be held at the Nisku Inn and Conference Centre on Friday June 15, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

11. Adjournment

MOVED by James Waikle to adjourn the Northern CARE General Board Meeting at 12:25 p.m.

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