

# HEART OF FLORIDA SOLID WASTE WORKING GROUP

June 25, 2010

## MEETING MINUTES

- I. There were no comments on the Minutes of the May 2010 meeting.
- II. Chairman's Comments:
  - a. A horse manure to energy plant is being built in Marion County.
  - b. The Governor vetoed the bill that included the yard waste ban.
  - c. Cedar Rapids, Iowa is developing a trash to ethanol plant.
  - d. A Waste to Energy plant is under construction in Ohio.
  - e. Pinellas County is merging their environmental Department functions into other departments. This is consistent with the trend of local government consolidations.
  - f. There will be an Environmental Summit Conference at the Mission Inn in Lake County on July 28, 2010.
  - g. The Solid Waste Section of the Central District of FDEP recently held an informational meeting with the Counties. Presentation materials are on their web site.
  - h. Much confusion remains with respect to the new recycling goals. The report by Kessler Consulting for the City of Tallahassee provides may be used as guidance to FDEP for rulemaking. A copy of this report will be posted to the HOF web site.
- III. Presentation by Shani Kruljack of SCS Engineers on the US Compost Council Conference and the Recycle Florida Today Conference:
  - a. Atlanta has started a zero waste zone program for organic waste, composting organic wastes at farms outside the city.
  - b. Sharon Barns made a presentation regarding an Ohio nursery that is combining food waste with yard waste and cardboard. They are having odor issues.
  - c. Tampa is doing large scale institutional food scrap recycling. Tampa General Hospital is involved. Material is going to a farm to grow more food.
  - d. A local farmer sold \$100,000 of compost to local nurseries.
  - e. Kessler presented a study on the effect of using incentives and education to increase recycling rates in low performing neighborhoods.
  - f. Markets: Representatives for various markets say they don't like single stream recycling because the quality is down.

- g. Karen Deter is now working for MSW Consulting and will be back with the HOF soon.
- h. Ron Hendrix presented his calculation of recycling rates for various counties based on the new law. His calculations showed that some counties would have a recycling rate of over 100 percent.

IV. Presentation by Michael Carlton of Smart Fuels:

- a. This company is locally owned in Lake County.
- b. They are a biofuel refinery.
- c. Their blends make them different. They received the first FDEP air permit for blending.
- d. They are ASTM certified.
- e. They have 12 employees.
- f. They have over 200 restaurant customers within a 150 mile radius. They provide full service collection and make their own containers.
- g. They have a 2 million gallon per year production capacity.
- h. They plan to sell the fuel to large customers by end of July.
- i. Lake County is very happy with the service they are providing.

V. Presentation by Curtis Bay Energy

- a. They have 5 waste to energy medical waste facilities in the US.
- b. New regulations are hurting the medical waste incineration industry.
- c. Microwave technology has not proven to be reliable.
- d. Autoclaving of waste is a big problem.
- e. Incineration provides a 90 percent volume reduction.
- f. The operation is almost odorless.
- g. They are part of the Florida Hospital Association.
- h. It is a misconception that they are more expensive.
- i. They are looking for a recycling facility.

VI. Local News of Interest:

Marion County reported they have seen a 10 percent year over year increase in waste and a 24 percent increase in the last four months. They are planning a modification to their landfill side slopes that will add two years of life to the landfill. They are in discussion regarding a possible 14 acre lateral expansion that would add nine more years.

Citrus County reported they will have an 8 hr spotter class on July 15<sup>th</sup> and a 4 hr refresher in the morning. Carmen Bruno stated they plan to hold these classes every six months and have the refresher class at the HOF meetings, 2 hours before and 2

hours after. Citrus County also reported award of the landfill expansion project to Comanco. This expansion should provide capacity to 2027 but will be the last cell to be constructed at the site. The County continues to speak with neighboring counties regarding regionalization.

Sumter County Reported staff reductions of 1 in the Solid Waste Department however, the remaining staff will get a raise this year. ACMS is moving forward with their Class I landfill development. They anticipate submittal of an application for the 58 acre landfill in early July.

Hernando County reported adding two staff.

City of Lessburg reported they will be getting a second automated collection truck. The new truck will have a wider turning radius due to a new type of engine. They have seen no change in residential or commercial waste quantities.

Alachua County reported that they are losing 950 tons per week to a private company that is hauling the waste to Georgia. Tom Keith has started work as the new Solid Waste director and will attend the next HOF meeting. They will be looking to evolve their transfer station to more of a MRF operation. They are down two positions and are looking at composting programs.

Putnam County reported they are still waiting on their Class III landfill closure certification from FDEP. They are completing the new cell construction certification. They will be receiving no cost of living allowances this year. Their equipment is getting old which is driving up their O&M costs.

Lake County reported that Daryl Smith has resigned as the Director of the Environmental Utilities Department. The department is now under the management of Public Works. Consolidation/mergers in business and government are not necessarily good. From the meeting with the Central District, C&D recycling provides the best return on investment for recycling. They are looking for ways to increase revenues for scrap metal.

Mark Haline reported that the SWANA International Board has a report on LFG collection. This will be posted to the HOF web site.

JEA reported they are working with ACMS on their new landfill permit in Sumter County.

Covanta reported they are in the running for the 3000 TPD mass burn facility for Palm Beach County. It is a two step selection process. Their contract with Lake County expires in June 2014.

Arrow Bio reported they are moving ahead with a facility for L.A. County and they have a second facility development under discussion.

The Hinkley Center reported they are looking for ideas for research projects. Dr. Wilkie will be installing an anaerobic digester at a school in Citrus County.

Geosyntec reported they are working with several groups on issues related to disposal of oily waste.

VII. New Business:

It was agreed that the next meeting will be hosted by Marion County at the Baseline Landfill at 10 am on August 13<sup>th</sup>. A reminder that Interlocal agreement forms for disaster assistance are available on the HOF web site.