



Sustainability Office

Street Address: 1325 Pearl Street, Boulder, Colorado 80302
PO Box 471, Boulder, CO 80306 • Tel: 303-441-4565
BoulderCountySustainability.org

Boulder County Resource Conservation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – April 24, 2019

Present:

Darla Arians – Boulder County (phone)
Russ Callas – At-Large
Jack DeBell – CU Recycling (phone)
Brandon Hill – Resource Central (phone)
Bryce Isaacson – Western Disposal
Bridget Johnson –Town of Jamestown (phone)
Suzanne Jones – Eco-Cycle
Charles Kamenides – City of Longmont
Dan Matsch – Town of Lyons
Chris Pelletier – Town of Nederland
Mark Persichetti – City of Louisville
Tim Plass – At-Large
Eric Smith – At Large
David Snapp – At Large
Stephanie Walton – City of Lafayette
Sam Weaver – City of Boulder
Ken Wilson – At Large

Active Members Not Present:

Michael Donovan – At-Large
Chris Hanson – Town of Superior
Bart Spedon – Republic Services

RCAB Staff Liaison:

Tim Broderick – Commissioners'
Office/Sustainability
Tyler Kesler – Commissioners'
Office/Sustainability

Guests:

Lisa Skumatz – SERA Inc

1. Call to Order

Charles Kamenides called the meeting to order at 4:49 pm.

2. Approval of February 27, 2019 Minutes

Bryce Isaacson motioned for approval; Stephanie Walton seconded. Unanimous vote approved.

3. Community Updates & Public Comment

- **City of Boulder** – The city is working on building energy codes. The new codes will increase requirements for residential construction projects to divert 75% of their demolition and eventually this will apply to commercial projects. These new codes also require new home construction of more than 3,000 square feet to be net zero. A deposit is now being required prior to the scrape that is returned after proven diversion.
- **City of Lafayette** – City Council passed on first reading their participation and tracking of the ReTRAC. The new pay-as-you-throw on a three-part system was approved; more frequent hauler data will be included with that system. The City just awarded 32 Green Business awards through PACE. Boulder County Zero Waste Funding was awarded to

- mitigate dog waste via a compost program in city parks being addressed through Park & Open Space. An update will be available in a couple of months as this program is launched and implemented. The city is very excited about this education opportunity.
- **City of Longmont** – Construction from the waste water treatment plant to the compressors for their RNG facility to reduce methane and carbon has begun. A ribbon cutting for the opening should be taking place to and should be up and running by October.
 - **Eco-Cycle** – Lou Perez is leaving after 18 years at Eco-Cycle. Eco-Cycle will be looking for a new MRF Manager to fill his position as soon as possible. They will also be hiring a Social Enterprise Director to oversee CHaRM and the Business Hauling Department. They are very interested in figuring out what is next in the industry with diversion. Dan Matsch will be more focused on carbon sequestration farming. An “A-Z Guide” smartphone app and recycling game was just launched so please go download. An op-ed with the county was released about recycling doing well in Boulder County.
 - **Resource Central** – April 13th was their annual Tool Sale which resulted in the biggest diversion day on record for the Resource Yard with over 100,000lbs. of tools being donated, sold, and reused.
 - **Resource Conservation Division** – RCD recently worked with Lafayette to get them signed up for ReTRAC, and are continuing to work on recruiting the remaining community partners signed up for ReTRAC. All of the community Spring Cleanup (Diversion Day) Events have been scheduled. Boulder County is switching over financial systems and they will not be doing any financial transactions until May 1st; thanks for your patience. Also, they are in the design phase for the expansion of the Hazardous Materials Management Facility and should have a quote ready for budget prep purposes by the middle of May. Also, they will be upgrading their scales by July or August which means expanded hours for haulers. RCD is launching a battery recycling and safe handling campaign after participating in a national program in 2018 that was successful. The new “Can Man” video is almost ready for release and will be disseminated as soon as completed.
 - **Russ Callas** – Commented on how enforcement of existing codes still continues to be the largest issues with waste diversion. Anecdotally, he has noticed and been reported to that there are still just as many homes that are being scrapped and everything is being taken to the landfill. He has had ongoing discussions with people on how to do this more responsibly. The motivation to this is the cost at about 50% savings if you just dump everything so he understands why contractors choose to not comply with codes and regulations.
 - **Town of Louisville** – Just finished up their third year with Green Business recognition in partnership with PACE. They are working on a regional approach to interacting with all businesses and having topical presentations to educate businesses on how they can become more environmentally sustainable. These are held at the chambers of commerce. Hopefully this will build capacity and increase participation of all businesses. The Town has chosen to contract with Republic Services for the next five years transitioning in September. This will cover one fee for all recycling, compost, and landfill. Currently, 35% of residents use a 32-gallon, 45% use a 66-gallon, and only 10% use a 96-

gallon container. These are charged on a tiered rate to encourage appropriate use of waste containers.

- **Town of Lyons** – Completed their first reading for the single-hauler ordinance that was just completed, and they are taking it one step at a time while not wanting the price to go up for residents. The annual Spring Cleanup event is May 18th.
- **Town of Nederland** – Working on Zero Waste regulations throughout the town for special events. The town’s Sustainability Advisory Board is working with a 2019 Boulder County Sustainability Grant and partnering with [EnergySmart](#) to offer more rebates for solar PV systems.
- **Town of Superior** – Participated in the Boulder County Zero Waste Funding program and have begun creating an educational program. They are also going to release a pre and post survey to quantify what participants have learned from the program. The town will make the results available when completed. They also have a town scorecard that they will continue updating quarterly.

4. **Subcommittee Updates:**

- **Infrastructure & Sustainability Tax:** The Infrastructure Subcommittee have not met in a while as this group was temporarily combined with the s-tax committee. The larger group was waiting for the results from the Zero Waste Site Analysis report from Sloan Vasquez. The report is incomplete as it is right now. Sustainability Tax Subcommittee would like to see big chunks of the S Tax go to infrastructure. They have submitted recommendations for the BOCC to consider and are waiting for approval.
- **Food Waste:** NRDC came in and presented on their “Food Matters” campaign they are running in partnership with several cities. This may be an opportunity for the county to possibly partner with. They did not have the metrics for results of their impact yet. There is also an ongoing conversation with COPIA for a pilot project at the JCC in Boulder for large-scale catering. We want to find out if this is an easily navigable resource for larger businesses to participate in.
- **Waste Diversion Calculator:** No updates available.

5. **Recycle Colorado Update:**

- Everyone is invited to the Recycling Summit in Pueblo June 9-11. This will be a great opportunity to network and be exposed to projects around the state.
- SB192 Front Range Waste Diversion Bill is moving along at the state capitol; this bill has moved past the Senate and is now on the Floor for vote.
- SB19-243 – regarding banning food grade polystyrene to-go containers is moving through the House as well and could be adopted this year, however, not go in to effect for five years.

6. **Carbon Farming Update:**

- The Eco-Cycle/Cal-Rose study was summarized with the most important question being how to make compost cheap enough that farmers will actually use it throughout Boulder County. They developed pro-forma projections that are divergent from the typical compost facility compost split. The recommendation was to front-load the tip fee side, but a percentage of the compost would be available to a percentage of the farmers

that would agree to become carbon farmers. There has been positive reception to this idea throughout the agricultural community so far.

- Parks & Open Space is also very excited about farmers being amenable to using this opportunity to participate. Another co-benefit that is important to this conversation is the new water storage available within the new soils because this project. The newly amended soil will act as a sponge to hold water longer instead of runoff or evapotranspiration during irrigation.
- Eco-Cycle is piloting a residential carbon farming program. They are wanting to answer the question to whether one can quantify carbon sequestration in an urban environment. Eco-Cycle is also using this program for general education within the residential sector.

7. Adjournment: Charlie Kamenides adjourned the meeting at 6:11 pm.