

**Middlesex County
Solid Waste Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2020
Virtual via Microsoft Teams**

Attendees

*Linda Scott, representing Cranbury Mayor Matthew Scott
*Paul Reed, representing Helmetta Mayor Christopher Slavicek
*Frank Troy, representing Highland Park Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler
*Douglas Rex, representing Middlesex Mayor John Madden
*Ralph Jasionowski, representing Milltown Mayor Eric Steeber
*Donna Caputo, representing New Brunswick Mayor James Cahill
*Eric Chaszar, representing North Brunswick Mayor Mac Womack
*Geri Barcheski, representing Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz
*Frank Hoffman, representing Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz
*Neil Blitz, representing Plainsboro Mayor Peter Cantu
*Bernard Bailey, representing Sayreville Mayor Victoria Kilpatrick
*Paul Luceri, representing South Brunswick Mayor Charles Carley
*Alice Tempel, representing South Plainfield Mayor Matthew P. Anesh
*Adriano Soares, representing South River Mayor John Krenzel
*Audrey Rozger, representing Woodbridge Mayor John McCormac
*Frank Fiumefreddo
*Robert Leslie
*Angelo Covino ?
*Patrick McGaheran
*Gary Sondermeyer
*Nicholas Smolney
*Seth Hackman, NJ DEP
*Dawn Slawsky, NJ DEP
*George Ververides, Middlesex County Planning Board
*Doug Greenfeld, Middlesex County Planning Board
*Joe DiFillippo, Middlesex County Environmental Health Division
*Paul Maticera, MCIA
*Michael Williams, Middlesex County Counsel
Frank Lankey, MCIA
Chris Kellar, MUA
Robert Romano, Veolia
Jasvinder Arjani, consultant for Veolia
Guy Watson, consultant for Solterra
Ed Apuzzi, Solterra
Joe Slomian, Monroe Township
Elyse Barone, Sayreville
Erin Senape, South Amboy
Dave Sliker
Carole Tolmachewich, Middlesex County Solid Waste Management
Fred Stanger, Middlesex County Solid Waste Management
*denotes SWAC membership

I Elections

The election subcommittee consisting of Ms. Caputo, Mr. Luceri and Mr. Slomian recommended to re-elect the current positions of: Neil Blitz as Chairperson, Gary Sondermeyer as First Vice Chair and Linda Scott as Second Vice Chair. Ms. Caputo made a motion to close the nominations and move the slate. Mr. Slomian seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

II Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 11, 2020 meeting were approved. The motion was made by Mr. Sondermeyer, seconded by Ms. Scott, and the motion carried unanimously.

III Correspondence

The following members requested an excused absence: Mr. Clark, Mr. Coleman and Mr. Intravartola. A motion to excuse was made by Ms. Scott, seconded by Mr. Sondermeyer and the motion carried unanimously.

IV Division of Solid Waste Management Report

Ms. Tolmachewich thanked everyone from the municipalities for keeping the DSWM office informed of the status of their solid waste and recycling programs and drop-off center closures/openings.

The DSWM will be holding the first paper shred event on Saturday, June 13 in Woodbridge and the second household hazardous waste event on Sunday, June 14 in Old Bridge with social distancing guidelines in place.

The paint and tire drop-off programs have resumed.

Tonnage grants are still due on July 1. Ms. Barcheski asked if there would be an extension for filing the tonnage grant, or an extension to add more material after the due date since most businesses that report the tonnages are closed. As of now, no extensions have been offered.

V Agency Reports

1. NJ DEP Report

Seth Hackman introduced himself from the NJ DEP along with Dawn Slawsky. Mr. Hackman reported that Ed Nieliwocki retired from the NJ DEP as of May 1. Mr. Hackman intends to attend future Middlesex County SWAC meetings.

2. Environmental Health Division - Solid Waste Enforcement Report

Mr. DiFillippo reported that normal office operations as well as routine inspections have been suspended and that most staff has been re-assigned to assist with County related COVID-19 operations.

There have been no odor complaints and very few other types of complaints.

The Environmental Prosecutor continues to work on about 30 cases, most of which are haulers who have failed to pay the solid waste management services fee.

The fiscal year will end on June 30th and the Division is hopeful to meet the minimum inspection requirements before the deadline.

3. MCIA Report

A copy of the MCIA report was made available as an attachment via the virtual meeting.

VI Old Business – Status of District Waste Facility

1. MCUA Report on Middlesex County Landfill

Mr. Smolney asked about the current status of the final cap on the areas that are being permanently closed. Mr. Leslie answered that the project is expected to be completed within the estimated timeframe.

VII Other Old Business

1. Plan Amendment 2020-1 (Veolia Transfer Station – Middlesex Borough)

Mr. Romano provided an overview of the proposed project via a presentation. The primary purpose of the proposed facility is to accept non-hazardous waste and use a shredder to increase inefficiencies in the current methodology. The increase in efficiency will help to reduce truck traffic to between 1/3 and 1/2 less vehicles.

Ms. Tempel asked if any part of the operation is occupying a flood zone. Mr. Romano noted that none of the operations would be conducted outside and the property will continue to use the current storm water system that is in place.

A site subcommittee will be headed up by Doug Rex from Middlesex Borough and the facility will be toured with social distancing procedures prior to the next SWAC meeting.

2. Administrative Action 002-20 (986 Jersey Ave / Solterra Class A Recycling Facility – New Brunswick)

Solterra is seeking to add Class A recycling facility as part of the current transfer station operations. As a reminder, an Administrative Action does not require a public hearing unless requested by the Freeholder Board. There will be no increase in the permitted tons per day and the expected quantity of Class A materials is expected to be no more than a maximum of 200 tons per day, the capacity of the sorting equipment.

Ms. Tempel asked if Solterra is having any issues marketing the material and the answer was that by being able to sort the material, it will increase their ability to market the material.

Ms. Caputo asked if Solterra plans to bring any material in from out of County and the answer was the majority of the material will be from Middlesex County.

Mr. Sondermeyer asked if anything will be shipped via rail and the answer was no, not at this time.

Ms. Caputo asked how long recyclables and/or trash would be sitting on the floor and the answer was it will be removed within 24 hours.

A subcommittee chaired by Ms. Caputo will be formed to tour the facility. Mr. Sondermeyer and Ms. Tempel volunteered to be on the subcommittee.

VIII New Business

There was no new business.

IX General Public Portion

There was no one from the general public.

Ms. Caputo made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Tempel.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Stanger

Neil Blitz
SWAC Chairperson