

Summary of Meeting  
Indiana Recycling Market Development Board (RMDB)  
IDEM Indianapolis Shadeland Office  
2525 N. Shadeland Ave.  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46219

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Members present: Chairman Bruce Burrow (Zoom), Vice-Chairman Kelly Weger, Matt Gratz (Zoom), Debbie Hackman, Craig Lutz, Andrew Nunan, Tara Wesseler-Henry, and Sandy Whitehead

Non-Voting Ex-Officio Members: Representative Sue Errington (Zoom), Julia Wickard

IDEM staff included: Kevin Bump, Pat Daniel, Deanna Garner, Tom Leas, Kristen Koesters, Kathy Mills (Zoom), James French (Zoom), Trisha Tennis, Jennifer Helrigel (Zoom)

Other:

Stephanie Nutter, Growing Green; Allyson Mitchell, Circular Indiana; Cortnee Yabrough, Circular Indiana

Via Zoom:; Sally Rideout, Rideout Public Affairs, Inc.; Kathy Trent, Waste Management; Sandra Hoffarth, ISDA; Jessie Biggerman, Johnson County Recycling District; Dean Hemmersbach, Telfer Recycling; Audra Boarman, Aud Solutions, LLC; Ken Miller, Circular Indiana; Jane Collisi, West Central Solid Waste Management District;

Chairman Bruce Burrow called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. A quorum was present.

**2. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 21, 2021 RMDB MEETING SUMMARY**

The summary for the RMDB meeting held on October 21, 2021, was approved.

**3. IDEM UPDATE**

Julia Wickard, Asst. Commissioner Office of Program Support and Agricultural Liaison introduced the new IDEM Commissioner, Brian Rockensuess. Mr. Rockensuess shared his priorities for IDEM. They include:

- Consider lower level permitting requirements for solid waste with legitimate use.
- Leverage EPA funds at lead contamination sites.
- Support of environmental justice issues.
- IDEM joined Homeland Security for disposing of PFAS from fire stations.
- Re-look at funding from air program fees

Other discussion addressed proposed legislation for HB 1226. Afterwards, he introduced Parvonay Stover, IDEM's new Chief of Staff.

Mrs. Wickard shared Office of Program Support (OPS) updates which included:

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- Governor's Awards nominations and P2 Conference.
- CRGP FY22 \$500,000 available for funding: Grant round closed in October 2021, with a total of 23 applications requesting \$680,993. Of the 23 applicants, 19 were approved for \$461,721. This includes an elementary school, cities, swmnds, universities, and nonprofits.
- E-Cycle Program 2021 Annual Reports and 2022 Registrations are due March 1, 2022.
- OPS responded to EPA at support level for one or more National Recycling Strategy actions.

Afterwards, Grant Geiss provided a financial update for the Solid Waste Management Fee. As of June 30, 2021, the Recycling and Promotion Assistance Fund had a cash balance of \$15,213,821 and the State Solid Waste Management Fund had a cash balance of \$7,602,020.

#### **4. STATUS UPDATE OF EXISTING GRANTS**

Mrs. Garner reminded board members of the grant project awarded to Growing Green and provided a basic background of the project and its status. She then introduced Stephanie Nutter of Growing Green, who was present to ask for a two year extension in addition to their current one year extension. The board approved a motion for the extension with progress reports.

#### **5. STRATEGIC PLANNING**

The board took time to look at the recommendations provided in the recently released Indiana Recycling Infrastructure and Economic Impact Study. They then discussed the recommendations that the board may be able to implement in grant funding decisions. Geneva Tyler from the Indiana State Department of Agriculture facilitated the discussion. The board prioritized the following recommendations as a way to support the circular economy:

- Utilize and Promote Public Private Partnerships
- MRF Education and Outreach
- Regional MRF-Shed Development and Support
- Organics Recycling Including Food Waste

Recommendations considered outside of the board's purview for funding projects included a) development of state solid waste plans by communities and b) enhancements to IDEM, Solid Waste and Recycling Data Reporting program such as developing new forms for voluntary reporting by manufacturers that document use of recyclables.

Other discussion about RMDP application guidelines for proof of matching funding was tabled until next meeting.

#### **6. OTHER**

A reminder was provided of the remaining 2022 quarterly meeting schedule.

- Thursday April 28, 2022
- Thursday July 28 ,2022
- Thursday October 27, 2022

#### **7. ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn was made. The meeting concluded at 12:00p.m.