

PROJECT: Beaufort County
Solid Waste Management Plan
09224-002-018



HDR Engineering, Inc. of the Carolinas

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: April 15, 1999

PURPOSE: Beaufort County Solid Waste and Recycling Board Meeting

ATTENDEES: Gordon Burke, Town of Bluffton, (Ex-officio), SWRB
Earl Dietz, St. Helena Island, **Vice-Chairman, SWRB**
Chris Eversmann, Beaufort County
Stan Fitzgerald, Town of Port Royal, (Ex-officio), SWRB
Frank Glover, City of Beaufort, (Ex-officio), SWRB
Jennifer Miller, HDR Engineering, Inc. of the Carolinas
Carol Murphy, Unincorporated Port Royal Island
Curtis Pauling, Beaufort County
John Present, Town of Hilton Head, (Ex-officio), SWRB
Doug Robertson, Bluffton Township, **Chairman, SWRB**
Kathy Stiles, Parris Island
Jennifer Tuckwiller, Beaufort County
Robert Washington, Sheldon Township

DISCUSSION:

Doug Robertson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The first item on the agenda was the adoption of meeting minutes. Following the adoption of the minutes, Mr. Robertson turned the floor over to Jennifer Miller, with HDR Engineering, Inc. of the Carolinas (the consultant). Ms. Miller's presentation focused on the results of work completed to date on Phases 1 and 2 of the Solid Waste Master Plan.

One of the first items of discussion was in relation to the matter of record keeping and reporting practices being followed by Waste Management, Inc. (WMI) staff at the Hickory Hill Landfill (HHL). The current contract, which Beaufort County has with WMI, does provide the County with the right to audit records maintained by HHL. Mr. Eversmann asked the consultant if, in her opinion, it would be useful for the County to invoke its right to audit at HHL. Ms. Miller concurred that the conduct of an audit would probably help the County gain a clearer understanding of the wastes that are being disposed of in the HHL. There was also discussion about the fees being charged by WMI for processing recyclables at their Hickory Hill Materials Recovery Facility. The conclusion reached was that further attention be given to gaining a better understanding of the both the disposal and processing services being provided to Beaufort County under the current contractual arrangements with WMI.

Ms. Miller then moved on to present an overview of the work completed to date on Phases 1 and 2 of the Solid Waste Master Plan. Copies of the Technical Memorandums 1 and 2 had been distributed to

SWRB members prior to today's meeting, so attendees had already had a chance to review quite a bit of the information presented. Points that were raised during the presentation and discussion that ensued included:

- There were questions raised regarding the solid waste generation data reported in Table 1-2 for Solid Waste District No. 7 (Ladies Island) and Solid Waste District No. 9 (Bluffton Township). The portion of waste reported as being generated and recycled/banned in each of these Districts was relatively high when compared to other Districts in the County. It was thought that perhaps County drop-off centers operating in these Districts were being used by persons residing in other SW Districts, or perhaps areas outside of Beaufort County; this could, in part, account for the high proportions of waste being diverted from landfill disposal (as a result of recycling and/or landfill disposal bans), and the relatively low SW and MSW per capita waste generation rates (refer to Table 1-4).
- There were questions raised regarding the estimates pertaining to tourism which were presented in Section 1.1.4 of Technical Memorandum. Some meeting attendees felt that the 1997 tourism estimate for Hilton Head Island which was provided by the South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism did not take into account persons visiting the area who were not "registered" as visitors (i.e. persons who were being accommodated by friends / relatives residing on Hilton Head Island, and whom were thereby not officially listed as a visitor to the area).
- Meeting participants supported the theory that tourism in Beaufort County was a major contributing factor influencing per capita generation rates in the County (refer to Table 1-4).
- The question was raised as to whether or not waste generated by the Naval Hospital was reflected in the waste stream profiles presented in Technical Memorandum No. 1. Jennifer Tuckwiller (Beaufort County) said that she would clarify this matter.
- Supplemental information was provided for Technical Memorandum No. 2, Section 2.4, regarding composting and mulching. It was noted that yard waste is being reused (mulched) at both Hilton Head Plantation and Sea Pines Plantation.

Upon the conclusion of the presentation of the results of work completed to date, attention was given to future activities and issues which members of the SWRB felt should be addressed in the Solid Waste Master Plan.

- Attention should be given to improving the processing of recyclables, and expanding the commercial sector's participation in recycling efforts.
- Drop-off centers should be operating in a manner that will best meet the needs of individual Solid Waste Districts. Consideration should be given to:
 - < examining alternatives to the status quo of County solid waste services provided to each District (i.e., do demographics warrant curbside collection services).
 - < ensuring that Drop-off centers are designed with anticipated waste volumes and traffic flows in mind.
 - < improving efficiencies of Drop-off center operations (i.e. installation of compactors for corrugated cardboard; collection of inert debris

separately from bulky waste so that it might be disposed of in a non-MSW facility)

- Efforts should be made to reduce the amount of truck traffic hauling solid waste on Beaufort County's roads.

Prior to adjournment of the meeting, announcements were made. Ms. Miller said she would be contacting local governments to gather cost information about the services described in Technical Memorandum No. 2, and to confirm any changes made to the Draft of that document. During the next meeting of the SWRB, which is scheduled for May 20, 1999, a series of Technical Papers discussing alternative solid waste management practices will be presented. At that time, Ms. Miller will also present members of the SWRB with a preliminary list of goals for the Solid Waste Master Plan; this list will be compiled based on the discussions during today's meeting.

Mr. Robertson adjourned the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.