



Resource Conservation Advisory Committee (RCAB)

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Meeting Address: Boulder County Recycling Center • 1902 63rd Street, Boulder, CO 80306 • www.BoulderCounty.org

Boulder County Resource Conservation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – September 22, 2021

Board Members Present:

Dan Matsch - Lyons
Mark Persichetti – Louisville
Charles Kamenides – Longmont (Chair)
Tim Plass – At Large (Vice-Chair)
Mircalla Wozniak – At Large
David Snapp – At Large (CDPHE)
Alyssa Vogan – Sustainability Analyst Town of Superior
Suzanne Jones – Eco Cycle
Brandon Hill – Resource Central
Darla Arians – Boulder County
Noah Eisenman – Boulder County
Eric Loof – Western Disposal
Adam Swetlick – City of Boulder

Board Members not Present:

Russ Callas – At Large
Chris Pelletier – Town of Nederland
Sara Loflin – Town of Erie
Bridget Johnson – Jamestown

Eric Smith – At Large
Jamie Harkins – City of Lafayette
Tim Towndrow – Republic Services
Vacant – Town of Ward
Vacant – CU Recycling

RCAB Staff Liaison:

Tim Broderick – Boulder County/OSCAR
Deandra Croissant – Boulder County/ OSCAR

Guests:

Susie Hidalgo-Fahring – Longmont City Council
Tyler Kesler – Sustainability Manager
Elizabeth Szorad – City of Lafayette
Lesia Julian – City and County of Broomfield
Lisa Skumatz – SERA

1. Call to Order / Introductions

Charlie Kamenides called the meeting to order at 4:46 p.m. and completed introductions for anyone calling in.

Tim Broderick announced the new Zero Waste Infrastructure Strategic Advisor, Noah Eisenman. Part of this zero waste position is to take on the Boulder County RCAB Staff Liaison, and so Tim Broderick will be exiting from this liaison responsibility and transitioning it over to Noah. Tim Broderick also explained he will be on paternity leave for November and December, but Dede Croissant will be here to continue to take minutes and support Noah. Charlie thanked Tim Broderick for his service to RCAB. Noah provided a bit of background on himself explaining he is from Arizona and worked for the City of Flagstaff for eight years in various positions in their Sustainability and Public Works Departments, working on initiatives such as air quality, policy, construction, hazardous waste facility management, and sustainability program management. From there, Noah worked for 5 years on the Zero Waste Team at the City of Boulder, and was responsible for tracking the city's diversion rate, writing the legislation for the

deconstruction and demolition programs, did the role out and implementation for the zero waste ordinance, and set up the transfer stations.

2. Approval of Minutes August 25, 2021

Charlie asked if the August 25 minutes could be approved. Charlie noted a revision. From there Tim Plass motioned to approve as amended, Brandon Hill seconded, followed by a unanimous RCAB approval.

3. Meeting Attendance – RCAB Bylaws

Charlie reviewed the RCAB attendance policy from the by-laws, stating “If an at-large member is absent for three or more consecutive meetings without notice to the Chair or staff liaison, that member will be asked to step down from the board so a new appointment can be made. If an appointed member is absent for three or more consecutive meetings, the staff liaison may request that the jurisdiction that appointment the board member in question be asked to appoint a replacement member.” RCAB members are expected to follow these guidelines and communicate with Charlie if they are going to miss a meeting or are having trouble with the timing.

4. RCAB Staff Liaison Update

This was moved to Item #1. Please see notes in “Call to Order and Introductions.”

5. Subcommittee Updates

Planning, Policy, and Programs (P3)

Eric Smith was not in attendance, so this agenda item was moved to next month.

Sustainability Tax and Infrastructure

2022 Sustainability Tax funding is on trajectory to be approved but has not yet been formalized by The Boulder County Commissioners (BOCC). This group has been on hiatus waiting for the new zero waste infrastructure position to be hired. County will need to lead next steps for this group.

Boulder County Zero Waste Grants

2022 Boulder County Zero Waste Grants are on trajectory for funding, and seems very promising, but has not yet been formally approved by the BOCC. If funded, the money would be available January 2022. Historically, RCAB has pulled together a leadership group to support marketing, review applications, and make recommendations to the BOCC. Will continue to monitor this moving forward, as budget approvals are finalized.

6. Statewide Policy Update – Dan Matsch

The focus has been on how Recycle Colorado can recommend to the State of Colorado the expenditure of their 83 million dollars of ARPA funding coming. Have been meeting to discuss different ideas, and identify what projects are shovel ready, have a budget, and have a champion, etc. Considering projects, such as: The Innovation Hub at 6400 Arapahoe (to be an end market development hub), a Boulder County Compost Infrastructure project, and transfer stations in various locations. The intent is to have

some strong projects with a budget that they can be ready with in October. Suzanne Jones also announced another opportunity for funding is the Front Range Waste Diversion. The next RFA will be focused on organics. The FWRD board would love to see infrastructure projects, as well as collections and programs related to organics waste diversion and reduction. The grant posting will go live in October and applications will be due December 20, 2021.

7. Equity Training Team Update

Charlie and Susie Hidalgo-Fahring are organizing the Equity Subcommittee meeting with Darla Arians and Sara Loflin. Charlie opened a discussion to the larger RCAB group and asked “What challenges are RCAB members facing when they are addressing their community members or customers?”

Alyssa Vogan shared the Town of Superior is in the process of developing their Sustainability Action Plan and doing a lot of community engagement. They are hearing different waste service needs from their single-family households and multi-family units. This is an interesting challenge in terms of equity and household type.

Tyler Kesler explained the Town of Erie just onboarded their new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Manager. They have been starting conversations on how to build a stronger relationship with the Hispanic community, which makes up over 10% of the Town’s population. They want to be sure to not connect socio-economic status with race and work to build a more sustainable community together and celebrate successes.

Darla Arians reminded the group that the BOCC passed an equity and justice top strategic priority three years ago. There is a lot of work being done on this priority issue but not as much in relation to zero waste. So, Darla organized an environmental justice immersion for the Resource Conservation Division (RCD) staff, and brought in two representatives from EPA region 8, as well as two representatives from CDPHE’s Office of Health Equity, and a Boulder County Cultural Responsiveness and Inclusion Advisory Committee (CRIAC) representative, Katie Arrington. The guest speakers led them through the EPA environmental justice screening tool, and CDPHE went over the state government’s role in environmental justice and talked about the new legislation passed in Colorado and what the impact of that will be. Darla also surveyed staff first to see where the RCD staff was with current equity knowledge. Next steps have been developing an Environmental Justice Working Group. Darla invited RCAB if any members would like to join the equity working group, which will be reading relevant books and developing a tool that could be used by RCAB and other communities.

8. Meetings for the Remainder of the Year

Charlie opened up a discussion regarding meetings for the end of the year with Thanksgiving approaching as well as the possibility of a holiday party as we have done in years past. Group decided to do a combined November and December meeting the 1st week of December.

9. Community Updates

- **Charlie Kamenides** – Longmont had their hazardous chemical collection this past weekend and had excellent turn-out. Had almost 600 households come through and greatly exceeded the expected numbers.
- **Suzanne Jones** – Eco-Cycle is working on collection of solar panels for recycling at CHaRM. Trying to figure out downstream markets and collection methodologies that will work. Tim Plass asked what can be reclaimed from the solar panels, and Suzanne explained that you can collect glass, aluminum frames, and sometimes the cells depending on what they are made of. Working with a company that will recycle all those aspects. The materials are not high value, so they will have to be subsidized, similar to old TVs. Tyler Kesler asked if Eco-Cycle will collect EV batteries, and Suzanne explained not yet but they are working on this, Darla said the BCRC is working on this battery collection as well.
- **Brandon Hill** – At Resource Central they have completed their warehouse construction, and on Monday are beginning the construction of the steel canopy that will cover their outdoor materials yard.
- **Tyler Kesler** – The Town of Erie just did their Fall Clean Up Event and had about 300 cars pull through dropping off scrap metal, prescription medications, and electronics. Have been doing a lot of community engagement with HOAs, community members, and businesses, leading up to their October 19 meeting with the board to present policy recommendations. Have also been partnering with Eco-Cycle for Front Range Waste Diversion Grant. Hoping to come together with some robust options for their board to decide on before the March elections. Looking to expand their recycling center and going to offer yard waste with leaf and pumpkin composting, among other efforts. Also just got a half-time position approved in January for zero waste. Tyler will be sending out the job posting to RCAB sometime in December for dissemination.
- **Eric Loof** – Western Disposal was in the process of negotiating their waste FWRD grant for their construction waste sorting, and that has now been approved. Tying this together with their grand opening of their new transfer station in mid-November and it will be added to their hazardous management materials facility.
- **Elizabeth Szorad** – Lafayette approved their EV/PV ready provision. Had a compost giveaway event in early September and had over 100 cars come through. Also, in the process of finalizing a draft RFP for residential collection services and working regionally on an EV roadmap as well as updating building codes to 2021 IECC.
- **Adam Swetlik** – City of Boulder hosted our second CHaRM on the road pick-up day (and hazardous materials pick-up) at Ponderosa Mobile Home Park on Sunday, 9/12. The day was a big success and we're learning more about the dynamics of mobile home parks and how crucial it is to get buy-in from the community. These early pilot days are really helping to teach us how to make these events successful as we look to explain this work in the future. Also

working on a renewed enforcement effort around the Universal Zero Waste Ordinance with PACE for next year. Many businesses have fallen out of compliance over the past year and a half. An additional challenge we're working on is the new presence of public outdoor eating areas that may or may not be associated with a specific business and lack 3 bin waste sorting options for customers.

- **Dan Matsch** – Trying to get staff help budgeted into the Town of Lyons budget with the board of trustees. Half-time sustainability coordinator probably will not go through for approval. Therefore, the approach for this coming budget year is to seek approval for hiring subject matter expertise for specific projects that they want to move forward (EV quick charging, incentivizing electrification, and renewable installation). Going to pair that request with an acknowledgement of climate emergency. Dan to let RCAB know if there is anything we can do to help.
- **Darla Arians** – The construction at the hazmat facility is coming along quite nicely and is scheduled to be completed by end of November or December. New asphalt at the BCRC and drum feeder about to be replaced, and about to award for the automation of their fiber line at the BCRC. In addition, finalizing design work for the expansion of the Nederland transfer station to be a full zero waste site and getting close to receiving the permit for the build out of the Allen Park expansion at that transfer station to be a full zero waste site as well.

10. Adjourn Charlie Kamenides adjourned the meeting at 5:52 p.m.