



## **SSRC MSW Manager/Board Minutes**

**November 29, 2012, Whitman Town Hall**

**Sponsored by Casella Waste Systems**

**Accepted 1/10/2013**

Attendance: **Abington:** Sharon White\*, Lorraine Mavrogeorge; **Cohasset:** Mary Snow\*; **Duxbury:** Ed Vickers\*; Chris Smythe; **Hingham:** Brenda Black\*; **Kingston:** Paul Basler\*, Doug Buitenhuis\*, Gene Wyatt; **Plymouth:** Kerin McCall\*; **Rockland:** Rudy Childs\*, Janice McCarthy; **Scituate:** Kevin Cafferty\*; **Weymouth:** Bob O'Connor\*; **Whitman:** Lou D'Arpino\*, Dan Salvucci, Bruce Martin

Dave Thomas, Al Blanton, **ACS Recycling:** Janine Delaney, Ellie Donovan, **MassDEP:** Tyler Finnegan, **Metech Recycling:** Will Conrad, **SCS Engineering:** Claire Sullivan, **SSRC:** Bob Gohl, **WATD**

9:15 Vice Chairman Kevin Cafferty called to order

Presentation by **Casella Waste and Recycling Systems** [www.casella.com](http://www.casella.com): [David Quinn](#), Casella Waste Management; [Mark Evans](#), Casella Recycling; [Patrick Ellis](#), Casella Organics

Casella is a publicly traded hauling, recycling and disposal company established in 1975 in VT. Provides commercial and residential curbside service, single and dual stream recycling, and is developing food waste management capacity. Operates 8 recycling facilities in the northeast, including one in Auburn and 2 in Boston. Boston facilities employ 250, process 1000 tons/day, at about 75% capacity.

**Casella Organics** in Unity, Maine incorporates wastewater sludge (biosolids) with water treatment residuals, leaf and yard waste in compost, services many north shore towns. Provide disposal options for sludge. Produces 100K CY/year compost, mulch and soils, sells in MA to golf courses, parks, Spectacle Island. Offers help operating muni facilities, marketing products.

MassDEP is promulgating new regulations to **divert food waste from disposal**. Casella is at the forefront of **anaerobic digestion** (AD) development, partnering with A-Green to develop AD facilities, one operating in Rutland at [Jordan Farm](#). Mixes liquid waste from food processing plants with cow manure, converts to methane which fuels generator, creates electricity which qualifies for Renewable Energy Credits. Composted liquid and solid digestate used as fertilizer for farm. Input averages 60 TPD. Can add grinder for food wastes in future,, introduce to AD. Space requirement is 3-4 acres. Want to help munis manage food waste, need critical mass to site a facility.

Digestate may also be added to leaf compost, adds moisture, nitrogen, speeds up process. Odors must be actively controlled, there are methods.

Curbside food waste collection for AD is possible down the road. Need large volumes of food waste, macerator, or must be liquefied. Future: organics transfer facilities for smaller generators.

Casella is in discussions with **WWTPs with digestors** to add food waste. Possibility of siting ADs at prisons. Casella can act as contract operator with a municipality or government entity.

25% of our waste is food. Contamination, i.e. packaging, cutlery, must be minimized for AD to work.

**Whitman** has excess composted leaves. Twigs are biggest problem. Residents may sift own, screen provided. Casella screened and marketed **Hingham's** compost, gave some compost back, shared revenue. Value depends on quality. Tailings? Put back in pile, unless contaminated. Plastic is a big problem; can take at cost. Also can take bark and stones for erosion control.

**Approve October minutes** Ms. White moved that the October minutes be accepted as written, Mr. Basler seconded, AIF.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mr. Basler reported that the budget looks fine. Ms. Sullivan bought a new laptop. We changed payroll vendors, we had issues with ADP. We will save money with Paychex.

**Grind screen contract extensions: New England Recycling,** tub grinding: Scituate used, no problems. Company proposed extension at no change in price. Mr. Basler moved to extend contract 1 year, Mr. Cafferty seconded, AIF

**Letourneau Wood Products,** horizontal grinding: nobody present used. Company proposed extension at no change in price. Mr. Basler moved to extend contract 1 year, Mr. Cafferty seconded, AIF

**Daniels Recycling,** compost screening: nobody present used. Company proposed extension at no change in price. Mr. Basler moved to extend contract 1 year, Mr. Cafferty seconded, AIF.

Mr. Basler requested that Ms. Sullivan put contracts on website with contact information.

**Outreach grant:** Several SSRC towns received MassDEP grants; SSRC received \$2000 for outreach.

Suggestions for use included print ads/handouts about rate increases on 1/1/15 (only affects 5 members); Transfer station signs (8 out of 14 towns have transfer stations).

Ad/handout that highlights textiles, mercury- ask SEMASS to help pay. Ms. White moved that we produce double sided 5x8 handouts, Ms. Black seconded, AIF. Ms. Delaney, Ms. Donovan, Ms. Black will help with content. Spend up to \$200 for designer? Ms. Black has a contact who may do gratis.

**Regional disposal contract update:** Patty Daley of the Cape Cod Commission and attorney John Giorgio, on behalf of all interested Cape and SSRC towns, are entering into a 45 day exclusive negotiation with SEMASS imminently. Will select 2 municipal officials for negotiating team, Ms. Sullivan requested that the South Shore be represented. Most Cape towns are still involved. Range of start dates? I will check. Hanson, Plymouth, Rockland, Abington are in. Kingston's out. Whitman is out, signing with WM Taunton.

**Solid Waste legislation** status, priorities for new session

- Updated Bottle Bill (details- see Ex Dir Report)- Vote when bill details are available.
- Electronic Waste Producer Responsibility (details- see Ex Dir Report)- Vote when bill details are available.
- Municipal solid waste reduction legislation (see Ex. Dir report) discussion: no fines; Hard to track data, self reported. Not funded. Duxbury- if people are paying for it, they feel they can toss as much as they want. Mandatory PAYT non starter. Why is it targeting municipalities? Put it on commercial waste. **Mandatory recycling for haulers and businesses.** Leave the municipalities alone. Ms. Donovan: Solid waste staff does inspections, takes pictures at disposal facilities, sends letters to generators, haulers. **Give DEP authority to enforce on haulers, generators.** DEP does news releases if large enforcement actions.

**Legislative breakfast planning;** Volunteers needed. Budget of \$1200. Partner with PCHA as before? NSRWA? May not be a good fit geographically. Sustainable South Shore? Mr. Wyatt will ask. Mass Recycle? Do we get value in proportion to price, enough legislative support? No decision. Gauge interest of other groups, discuss further at next meeting.

**Executive Director's Report (see attached):**

- Fall HHW collection summary; vote next month on extension; most visitors ever.
- Textile collection news, presentation; Abington schools will publicize; may do contest next year.
- Solid Waste Master Plan, other regulatory updates- send testimony out with minutes.
- Material Separation Plan 6 –Patti still has digital thermostats. Will provide rebates to munis going forward.

Next meeting: 1/10/13, Scituate. Mr. Cafferty will see if space is available.

11:30 Tour of CRTRecycling, 175 East Ashland St., Brockton

**Grind Screen contract extension**

Current contractors all proposed to extend for the final year at the same rates as 2012.

New England Recycling: tub grinding 508-822-4345

Letourneau Wood Products: horizontal grinding 508-763-9737

Daniels Recycling: compost screening 508-255-7033

**Outreach grant awarded to SSRC for \$2000**

Proposals: 1. Radio ads (already produced, 10 days fall, 10 days spring):

WATD 3/day, plus free off peak

WPLM 2/day

2. 8000 Trifold brochures

3. 15,000 5x8 double sided handouts

**Regional disposal contract update: notes from 11/28 meeting**

SEMASS has agreed to negotiate with CC/SS SWCAC reps on contract terms

Now down to WM and SEMASS. Seeking firm numbers from SEMASS on disposal only

WM has put its proposal on table,

Tom Cipolla indicated willing to work through the group. Exclusive negotiating agreement 45 days or end of December to conclude.

- SEMASS requested 10 year term, with 5 year extension by mutual agreement (no 5-5-5);
- AMT set at beginning of term, re-set at 5 years, 85% floor; no ceiling OR DEP recycling initiative town by town below 85% (i.e. if a town implements an approved waste redux program, the AMT would be waived)
- Nothing in writing yet
- Willingness to negotiate tip fee, not set yet.
- Escalator? 2.5%/year, or CPI; TBD
- CIL- CCC will negotiate not having contract towns taking full brunt of CIL costs (at CS suggestion), spread out over all tonnage
- Deadline to sign contracts June 30.
- Exclusivity is nonbinding, CCC can not bind towns; good faith negotiations.

PD will f/u with town administrators.

JG: SEMASS should agree not to talk to individual towns during period.

Get new commitments from our towns. Need to know what SSRC towns are still "in".

Hard stop mid January? What date are SSRC towns comfortable with?

9 Cape towns present voted to participate in regional exclusive negotiation with SEMASS (4 not present, Sandwich abstained, needs to consult)

At end of 45 days, there will be a contract proposal; towns may accept as a group at that time. Contracts would be with each individual town, all the same.

Who will actually talk to SEMASS? Patty, John, a selectman and a Town Administrator without violating open meeting law. Patty's discretion who to invite. CS requested representation from south shore.

New contract or amendment to old? Old contracts are beyond the twenty years authorized by law. Start new contract per John G.

Deadline for towns to signs? Need final by Town Meeting, can't bind until then.

Start 45 days at next meeting, next week.

If towns establish enterprise fund now, can start funding tip fee increase now through fees.

Quincy tip fee is to tip at Braintree. Not clear if it includes or in addition to transport to Rochester.

## **Solid Waste Legislation proposals for 2013-2014 Session**

### **1. Updated bottle bill**

SSRC continues to work with Coalition, as requested by Board at August meeting.

Variables to be considered in 2013 bill and potential ballot initiative:

- Deposit Amount
- Handling Fee
- CEF and earmarking
- Container Contents
- Container Size, composition
- Small Store Exemptions
- Fraud

### **2. Electronic Waste Producer Responsibility bill**

Is law in 23 states, wide variety of systems. Hijacked by industry in previous session. Passed in Senate, stalled in House ways and Means, partly due to SSRC advocacy.

Should SSRC continue to advocate? If so, what are municipality's main issues in dealing with e-waste?

### **3. Municipal Solid Waste Reduction bill**

Last session, Rep. Jason Lewis filed a bill that would authorize DEP to limit per capita disposal by municipality. Provided incentives and enforcement authority. Beverage industry touted as an alternative to the bottle bill.

Vermont recently passed a mandatory recycling law, Act 148. (49 pages).

Is momentum to pass a bill that would reduce waste by requiring recycling, pay as you throw, trash limits, or some other mandate. What do you want? Volunteers to help me draft a new bill with Rep. Lewis?

## **MassDEP Organics regulations**

- Expanded the list of exempt activities to include:
  - Municipal food material collection drop-off <1 tpd
- General permits required for Composting and AD operations:
  - Receiving no more than 105 tons per week and 30 tons per day of putrescibles
  - Aerobic or anaerobic digesters receiving no more than 100 tons per day of organics from on or off site
  - Must certify that operation meets requirements established in the regulations, including:
    - No unpermitted discharges
    - Maintains proper temperatures (if composting)
    - Implements an odor control plan and a vector control plan
    - Is located at least 250 feet from existing well
    - Ensures quality of organic materials coming in and products produced
    - No more than 5% residuals generated

Alternative use of existing site: Modified 16.21 to:

- Clarify that a recycling, composting or conversion operation at an assigned facility does not need a new or modified site assignment unless the activity cannot be conducted consistent with the current site assignment

## **SEMASS Material Separation Plan 6 proposal: Comments due by December 7**

The Municipal Waste Combustor Rule (310 CMR 7.08) requires large incinerators to prepare a Material Separation Plan that describes actions that the facility will take to remove mercury-containing products from the waste stream prior to incineration.

To obtain the municipal waste combustor's draft Material Separation Plan 6, please go to

<http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/solid/mspcomp.htm#facilities>.

Written comments on the MSP6 will be accepted until through December 7, 2012. Comments may be sent to: Brooke Nash, MassDEP, One Winter St. 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02108 or to [brooke.nash@state.ma.us](mailto:brooke.nash@state.ma.us).

MSPs have been in effect since 2000, and have reduced incoming mercury at SEMASS by about 60%. MSP6 will cover 2013-2017.

Proposed changes:

- Revamped TV, Radio

- Social media outreach

- No more Medical/dental

- New Mercury Rebate program to contract munis for certain items, in lieu of non-mercury devices:

  - \$0.10/ CFL

  - \$1/thermometer

  - \$4/thermostat or switch

  - \$10/blood pressure cuff

  - Transport and disposal costs still covered