

State of Vermont  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Waste Management & Prevention Division  
1 National Life Drive – Davis 1  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3704

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## Universal Recycling Stakeholders Group Minutes – January 23, 2017

### Group Members Present:

Cheryl Franklin	Franklin Rubbish
Nicole Duch	Composting Association of Vermont
Craig Goodenough	Goodenough Rubbish
Kim Crosby	Casella Waste Systems
Al Sabino	Casella Waste Systems
Mike Casella	Casella Waste Systems
Sarah Reeves	Chittenden Solid Waste District
Jeff Myers	Myers Container Service
Kurt Ericksen	VT Compost Company
Susan Alexander	Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Mgmt. District
John Leddy	Northwest Solid Waste District
Lisa Ransom	Grow Compost
Kyle Lanzit	Grow Compost
Carl Witke	Central VT Solid Waste Mgmt. District
Cathleen Gent	Central VT Solid Waste Mgmt. District
Teri Kuczynski	Addison County Solid Waste Mgmt. District
Norm Staunton	CompassWorks Consulting
Shaina Kasper	Toxics Action Center
Tom Longstreth	ReSource VT
Tara Holt	Town of St. Johnsbury
Pat Austin	Austin's Rubbish
Trevor Mance	TAM Waste Mgmt.

### By phone

Marcus Berry	Northeast Kingdom Waste Mgmt. District
Paul Tomasi	Northeast Kingdom Waste Mgmt. District
Bob Spencer	Windham Solid Waste Mgmt. District

### ANR Staff Present:

Cathy Jamieson	Solid Waste Program Manager
Mia Roethlein	Solid Waste Program
Josh Kelly	Solid Waste Program
Bryn Oakleaf	Solid Waste Program
Celia Riechel	Solid Waste Program
John Fay	Solid Waste Program
Rebecca Webber	Solid Waste Program

### Presenters:

Bob Spencer	Windham Solid Waste Mgmt. District
Teri Kuczynski	Addison County Solid Waste District

Eric Law	USDA Rural Development
Ben Doyle	USDA Rural Development
Bridget Croke	Closed Loop Fund
Jared Duval	VT Agency of Commerce and Community Development
Katie Michels	High Meadows Fund

## Minutes

- 1:05pm – Mia Roethlein started meeting with group introductions
- 1:10pm – presentation on organics flow control

Bob Spencer of Windham Solid Waste Mgmt. District introduced the topic and offered some of the research that VT Law School completed on flow control for their District. The completed report titled “VT Law School Anaerobic Digestion Regulatory Analysis 2016” is available for those interested. Please contact Bob or Mia for a copy. It was determined by the VT Law Clinic that both federal and state law supports flow control. The District is not pursuing organics flow control at this time, but is interested in long term contracts with haulers for tipping at the District composting facility. The District is also supportive of multiple small facilities serving the region’s organics collection needs.

Teri Kuczynski, District Manager of Addison County Solid Waste Mgmt. District spoke of their flow control ordinance for MSW and C&D that is destined for disposal. The flow control ordinance, adopted in 2006 as part of the District’s Solid Waste Implementation Plan, requires MSW/C&D to pass through the District owned/operated Transfer Station before heading to the landfill. This offers them an opportunity to screen for banned materials such as hazardous materials, electronics, recyclables, tires, etc. The District surcharges loads containing banned materials of MSW/C&D tipped at their transfer facility. It also allows for all of the 28 haulers in their District to pay the same tipping fee and since the facility is centrally located in their region, haulers do not have to drive to out-of-District disposal facilities, saving truck travel time. Waste materials that are diverted from disposal such as mandated recyclables, organics for composting or A/D, C&D for recycling, etc. are not subject to flow control. For further information on the District’s flow control ordinance, please see the District’s SWIP-Section 6 which is posted on their website: <http://www.addisoncountyrecycles.org/category/publications/>

### Discussion:

Haulers present at the meeting including Trevor Mance, Cheryl Franklin, Craig Goodenough and Pat Austin all expressed concern about districts considering organics flow control and the expenditure of municipal funds on large infrastructure projects. Overall sentiment was to let the private sector handle organics collection and allow for competition.

Cathy Jamieson spoke of the history of districts involvement with recycling and that these municipalities stepped up to provide recycling services that the private sector was not able to provide. That has now evolved and now the private sector provides recycling services. There needs to be continued discussion of what the role for districts will be in ensuring organics collection services exist for their region and that there is a place for both the private and public sector to provide these services.

General discussion initiated by Susan Alexander informed the group that haulers can contact districts for more information on what district surcharges and/or per capita fees cover.

Trevor Mance requested that the Solid Waste Program provide everybody with an update on the status of existing and future organics facility capacity statewide.

---

- 1:50pm- presentations on various types of funding available for Universal Recycling implementation
  - [USDA Rural Development](#), Eric Law and Ben Doyle  
 Good interest rates available for municipalities looking to finance infrastructure.  
 Grants for up to 25% of total project cost for reducing energy consumption for private sector.  
 Rural Business Development Program - available to municipalities with intention of benefiting private businesses.  
 See attached e-mail for more information and contact Eric and Ben to discuss options and planning needs.
  - [Closed Loop Fund](#), Bridget Croke  
 Provides funding for both private and public sectors primarily for recycling. Public sector can access low to 0% loans and private loans are typically at below market rates. Closed Loop also has both a venture fund and a foundation. Their recent Food Waste Innovation & Solution grants came from the foundation.  
 They could be interested in organics diversion projects that can have a significant impact and that could be replicated in other areas throughout the country.  
 Interested in co-investment from other funders.
  - [VT Agency of Commerce and Community Development](#), Jared Duval  
[The Northern Border Regional Commission](#), a federal-state partnership for economic and community development is expected to have \$1.7 million available for 2017. Funding available in the counties of Essex, Orleans, Caledonia, Lamoille, and Franklin counties in Vermont. Applications will be available March 1<sup>st</sup>.  
[Working Lands Grants](#) are available for businesses throughout entire state.  
 Jared available to help municipalities and businesses with planning needs and discuss options.
  - [High Meadows Fund](#), Katie Michels  
 One time grant funding opportunity this year for the purchase of totes for food scrap collection. 10 municipalities applied for grant awards and are moving forward with project implementation.  
[New England Grassroots Fund](#) has some funds available to assist with education/outreach capacity building.

- Discussion

Eric Law spoke of opportunities for public and private partnership and that there is a need to bring all communities, private sector, haulers, municipalities, etc. to the table in order to develop a shared project.

Bridget Croke relayed that though complicated to bring multiple parties together on one project, it is much more appealing to a broad range of funders.

Pat Austin felt that many of the funding options were only available to municipalities and Ben Doyle explained that although the municipality applies for the funding, the intention is for a public/private partnership that encourages economic development, especially private sector jobs and businesses.

- 3:10pm - Adjourn meeting

### Next Steps:

- Next quarterly meeting will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup> and the topic will be “Contamination-Recycling and Organics”.
-