

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE **LOCAL GOVERNMENT STERWARDSHIP COUNCIL** VIA
CONFERENCE CALL HELD ON **THURSDAY JANUARY 11, 2007**

Members Present: Co-Chair Raymond Gaudart – Kootenay Boundary
Janine Dougall – Bulkley-Nechako
Wendy Horan – Central Kootenay
Carol Suhan – Central Okanagan
Darcy Mooney – Columbia Shuswap
Bob McDonald – Cowichan Valley
Mike Morrison – Cowichan Valley
Blaine Harasimiuk – Fraser-Fort George
Pearl Guthrie – Fraser Valley
Roger Tooms – Kitimat Stikine
Al Stanley - Nanaimo
Nicole Kohnert – North Okanagan
Cathy Kenny – Sunshine Coast
Jesse Lee – Squamish Lillooet
Sally Emory – Peace River
Kris Ord – Ministry of Environment
Bob Paul – Ministry of Environment
Jared Wright – UBCM
Brock Macdonald - RCBC

Regrets: Co-Chair Monica Kosmak – Greater Vancouver
Drew Hadfield – Alberni Clayoquot
Eric Sharpe – East Kootenay
Andy Pfeifer – East Kootenay
Peter Hughes – Thompson-Nicola
Shannon Anderson – Peace River
Tim Des Champs – Skeena Queen Charlotte

Members Absent: Tom Watkins - Capital
Mitch Minchau - Cariboo
Joy Mackay – Central Coast
Graeme Faris – Comox Strathcona
Greg Fletcher – Mount Waddington
Jack Bowers – Northern Rockies
Frances Ladret – Powell River
Jerry Cheshuk - Squamish-Lillooet

Minutes Recorded By: Sally Emory, Northern Environmental Action Team

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Agenda: **Agenda adopted**

Minutes: **Minutes from October 19, 2006**
(Wendy Horan/Carol Suhan – carried)

Reports from Working Groups:

Toxicity/hazard Carol Suhan reported on the priorities assigned to the different products.

1. automotive liquids (antifreeze, brake transmission fluids etc.)
2. pesticides not covering by existing EPR program
3. swimming pool chemicals
4. electronics-cell phones, MP3 players etc.
5. household cleaners-bleach, drain cleaners

6. wood and metal cleaners
7. mercury thermometers and switches

Note: federal government now has EPR program for mercury switches (December 2006)

Volume/Weight Raymond Gaudart summarized the first draft of his priorities on a spreadsheet. Mike Morrison and Bob McDonald (CVRD) listed their priorities based on current volumes received at landfill.

1. White goods
2. Drywall
3. Textiles, especially carpets

Pearl Guthrie (FVRD) listed her priorities.

1. All white goods
2. Packaging especially Styrofoam
3. Printed materials
4. AV equipment and small household appliances
5. Concrete etc
6. Furniture including mattresses
7. Household paint

Raymond reviewed and commented on his priorities.

1. packaging
2. Electronics other than computers and TVs, light bulbs, CFL, battery operated equipment
3. paper and paperboard
4. White goods requiring Freon removal
5. All other white goods
6. Drywall
7. Insulation, windows, metal studs from C&D
8. Roofing
9. Wood waste (C&D)
10. Furniture
11. Concrete, masonry, brick, plaster
12. Textiles

Operational issues/Nuisance materials Nicole Kohnert (RDNO) commented on the challenge to put a numeric value on the prioritized materials

Carol Suhan (RDCO) used a matrix based on CCME task group and totaled all responses to develop ranking

Kris Ord (BC Env) recommended that all groups use same matrix and Raymond Gaudart concurred.

Carol will send out her Excel spreadsheet to all participants. All participants should include rationale and/or thoughts.

Discussion Challenge will be to integrate rankings from 3 working groups
Kris Ord: show rankings both by working group and cumulative totals
Bob Paul (BC Env); form 2 lists and apply "problematic" materials to toxicity and volume lists; need 100% overlap

Cathy Kenny (Sunshine Coast) wanted to know about the timeline—end of year which will allow participants the opportunity to take information to the regional boards and advisory groups.

GVRD are conducting similar study and preliminary results should be available in May or June.

Does the Ministry have predisposition towards any one group?

Kris Ord: basically a “clean slate” but reduction in toxicity has been a priority in the past.

After discussion regarding expansion of current product list and giving BC Env direction from LGSC, it was decided that the objective of the face-to-face meeting during RCBC conference is to “hammer out” the priority list.

Darcy Mooney (CSR): Once the working group lists have been refined and merged into a single priority list at the RCBC meeting, that list can be taken back for endorsement by elected officials and public advisory groups, enabling us to deliver a common message.

Action: between now and May—refine lists

Working groups – conduct own conference calls

Working Group Chairs

Operational issues/nuisance materials – Monica Kosmak (GVRD)
Volume/Weight – Raymond Gaudart (RDKB)
Toxicity/hazard – Carol Suhan (CORD)

Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, March 14, 2007.
Jared Wright (UBCM) will host.

Topics for next meeting:

1. Refined ranking
2. Overall list—fusion of 3 lists
3. Improved capacity of BC Env to handle increased workload/EPR plans

Discussion:

Raymond expanded on the need for dedicated funding for BC Env staff. Al Stanley said the department shouldn't be funded from general revenue; at a philosophical level it is the “user pay” principle.
Bob Paul suggested that a formalized paper should be submitted to the Minister and Deputy Minister, not relying on staff to push the issue up.
With current Ministry resources, it takes 2-3 years to develop and implement a new stewardship program. The current service plan has 2 new products by 2009.

Auto liquids discussion:

Roger asked if these products are covered in the schedule for lubricating products and is there an eco-fee charged on antifreeze?
Wendy Horan volunteered to contact BCUOMA (Ron Driedger) for clarification

Current Issues:

Milk The quasi-EPR program offered by Encorp was discussed. There was some discussion regarding the shift of financial responsibility, the possible phase-out of managing milk containers by Regional Districts in light of EPR program and sending letters to the Ministry of Environment.
Bob Paul said that these letters are answered by Ministry staff and it is the Ministry of Agriculture that has the clout with this issue. Also, milk will be part of CCME packaging initiative so will be covered through that program.
This led to a discussion to include milk as part of “packaging”.
Janine pointed out that until milk is covered by EPR program, milk containers won't be recycled in the North.
Several districts have calculated the costs of handing milk jugs.

MOTION: Local Government Stewardship Council to write a letter to urge the Minister to revisit the situation regarding milk, to have it included in the beverage

container recycling regulation. This letter will include costs to municipalities of recycling milk containers. Background information will include members of LGSC.

Moved by Roger Tooms, seconded by Carol Suhan. CARRIED.

Raymond will write letter on behalf of LGSC and will send a draft to all members. Any participant not comfortable with the letter and anyone not part of this conference call will be not included as a member/signatory.

Many participants agreed that this is a good idea from the working groups but should also encourage Regional Districts to send similar letter.

Coast Waste Management Conference: Al Stanley thought that the CWMA Conference would be a good opportunity to have an EPR discussion with others.

RCBC: There will be time set aside during RCBC annual conference in May for face-to-face meeting and everyone is encouraged to attend. Those who cannot attend will be able to participate in the meeting via teleconference.
Brock: there will be product stewardship groups meeting with the Ministry and he would like to invite LGSC to be a part of those discussions.

Action Items: Working groups must meet to refine priorities in advance of next meeting (March 14).
Raymond will email list of participants in each group.

Adjourned: 10:22 p.m. (PST)