

## **SUMMARY OF JULY 27, 2023 MEETING**

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

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

Non-Voting Ex-Officio Members: Representative Sue Errington (Zoom), Senator Shelli Yoder, Carl Wodrich - IDEM (Zoom)

IDEM staff included: Dallas Ohern, Pat Daniel, Deanna Garner, Tom Leas;  
Zoom: Drake Abramson, Jennifer Helrigel, Emily Fletcher

Other:  
Stephanie Nutter, Growing Green; Allyson Mitchell, Mobile Re-Cell (Zoom)

Tara Wessler-Henry (standing in for Chairman Burrow) called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. A quorum was present.

### **2. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE MAY 5, 2023, RMDB MEETING SUMMARY & TRANSCRIPT**

The transcript and summary for the RMDB meeting held on May 5, 2023, was approved.

### **3. IDEM UPDATE**

Carl Wodrich, Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Office of Program Support (OPS) shared current IDEM projects:

- IDEM hired a new Training and Development Director, Amanda Hall. She will report directly to the Chief of Staff, Parvonay Stover.
- IDEM will have a booth at the Indiana State Fair, which will be the first time since the Covid pandemic began.
- The Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence nominations are being reviewed and scored for final awards by new staff member, Caitlin Carroll. Final awards will be presented at the Partners for Pollution Prevention Annual Conference on September 20<sup>th</sup>. The board was reminded that, if interested in attending, that the Recycling Market Development Program has funds to pay for a board members registration, travel, and per diem.
- An E-waste collection event is scheduled for Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> in Sullivan County at the High School from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. IDEM staff will be assisting the contractor, ERI, to collect the electronics.
- The next Recycling Roundtable Discussion is scheduled for August 30<sup>th</sup> from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- There has been a legislative change to the board's membership. The Legislative Council met recently and had a change from Representative Schaibley, who is being replaced by Representative Lori Goss-Reaves.

**4. EPA SWIFR GRANT**

IDEM received five hundred seventy-two thousand and sixty-five dollars to implement a state materials management plan from the U.S. EPA SWIFR Grants for States and Territories. IDEM received enough funding for pass-through grants for local plans to be created that will have built from a template or guidelines for the state plan, after its development.

Mr. Guerin asked if solid waste management districts were required to have a solid waste plan. The answer provided was that they were required at the time the first state solid waste plan was created around 1990, as well as if a multi-county district split and a new district formed as a result. However, updating the district plans is voluntary.

**5. STATUS UPDATE OF EXISTING GRANTS**

FY22 has two closed out grants. The additional six grants required one year grant extensions due to supply chain issues that created a delay in delivery of equipment. Of those grants, Plus5 has reached out to present at the October meeting to ask for an additional extension. FY23 grants are ongoing with Rumpke having submitted paperwork for close out and an update from RecycleForce that they were behind schedule but still anticipating finishing the project by the end of the one-year grant term.

For the FY24 applications, IDEM received 23 applications totaling 5.6 million dollars in requested funding with a total project cost of nearly \$15 million. After reviews, 19 are still eligible and are undergoing compliance checks, as well as the IDEM review and scoring. IDEM will share the scores and proposals with the Board in time for the October meeting.

Stephanie Nutter from Growing Green indicated the company was closing out their RMDB project and would not be using the awarded grant of \$249,175 towards a PET optical sorter at a new Recyclean MRF to be built in Morgan County. The project had difficulties in getting full funding to proceed and was terminated. She thanked the Board for taking a chance on funding their FY20 project and giving contract extensions for the grant.

**6. HB 1512 STATUTE REQUIREMENTS**

No legislative member that authored or co-authored the legislation was available to speak in response to a letter sent by board chairman Bruce Burrow to the bill authors requesting clarification to contradictions present in the language. Board members felt they needed clarification before making decisions regarding eligibility, amount of funding available, and the timeline. Drake Abramson, IDEM’s legislative liaison offered to coordinate a meeting between IDEM, RMDB, and bill author’s Representative Speedy and Representative Hamilton at a future date.

Further discussion regarding the required cash match for future funding of the Central Indiana Waste Diversion Projects ensued. The board voted to approve a 50% cash match for the second round of funding.

**7. OTHER**

Deanna Garner reminded the board the one remaining scheduled 2023 board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 26, 2023. She outlined anticipated agenda topics and warned that the meeting would likely last for the full three hours.

**8. ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn was made. The meeting concluded at 9:57 a.m.