



Sustainability Office

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BoulderCountySustainability.org

Boulder County Resource Conservation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – April 25, 2018

Present:

Darla Arians – Boulder County (phone)
Jack DeBell – CU Recycling
Brandon Hill – Resource Central
Bryce Isaacson – Western Disposal
Bridget Johnson – Town of Jamestown (phone)
Charles Kamenides – City of Longmont
Dan Matsch – Town of Lyons
Chris Pelletier – Town of Nederland
Mark Persichetti – City of Louisville
Tim Plass – At-Large
Sam Weaver – City of Boulder
Ken Wilson – At Large
Amy Weinburg – Town of Ward (phone)

Roger Pacheco – Republic Services
David Snapp – At Large
Stephanie Walton – City of Lafayette

RCAB Staff Liaison:

Tyler Kesler – Commissioners’
Office/Sustainability
Leigh Ratterman – Commissioners’
Office/Sustainability

Guests:

Kevin Afflerbaugh – Western Disposal
Jamie Harkins – City of Boulder
Laura Levesque – City of Louisville
Elizabeth Montalbano – Boulder County PACE
Alex “A-Train” Richardson – Green Girl
Recycling
Aren Rodriguez – City of Longmont
Doug Short – City of Lafayette
Bob Yost – A1 Organics

Active Members Not Present:

Russ Callas – At-Large
Michael Donovan – At-Large
Chris Hanson – Town of Superior
Suzanne Jones – Eco-Cycle

1. Call to Order

Chair Charles Kamenides called the meeting to order at 4:48 pm

2. Approval of February 28, 2018 Minutes

Bryce Isaacson motioned for approval and Mark Persichetti seconded; unanimous vote approved.

3. Community Updates & Public Comment

- **Boulder County Resource Conservation:** Community Clean-Up and Hazardous Waste events are all scheduled and underway. The first event was held in Superior last week, and events run through August.. Policy updates have been proposed for 2018. The 2019 budgeting season has begun. The Recycling Center “Mr. Can Man” video bid was just awarded, and the kickoff meeting will be held in May. The Recycling Center Phase II front-end retrofit details have been finalized and will be installed this Fall.
- **City of Boulder** – Colorado Renewable Energy Society participated in and presented on county-wide carbon reduction efforts. Each person from the panel answered how they were participating. City of Boulder is looking to refine their carbon accounting. Boulder County, City of Boulder, and San Miguel County are suing “big oil” and money won will partially go towards local action. They have finished creating sorting videos for trash,

recycling, and composting that will go live soon and are replicable for other communities if they would like to use as well.

- **CU Boulder** – Earth Day 25th was successful. CU was charged by the provosts with truly getting students engaged with real-world opportunities (e.g. internships, interviews, etc.). Where are the needs that students can plug in? Let us know!
- **City of Lafayette** – Lafayette will be customizing the City of Boulder waste videos for their community and using them in promotions.
- **City of Longmont** – Launching a new approach to “shrinking their trash – 21 day challenge” in partnership with Earth Day and will use the momentum to really *shrink their bills* by getting a smaller container as well as recycle/compost and overall diversion from the landfill. Postcards were just sent to the community and it led to over 400 calls for changing their trash sizes and using their composting services more. A little over 15% in total have opted in to the program and almost 80% have opted in to reducing size in containers. Longmont is working on a new app called ReCollect that is offered to residents that allows them to type in their address and it lets them know what days their collection services are offered. You can also type in whatever material you are looking to dispose of and the online portal will let you know what community services you can take advantage and where to dispose of it.
- **Town of Louisville** – 39 businesses participated in the Green Business Recognition Program. Containers from Western Disposal will arrive in a month for their Friday Night Street Fair events; this will be primarily volunteer-based as well as staffed with high school students from Monarch High School. They are hoping to increase participation this year. Louisville is also setting up specs for a waste hauler contract for next year. Details for the RFP will go out the first quarter of 2019.
- **Town of Lyons** – First RFP for curbside recycling and compost collection was just completed and will be released the first of June 2018. Community-wide yard sale is May 12th. Spring cleanup is May 19th which will include a “Fix-it Clinic”.
- **Town of Nederland** – A CU intern is working on sustainability and environmental projects.
- **Town of Ward** – Annual Spring Cleanup will be incredibly well-attended once again this year. Monthly recycling with Green Girl Recycling is going great; however, we encourage people to reuse as much as possible. Ward still struggles with residents dumping quite a bit because it is not patrolled. Sustainability program in partnership with the county is focusing on food waste and access to food. The topic of access to food came up a lot during the fires and floods as of recent. The community’s greenhouse is completely community built, off the grid, and made from 99% reused materials. Ward’s food pantry program in partnership with Boulder Food Rescue is called Mountain Food Rescue. They are transforming a construction trailer to a tiny home food waste facility. Looking for feedback on bear-proofing facilities.
- **Boulder County Resource Conservation:** Community Spring Cleanup events starting in about a month including hazardous waste pickups. Policy and budgeting for 2019 have begun. Recycling video “Mr. Can Man” video is just finishing up. Phase II front-end retrofit will begin at RCD the beginning of August.

4. **Compost Contamination:**

Bob Yost from A1 Organics spoke about contamination issues at the Rattler Ridge compost site in Keensburg, where Boulder County’s material is sent. This site is

experiencing issues with contamination, particularly plastics, which are blowing onto adjacent cattle grazing fields. A1 has invested in new fencing and equipment to help control this issue, and 65 people showed up to help at a community clean-up day; it was moving! Another volunteer cleanup is scheduled from 9-3pm this Saturday April 28th.

What can RCAB do? Additional education from municipalities and haulers to help control the contamination would be the most beneficial thing we could work on. A1 will go before the Weld County Commissioners on July 11, 2018 to show the improvements they've don't to curb the blowing plastic issue.

A1 is currently involved in a nationwide testing program to measure the ability of facilities to break down compostable plastic. One hypothesis is that certain certified compostable materials actually are not breaking down as tested in real life scenarios such as wind rows versus in a lab environment.

5. Food Waste Awareness Week Results (see presentation):

Leigh Ratterman and Elizabeth Montalbano updated RCAB that the awareness week was very successful and they are looking forward to launching again next year with additional funding from communities around Boulder County.

6. Subcommittee Updates:

- Food Waste: Food Waste Awareness week just finished up and presented on.
- Materials Management: Electronic waste was the main point of communication. Could the county affect the cost of CRT television recycling for low-income residents? Could certified electronic recyclers be a part of the solution? Colorado Association for Recycling electronics subcommittee talked about hosting a website, but that was pushed back on considerably. They have, however, gathered a group of people to work on state-wide efforts.
- Caron Sequestration: Boulder County pilot has begun with a cropland parcel that has been identified and the compost treatment; graze grassland parcel has also been identified. Meanwhile the City of Boulder is also launching a parallel project that will focus on local organic growers. This will be looking at mineralization, bio-char, and standard composting practices. This will focus on degraded rangeland that the county is mostly made up of. They have begun to consider a carbon Farming Plan that qualifies them for funding through the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

7. Adjournment: Charlie Kamenides called the meeting to a close at 6:26 pm