

WASTE DIVERSION AND RECYCLING TASK FORCE

MEETING #4 NOTES,- FINAL

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2022

DEQ CENTRAL OFFICE, BANK OF AMERICA BUILDING
3RD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
1111 EAST MAIN STREET, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Meeting Attendees

WD&R TASK FORCE WORK GROUP MEMBERS (QUORUM – 13)	
Craig Coker – Coker Composting	Mike O’Connor – Virginia Petroleum and Convenience Marketers Association
Kenneth Dunford – Tazewell County	Robbie Pecht – Virginia Beer Wholesalers Association
Rick Galliher – Virginia Bottle Bill Organization	Tad Phillips – Virginia Waste Industries Association
James Gestrich – Landfill Advisory Board Prince William County	Kristi Rines – City of Virginia Beach
Morgan Guthridge – Virginia Beverage Association	Debbie Spiliotopoulos – Northern VA Regional Commission
John Harbin – Hampton Roads Planning District Commission	Jared Stoltzfus – James Madison University
Michael Hatfield – Wise County	James (Jim) Taylor – WestRock
Kim Hynes – SWANA/Central VA Waste Management Association (CVWMA)	

NOTE: WD&R TASK FORCE WORK GROUP Members NOT in Attendance: Joe Benedetto – Virginia Recycling Association; Tom Benevento – Virginia Council on Environmental Justice; Dale Bennett – Virginia Trucking Association; Greg Evanylo – Virginia Tech; Rob Laurent – Community Member; Helen Lee – City of Alexandria; Joe Lerch – Virginia Association of Counties; Rhonda L. Russell – Charles City County; Brian Sernulka – O.I. Glass; Mitchell Smiley – Virginia Municipal League

PUBLIC/INTERESTED PARTIES	
Trever Moacusa – Commonwealth Strategies	Erik Rison – West Rock
Katie Register – Clean Virginia Waterways of Longwood University	

TECHNICAL ADVISORS AND DEQ STAFF	
Prina Chudasama - DEQ	Sanjay Thirunagari - DEQ
Morgan Goodman - DEQ	Janet Weyland - DEQ
Bill Norris - DEQ	Melinda Woodruff - DEQ
Kathryn Perszyk - DEQ	

The meeting convened at 10:10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:51 PM:
A quorum of task force members (or their alternates) was present for this meeting.

1. Welcome/Work Group Reminders – Kathryn Perszyk/Janet Weyland – DEQ:

- a. The meeting agenda and the draft Task Force Report were sent by email to the members of the Task Force prior to the meeting. An updated version of the report was provided at the meeting.
- b. Ms. Perszyk and Ms. Weyland reviewed the agenda and presented a meeting introduction that:
 - Reminded members of the responsibilities of participating in a public body subject to FOIA, and
 - Reviewed the consensus process in the context of Task Force decision making.
 - Reviewed the plan for the meeting.

2. Agenda Item 2: Overview of Draft Report - Kathryn Perszyk/Janet Weyland – DEQ& Craig Coker/Jared Stoltzfus – Co-Authors of the Draft Report:

- a. Ms. Perszyk provided a brief overview of the Draft Task Force Report that had been authored by Task Force Members Craig Coker and Jared Stoltzfus. She noted that the goal for today’s meeting is to get feedback on what goes into the final report and to make “live” updates to the report so that at the end of the day that we can have a version that has been agreed to by the Task Force members. She noted that Melinda Woodruff will be taking first chair today and will be taking the comments from the group and making “live” edits for consideration during our discussions.
- b. Mr. Coker and Mr. Stoltzfus briefly discussed how the report was organized and how they approached the compilation of the report.
 - They noted that the Task force had three meetings previous to this one, two of which were focused on getting into the details of the report recommendations.
 - The idea was that instead of making very specific actionable recommendations for legislation, that we could identify what the group has learned about what is economically viable, what waste streams are most important to divert and have the most potential for large scale diversion and make recommendations that additional groups work with these specific topics to get the “nitty gritty” done by bringing in more stakeholders with more expertise and providing a little more time than this task force has had to work on these issues.
 - The report also needs to take into consideration that any recommendations made needed to keep in mind that not all parts of Virginia are the same, so we can’t have the same expectations for the less densely populated areas and more rural areas of the Commonwealth.
 - Also, any opportunities that arise for new recycling industries are made available to the rural localities.
 - It was noted that an Environmental Justice representative was not present at any of the Task Force meetings so that we need to be aware that any recommendations made need to take into consideration equities among other groups of people.
 - Consensus may not always be possible, but the hope is that we can say that this is a recommendation and something that we have learned and it should be looked into more. A

few lines of justification and concerns regarding the recommendations should also be reported.

- The other point that needs to be taken into consideration in the development of the Task Force Recommendations is that they need to be brief and to the point, because a legislative assistant in the General Assembly should be able to read this quickly and decide what parts they need to take to their boss for consideration and possible action.

3. Agenda Item 3/4: Facilitated Discussions to finalize Recommendations for the Draft Report –: Kathryn Perszyk/Janet Weyland – DEQ & Craig Coker/Jared Stoltzfus – Co-Authors of the Draft Report:

The Task Force reviewed and discussed all of the recommendations presented in the draft report document and reached a final general consensus for the wording of the recommendations to be included in the final report.

4. Public Comment: Comments from the Interested Public was received during the course of the meeting.

5. Agenda Item 5: Wrap Up & Next Steps

Ms. Perszyk thanked the members of the Task Force for their dedication and participation in this process. Staff will work to address the items that were agreed to by the Task Force and will get a copy of the edited “Final Task Force Report: back out to the group. The members of the Task Force were asked to provide comments back on any information or recommendation that were not in keeping with the discussions of the group.

6. Adjournment: The Meeting was adjourned at 3:51.