

**Mid-Missouri Solid Waste Management  
District Council Meeting  
May 09, 2013 7:00 p.m. – Open Meeting  
Daniel Boone Building, Columbia City Hall, Conference Room 1A  
701 E. Broadway, Columbia, MO**

**Members Present Representing**

Tom Groves	Audrain County
Kent Wood	Callaway County
Thad Yonke	Boone County
Mary Ellen Lea	City of Columbia
Gary Jungermann	Callaway County
Jeff Koechner	City of Tipton
Sam Bayne	St. Martins
David Booker	Cooper County
ML Cauthon	City of Boonville
John Glavin	Osage County

**Members Present Representing**

Bill Fountain	Audrain County
Karen Shaw	City of Vandalia
Lauren Henry	City of Jefferson
Cheri Reisch	City of Hallsville
JC Miller	City of Fulton
Mark Luebbering	Cole County
Kim Roll	Moniteau County
Robin Triplett	City of Fayette
Howard McMillan	Howard County

**Members Absent Representing**

Dan Atwill	Boone County
Gene Kelly	City of Sturgeon
Stephanie Leverett	City of Auxvasse
Gwen Edmundson	City of Holts Summit
Bob Urban	City of Taos
Lowell Eaton	Howard County
Pat Cunningham	City of New Franklin
Larry Crocker	City of Russellville
Elmer Senevey	Osage County
Mark Voss	City of Linn

**Members Absent Representing**

John Fraga	City of Ashland
Tim Grenke	Boone County
Summer Hildebrand	City of Mexico
Jeff Hoelscher	Cole County
Darell Eckerle	Pilot Grove
Alan Thompson	City of Glasgow
Tony Barry	Moniteau County
Rick Graham	City of California
Paul Davis	Cooper County
Paul Rodeman	City of Wardsville

**Others Present**

DeAnna Trass, Manager of the Mid-Missouri Solid Waste Management District  
 Jessica Sapp, Secretary to the Mid-Missouri Solid Waste Management District  
 Jeff Barrow, River Relief  
 Angie Gehlert, MORA

**1. Call to Order / Opening Remarks (Thomas Groves, District Council Chairperson – Audrain County Commissioner)**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Executive Board Chairman, Thomas Groves.

**2. Introductions & Determination of Quorum by Role Call of Counties & Cities**

Introductions were made and it was determined there was a quorum.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Groves stated there were amendments to the agenda. Under item #6, the Executive Board Chair is Lauren Henry. Under item #9, District Manager, DeAnna Trass will give the Budget Report in place of Mr. Miller. Also, Angie Gehlert is present as a guest speaker.

**Mr. Yonke moved to approve the amended agenda; seconded by Mr. Grenke. Unanimous voice vote of approval.**

**4. Approval of Minutes from May 9, 2012 (recommendation from Executive Board)**

**Mr. Yonke moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Ms. Henry. Unanimous voice vote of approval.**

**5. Presentation: River Relief**

Mr. Jeff Barrow of River Relief was introduced for his presentation.

Mr. Barrow thanked MMSWMD for its support over the years. He feels that River Relief would not be who they were today without Region H funding along with other grant resources.

During his power point presentation, Mr. Barrow highlighted the history of River Relief, events held since their inception in 2001 and total tonnage. Photos were shown of volunteers and the amount of waste retrieved from the river in Region H and other areas along the river state-wide.

**6. Executive Board Report (Lauren Henry, Executive Board Chair, City of Jefferson)**

**a. Annual Report**

Ms. Henry deferred to District Manager, DeAnna Trass, to give the Executive Board Report. Ms. Trass stated she would highlight the year during agenda items 9 – 12.

**b. FY2014 Goals**

Ms Trass stated the goals for the upcoming fiscal year were identified and approved by the Executive Board as:

- Continue development and implementation of a District-wide HHW Program, with strong consideration of grant projects establishing permanent HHW facilities in counties of Cooper and Osage.
- Hold one-day collection events as scheduled.
- Support recycling opportunities for underserved counties.
- Continue to develop education and public outreach programs.
- Continue introduction and implementation of the revised MMSWMD Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

**7. Executive Board Appointments (Caucus by County)**

**Audrain County's representative remains Tom Groves  
Boone County's representative remains Tim Grenke  
City of Columbia's representative remains Mary Ellen Lea  
Callaway County's representative remains J.C. Miller  
Cole County's representative remains Jeff Hoelscher  
City of Jefferson's representative remains Lauren Henry  
Cooper County's representative remains be Paul Davis  
Howard County's representative will now be Debra Miller  
Osage County's representative will now be John Glavin  
Moniteau County's representative remains Kim Roll**

**8. Election of District Council Officers (Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson)**

Chairman Groves advised the group that he and Commissioner Jeff Hoelscher were willing to hold their Chair and Co-Chair titles for the District Council. However, asked the group if they had anyone they would like to nominate. There was no response to the Chairman's question for nominations.

**Ms. Lea moved to have Thomas Groves remain as District Chairman and Commissioner Jeff Hoelscher remain as District Co-Chair; seconded by Ms. Henry. Unanimous voice vote of approval.**

## **9. Treasurer's Report (J.C. Miller, Executive Board Vice-chair, City of Fulton Solid Waste Manager)**

### **a. Balance of Accounts**

Mr. Miller gave the balance of accounts.

Reconciled checking acct balance: \$1000.02. Mr. Miller stated that MMSWMD keeps a \$1,000 balance.

Administrative account balance: \$292,185.35

District Grant account balance: \$200,361.53

**Mr. Fountain moved to approve the balance of accounts; seconded by Commissioner Jungermann. Unanimous voice vote of approval.**

### **b. Budget Report**

**Income:** This year, the Executive Board awarded \$50,000 for small projects and had \$277,002.29 available for large projects. The Executive Board was able to fund 6 large grants.

For FY 2012, landfill tonnage fees remained stable resulting in the average amount of funds available to the District.

In the FY 2013 budget, the district is reserving a 30% fund balance from interest and program income in accordance with district policies.

Income anticipated in the FY 2014 budget is \$483,309. This includes interest and program income. There is \$173,375 budgeted for district operations and plan implementation. For district grants, there is \$309,934. Any unused funds available when current grants close will be carryover for the Round 2 large grant process in FY 2013. Additional income for grant funding may result from collection events and interest earned on bank accounts. Interest rates have remained steady.

**Expenses:** The Professional Administrative Services Contract awarded to the City of Columbia on 7/1/09 is a five year contract. In FY 2014, there are no cost adjustments or increases.

**Personnel:** The District reimburses the City for 100 percent for Salary/Fringe benefits for District Manager and Summer Intern. The District reimburses the City for 50% salary and 35% fringe benefits for the Administrative Assistant.

**Contractual Services:** Monies budgeted for professional services will pay for the District's annual financial audit and collection events for HHW, tires, electronic waste and appliances.

#### **Other Expenditures:**

Education and public outreach is a priority for 2014. The District's quarterly newsletter and Recycling Guide will be printed in addition to email subscriptions through the District's website. Budgets for postage and printing have decreased due to the District staff implementing the use of electronic delivery for documents that don't require original signatures. Insurance budget amounts include coverage for a surety bond, errors and omissions insurance for our Board, and trailer insurance coverage. All other expenditures are comparable to previous years.

Financial Audit – The FY 2012 financial audit was successfully completed by Casey and Company and there were no significant findings.

## **10. Adoption of FY2014 District Budget (recommendation from Executive Board)**

During FY2013, Ms. Trass shared that MMSWMD received a total of ten small grant requests and eight large. Total funding requests came in at \$415,105.91. The Executive Board was able to recommend \$314,254.14 worth of grant funding to MDNR. However, one applicant (total request \$4,634.64) backed out of receiving funding due to the length of time it was taking MDNR to approve their grant.

At this time, MDNR has only approved \$130,837.50 of this funding. Ms. Trass stated the District is still awaiting word on approvals for three grants from Round 2 (large grants) and will be submitting Round 3 recommendations to MDNR by the end of the week.

Ms. Trass stated she reviewed the FY2014 budget with the Executive Board and went through the numbers and answered all questions before asking the group for a final recommendation. The budget



was discussed by the Board as decreased expenditures were proposed in a few areas. The Board agreed that projections were fair and approved recommending it to Council earlier in the day. Ms. Trass then went over the budget, item by item, with the Council and asked if there were any questions or concerns. There weren't any.

With no questions regarding the budget, Chairman Groves asked for a motion.

**Ms. Henry moved to adopt the MMSWMD FY2014 Budget; seconded by Mr. Yonke. Unanimous voice vote of approval.**

## **11. District Manager's Report**

### **a. FY 2013 Accomplishments**

- Tire & Ewaste collections
  - We had 2 tire collection and ewaste events. 68.16 tons of tires (40.23 in Audrain and 27.93 in Cole) and 15.19 tons of EWaste (3.34 in Audrain, 2.6 in Callaway and 9.25 in Cole). There is a tire and ewaste event planned for Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, in Osage County from 9am-1pm at the county fairgrounds.
- Education and public outreach will continue in 2014. Presentations can be requested through the MMSWMD website.

### **b. FY2014 Important Dates**

- Grant Call
  - Early to mid-July
- Grant Workshops
  - Wednesday, July 24, 2012, 1:00 – 3:00 pm
  - Thursday, August 1, 2012, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Grant Submission Due Dates
  - Round 1 (small): 9/20/13
  - Round 2 (large): required prelim due 11/3/12; final app due 1/3/14
  - Round 3 (small): 3/21/14 (based on if monies are left from Round 1)
- Executive Board Meetings
  - Second Wednesday of each month
- Advisory Committee Meetings
  - Third Wednesday of October, January, and April
- FY2014 District Council Meeting
  - Wednesday, May 14, 2014
- Tire, Appliance, & E-waste Collections
  - Saturday, May 11, 2013 - Osage County
  - Saturday, June 8, 2013 – Cooper County (tentative)

### **c. MMSWMD Website and Newsletter**

Ms. Trass reminded the group of the District website, [www.mmswmd.org](http://www.mmswmd.org). Information about events, meetings and other things going on in Region H can be located on the site. Newsletters are published quarterly and can also be found on the website. If anyone present does not receive an email with the newest publication when it is posted, Ms. Trass encouraged them to leave their email address. She'd also like to have email addresses to be able to contact and correspond with everyone.

## **12. Other Business**

### **a. Discussion on SB 13 and HB 6**

To give some background on current legislation, Ms. Trass reminded the Council of SB849 from last year. In the end, the bill was tabled and never voted on before end of session. Now, enter SB13 for this current year. This particular bill was introduced by Senator Kurt Schaefer. The intention of this bill is to eliminate solid waste management districts and reduce landfill tipping fees by the amount previously used on district overhead and administration. Reason being, he felt that the districts were antiquated and that most areas have recycling services available and there was no need to have monies filtered through the solid waste program to help those few that don't.

During hearings and Senate Committee discussions, SB13 had a lot of opposition and forward motion on

a potential compromise halted. Instead of continuing to push SB13, Senator Schaefer, being the chairman of the Budget Appropriations Committee, introduced HB6 with intentions of eliminating the solid waste districts through the state budget.

HB6 is not written to directly eliminate solid waste districts. However, it does take the program budget from \$22 million down to \$9 million; essentially eliminating the administrative component. Grant funding would still be available for those who wish to apply, presumably directly through MDNR. There has not been any discussion how the solid waste program would continue if the bill is passed. At this time, HB6 is awaiting review by the Governor where he will either pass or veto the proposal.

Mr. Yonke feels it would be impossible for a subgrantee to meet all the grant requirements through MDNR when there is no one to manage the grant.

Ms. Trass stated that Ms. Gehlert was invited to attend our meeting to give some background and because none of the District Planners were invited to any of the budgetary meetings for HB6. Also, Senator Schaefer constantly made a point of stating districts were hard to work with. That he couldn't get a hold of any one and none of the district planners were willing to speak with him. Ms. Trass commented that this statement by Senator Schaefer she felt was untrue. Mainly because Region H reached out to him on several occasions and received no response.

MORA has been able to have a lobbyist attend HB6 meetings. In turn, she knows more details about what is going on with budget legislation. Ms. Trass turned the floor over to her.

Ms. Gehlert introduced herself and assured the Council that grant funding was not used to hire their lobbyist.

SB13 was introduced and then a substitute reducing the number of districts from twenty and creating six "mega" districts. With this bill not going anywhere, Senator Schaefer attacked it through the budget process. His comments revolved around administrative costs being 50-60% for some, gross negligence in grant spending, and districts not coming to the table. One example of negligence was a \$6,000 mural painted on a renovated building for the STL District to move into. This figure has somehow been blown into a \$200,000 expenditure. Mr. Cauthon added this was approximately 15 years ago. Ms. Gehlert stated legislature is working with misinformation and it's scary that they are using this to make their decisions. Another frustrating piece is no one is working to correct the misinformation about the cost of the mural.

Ms. Gehlert stated, in watching the hearing video, Senator Schaefer took a lot of heat for using the budget process to further his cause when SB13 stalled. Fellow Senators vocalized the displeasure of his actions. HB6 was debated for two and a half hours. A couple of amendments were introduced to reinstate full funding of the program, but did not receive enough votes to pass.

If HB6 is approved by the Governor, monies will be taken off the top for EIERA market development program, scrap tire program, and special projects. This would leave approximately \$6.7 million for district funds and operations.

The budget committee was fed information from MDNR and the figure they agreed upon was an average of the money expended by the districts. This number gives the impression that districts can "live" on that.

Ms. Gehlert has been working to educate the legislature. There are many components and is a lot to understand. When you speak to those who have no clue about the solid waste program while they are trying to also discuss Medicare and other big topics, you can imagine the difficulty. Another thing that makes it tough is districts manage the administrative portion of their program differently. Example being; Region F uses administrative funds (District Operations) to pay those supervising inmates that work to clean the State Fair. Also, district operations helped pay for a special styrofoam recycling project. These things wouldn't necessarily be identified as not being "administrative". Ms. Gehlert feels these inconsistencies in reporting by the districts cloud the issue and paints an unfair picture. Legislature thinks it is all salaries.

Senator Schaefer asked for a breakdown of salaries by Monday. MORA got with him that the districts are

willing to work with him. He feels the current 20 districts can be consolidated into 10. He also feels they may run better under a Regional Planning Commission.

The Solid Waste Advisory Board (SWAB) chairman, John Hassis, told Senator Schaefer that districts were willing to formulate a plan to be more efficient and potentially downsize a little bit. He asked that SWAB present this to legislature in November. Senator Schaefer responded with a May 17<sup>th</sup> deadline, which is not nearly enough time to produce an organized plan.

Ms. Gehlert stated money to fund all districts is there. Monies are still coming in from tipping fees and are accumulating in an account. However, MDNR does not have the authority to release these funds for spending. One thing MDNR can do is present the Governor with an amendment to the appropriations in January. In the meantime, concerns are that if funds are racking up, at some point, the argument could be made that districts don't need the money. Maybe the tipping fee should be reduced or fund sweep it, if general revenue is in trouble.

Another thing to keep in mind with the \$6.7 million left to give districts is, by statute, some district get a minimum of \$95,000 in funding. These districts will be fine to carry their program forward, but it obviously will reduce the amount the rest of the districts can vie for.

One thing Ms. Trass shared that she found interesting is that not all districts keep their Plan Implementation and District Operation budgets separate like Region H. Some combine the two. This makes it harder to identify where and how funds are being spent. Essentially, it could appear that ALL of the district funding is administrative. District Planners came together with a breakdown of all expenditures and found most regions only spend 20-30% of funding received on administrative costs.

Ms. Gehlert stated she requested the same information from MDNR as Senator Schaefer did. MORA built a graph based off the numbers and it appeared the administration expenditures in Springfield were 60%; which is against the law. Ms. Gehlert says we are behind the curve in an attempt to educate the legislature as to how funds are used and identified.

Mr. Cauthon commented part of the problem is that Senator Schaefer has a history with MDNR. He feels Senator Schaefer is just a figure head for the department. He stated the solid waste program is not doing us any favors by providing numbers without explanation; resulting in the Senator presenting the numbers without a clear understanding them. Mr. Cauthon stated it comes down to speaking with the legislature along with pushing MDNR to produce an honest, organized picture of the program numbers.

Ms. Gehlert referenced the SB13 hearing that a handful of us attended. There was so much information in how Senator Schaefer presented it to the committee. As Ms. Trass said, he feels that every area have their own curbside recycling program. He also made a statement that the waste industry is doing all the recycling by pulling out all the recyclables before sending it to the landfill.

Mr. Yonke shared his opinion of another part of this is that no one is being honest enough to admit that MDNR wants the districts disbanded. They are being presented as the neutral knowledgeable party, when in reality they are pulling strings behind the scenes. The appearance to some is that MDNR is working with Senator Schaefer to misrepresent the districts. Ms. Trass further commented on the misrepresentation of many districts and having bad audits. After speaking with other District Planners, she learned this was not the case.

Mr. Cauthon stated there is some industry influence in this. The commercial waste haulers are knee deep in this legislation because their ultimate goal is to reduce the tipping fees. If fees were reduced, the cost of curbside trash collection would go up, hence creating a bigger profit margin. Ms. Gehlert shared that after the SB13 hearing, two Senators and two from the waste industry met for approximately an hour behind closed doors. Mr. Cauthon continued that the waste industry will present a snapshot of a small, non-typical rural community they serve to show recycling pick-up. If you are not familiar the big picture, the presentation is viewed as services of this nature is available everywhere.

Ms. Gehlert shared that a waste hauler runs District T. They presented the fact they can run a district with minimal funding. Of course they can, because the waste industry is paying part of his salary. Plus, they have a part time planner. Ms. Gehlert stated Senator Schaefer says that keeps coming back with 10% for administration. For a region that size (3 counties), it's easy to get by with minimal administrative

costs. For others, 10% wouldn't cut it.

Going back to the point about the tipping fee potentially being reduced or eliminated, Mr. Cauthon feels the grant money will then become a target. The waste industry will argue there is no need to give grant funding to small communities because we are providing them with recycling services. When, in fact, they are not.

Ms. Trass shared with the Council what she did with the Executive Board about spending down some of the current carryover that we have. If this can be done, Region H will not have to pull so much funding. MMSWMD operates at such a high level and is efficient with services we provide our communities. Ms. Trass stated that MDNR has often used Region H as an example for others to model after. For this reason, it's hard for us to draw down quickly on money. Mr. Yonke commented that our spending is fiscally conservative so there is a cushion. We make sure there is enough in reserves to pay for any overages that may arise.

Ms. Gehlert said one ironic thing about the legislation discussing the bill and the availability of recycling is even Jefferson City doesn't have recycling receptacles in all public areas. Example being, the legislature has a softball game at Binder Lake in Jefferson City. Senator Kehoe contacted Ms. Gehlert about providing recycling bins at the park for this event.

Ms. Gehlert concluded by encouraging everyone to contact their legislator. Even though time is coming close for the end of session, we all know this is not a dead issue.

**b. Group photo taken of Executive Board representatives**

**13. Adjourn**

**Ms. Henry moved to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Yonke. Unanimous voice vote of approval.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 P.M.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**APPROVED:**

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**Jessica Sapp**  
**Secretary to the MMSWMD**

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**Thomas Groves**  
**MMSWMD Council Chairman**

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**DeAnna Trass**  
**MMSWMD Manager**