

VIRGINIA RECYCLING MARKETS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
September 29, 2004
HENRICO TRAINING CENTER
GLEN ALLEN, VIRGINIA

10:30 AM to 12:45 PM

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Mike Benedetto, RMDC Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:35 A.M. and welcomed the members of the Virginia Recycling Markets Development Council and members of the public to the meeting.

RMDC	Representing	Absent RMDC	
Philip Abraham	Plastics Industry	Paul Alcantar	Urban PDC
Michael Benedetto	Paper Industry	John Kline	Tire Industry
Dori Brown	Recycling Industry	Andrew Bopp	Glass Industry
Diane Jones	Rural PDC	W.A. Dennison Jr.	VML
Robert Kerlinger	Composting Industry	VACANT	Waste Industry
Richard Lerner	Metal Industry	VACANT	Public-At-Large
Brian Salmon	Aluminum Industry		
Tom Smith	VACO	Staff	Representing
Michael Ward	Oil Industry	Steve Coe	DEQ
		Allan Lassiter	DEQ
William Bailey	VDOT		
Georgiana Ball	VDGS	Visitors	Representing
Michael Murphy	VDEQ	Chip Goyette	Arlington County
William Vehrs	VDBA		

2. Determining Quorum

A quorum for the Virginia RMDC has been established as a simple majority of the appointed members to the Council. The Council is fully represented by 15 appointed members. At this time, there are two vacancies; therefore a minimum of 7 members must be present to establish a quorum. A total of 9 of the appointed members were in attendance at the start of the meeting. Therefore, the Chairman determined that a quorum existed for the meeting. The Chairman went over the most current membership appointment list he had ascertained from the Secretary of the Commonwealths Office. It was noted that the urban representative was no longer living in the state of Virginia. Representative T. Smith said that he had the

members contact information and offered to request from him a letter of resignation.

Acceptance of Agenda

The Chair asked the committee members to review the meeting agenda. No objections were raised so the draft agenda was accepted.

3. Acceptance of Minutes

The Chair called for the pleasure of the Council on the minutes of the June 16, 2004 meeting of the RMDC. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made and seconded.

5. Old Business

5.a Chairman's Report:

M. Benedetto welcomed the new recycling representative, Dori Brown. He handed out to the membership the “administrative requirements” of the RMDC. Beginning this year, the Council will be self-supporting in these capacities. A copy of the requirements is attached to these minutes. Mr. Abraham asked if DEQ would assist the Council with attaining the ability to post information as required by the Virginia Administrative Process Act. Mr. Coe offered to take care of this request.

5.b Subcommittee Reports: M. Benedetto asked for any subcommittee reports.

Recycling Rate Subcommittee: M. Murphy requested that he be allowed to wait to discuss his subcommittee’s direction until the Department of Environmental Quality presented their Virginia Annual Recycling Rate report later in this meeting.

Local Government Subcommittee: P. Abraham reported that this subcommittee coordinated a meeting in Roanoke, Virginia on September 7th. Their desire was to target rural local government and industry representatives. The focus of the meeting was to hear from them, what were the logistical problems facing them, especially those not meeting the 25% rate. Some of the barriers surfacing were the lack of cohesiveness between the jurisdictions. There was not a strong networking system in place. The jurisdictions were dependent on their local governments to fund their programs as well as entertain the concept of working and funding their efforts on a regional basis. Lack of knowledge of viable

markets also presented itself. The group made many comments and raised concerns over the recent Department of Environmental Quality's' Virginia Annual Recycling Rate report. Mr. Abraham brought these before the Council as well.

Annual Report Subcommittee: M. Benedetto suggested that Mrs. Jones send to the membership a final draft of the report. Should no member request changes to the document by the end of the week; Mr. Benedetto would then send the report through to DEQ for filing with the Division of Legislative services. At the Council meeting in June this procedure was motioned on and approved by the Council

6. New Business

6.a Election of New Officers: The nominating committee of Diane Jones and M. Benedetto recommended Mr. Phillip Abraham be elected as the chairman of the Council. Mrs. Jones was recommended for Vice-Chair. A motion to approve the recommendation was made and seconded.

6b. Develop Annual Plan: The Council discussed their annual work plan later in the meeting once they had opportunity to receive and discuss the report that the Department of Environmental Quality presented their 2003 Virginia Annual Recycling Rate.

7. Public Comment

Mr. Alan Lassiter from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality presented the Council with the 2003 Recycling report summary. The report indicated that 34 of the 96 reporting units in the State of Virginia experienced recycling rates of 25%. The report indicated that the highest rates were being experienced in the urban areas of the state. Mr. Lassiter noted that failure to make the 25% rate violated both state statute and the Solid Waste Regulations. Such failure could result in a Solid Waste Management Plan not being approved or being conditionally approved. He noted that a locality had to have an approved plan before permits could be issued. P. Abraham asked about exemptions to meeting the rate. Mr. Lassiter said that if there were market conditions, there were exemptions or variances that were identified in the law that a locality could seek. He suggested that perhaps the Council become involved with working with localities that did not meet the 25% mandate from the standpoint of exemption or enforcement. Mr. Lassiter also noted that the regulations were being reopened next year (spring) for review. He felt that legislative recommendations should go through this Council.

Mr. Kerlinger noted that the State Fair of Virginia did not offer any form of recycling

Discussion was lengthy as to the Councils overall plan of action for the coming year. . It was agreed that the group had already begun to focus in on and identify several recycling rate issues. It was decided that the two current subcommittees, recycling rates and the local government assistance were conducive to continuing to work in this direction. The Council elected to have them remain open and active. Ms. Brown requested to be assigned to the recycling rates subcommittee. The Council discussed contacting the General Assembly and making them aware that they are available to study any issues needed and help VRA to attain such. Lastly it was noted that the VRA already had in place a working network system where problems could be placed out to the members and with recommendations. The recycling rates subcommittee will be attending and holding an open meeting at the upcoming Virginia Recycling Association conference in Richmond on October 28 to hear and assess input from the attendees. Mr. Coe from DEQ offered to handle the posting of this subcommittee meeting at the VRA conference. They also will keep in the loop with regards to the reopening of the regulations pertaining the achievement of recycling rates. Mr. Abraham suggested that the local government assistance subcommittee look at continuing to do meetings similar to the one held in Roanoke to further assess the logistical problems for rural localities. He suggested we look at hosting workshops of rural success stories. He suggested that perhaps we could work in conjunction with help offered. Should that resource be promoted more? It was noted that these preliminary issues and ideas being discussed should be brought to the next meeting and considered for incorporation into the Council work plan document for 2005.

8. Meeting Schedule

The Council discussed rotating the meeting sites to various locations within the state. They also suggested that we should work on encouraging local government and industry representatives to the meeting and work into the meeting the further input on the issues of recycling rate mandates and rural recycling problems. The next date of meeting was set for December 15'th at 10:30 A.M. No site was yet in place. It was suggested we look to the Charlottesville area.

9. Adjourn

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The Chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:45 PM.