

WASTE & MATERIALS MANAGEMENT STUDY GROUP – Notes: April 9, 2020

Location: Skype

Member Attendance: Albee, Curry, Doverspike/SWANA, Johnson, Karwoski, Meyer Smith, Morgan, Sexton,
 Welch/WCSWMA (phone) Sieg/AROW

Guests: Several guests listened using Skype, approx. 28 total attendees with group members and DNR

DNR Attendance: Lamensky, Semrau, Strom Hiorns, Wolbert, x Joosten, x Todd Ambbs

Time/ Presenter	Topic	Follow-up/Notes
9:30	Agenda & Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notes from 12/6/19 and 2/6/20 were approved. Finalized notes can be found on the WMM website. No agenda changes
9:45 Kate Strom Hiorns, Brad Wolbert	DNR Updates	<p>Staffing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hiring freeze in effect. Next priorities: Beneficial Use/Low Hazard Exemption Hydrogeologist in NER/CO; IT Specialist in CO; Engineer in SCR/SER; HW Specialist Recently hired: Bureau Director, Environmental Program Associate in SCR <p>Rulemaking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-Cycle rule scope approval and Coal Combustion Residual scope approval from Natural Resources Board, next step = writing rules and getting public input Firefighting Foam emergency and permanent rules required by WI Act 101. Scope prepared, requesting preliminary hearing at May NRB <p>General Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update on Legislative Audit Bureau program evaluation of state recycling program; LAB still planning on a spring/summer report release Waste Characterization Study proposal due today, April 9. Waste sort work expected to start August 2020 DNR overhauling website, expected April 16 launch No legislative activity on recent bills, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> method for establishing proof of financial responsibility for solid waste facilities owned or operated by a municipality prohibiting the sale and use of coal tar-based sealants and high PAH sealant products exempting certain waste-to-energy facilities from tipping fees expanding the clean sweep program to include collection of certain firefighting foams PFAS standards and grant programs <p>PFAS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social distancing has put slow down on public meetings, many postponed – see website for upcoming meeting

		<p>dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division hired a Communications position, Technical Operations Coordinator, and continuing to hire 2 researchers • Working on guidance documents and focusing on site specific remediation projects; building maps of known sites; working with contractor on source and background info • AFFF fire department survey closed; getting data from UW Survey Center to determine amount of PFAS-containing foam at fire departments statewide; Guidance doc and poster being developed •
<p>10:15 All</p>	<p>COVID-19 Response</p>	<p>Round robin updates from all Study Group members:</p> <p>Chad – Brown County</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer facility is not taking any checks or cash. Credit card and account payments for everything (luckily had an update to system, kiosk and scales last year) • Tonnages are significantly up from household clean up • Office staff are working, some remotely and some essential trying to maintain distance • Still running meetings for south landfill construction which started on 4/1 <p>Amber – Clean Wisconsin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearing of system closures in other states but noting in Wisconsin yet <p>Tom – SCS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field staff still working and are following instructions from landfills as well as internal safety policies and have been able to work mostly operating without any direct contact with people on site <p>Lynn – Waste Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All services continue uninterrupted except for bulk waste collection in most areas (unless municipal contracts require it). This choice was made to reserve capacity for essential SW and RCY collection. • Closed public drop offs if the site could not meet social distancing or safety standards but day to day collection and LF operation continue. • Preparing for contingencies and are most concerned about recycling because some markets slowing such as PET markets for carpet manufacturing. Have arranged some additional storage capacity. • Made a number of operational changes at MRFs (one-way hallway directions), a training center as an additional lunchroom and one person per table. • Concerns about potential employee shortages on the horizon that they are working to address. So far have not seen shortages due to employee personal illness. Employee attendance has actually improved. Do have sick leave in place to incentivize staying home if sick. <p>Tim – Advanced Disposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also seeing approved attendance and no shortages yet. • Have implemented new cleaning procedures on equipment and yellow iron and distancing practices • Seeing volume decreases with commercial waste streams. • Residential MSW pickups are increasing. These collections are based on pick up frequency not volume, so this has some additional concerns. • Haven't seen significant slowdown with response times from DNR and really appreciate that <p>Karin AROW/Recycling Connections –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of communications currently on hold or cancelled but are working on increasing virtual education

		<p>opportunities especially with green and healthy schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midwest compost bin group purchase may have changed distribution site dates AROW trying to adapt and just having to reschedule things like tours but not a whole lot of changes. Will have next meeting virtually. <p>Allen – Eagle Waste and Recycling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not substantially impacted yet but have implemented similar safety measures to other members. Split recycling operation into two separate crews running half speed in two shifts so if a health issue arises one crew would still be available to process material. <p>John – Dane County</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar procedures to what has already been mentioned, only taking credit cards, doors to scale house are locked, no interaction between staff and public even for deliveries, no switching between machines, staff not within 10 feet of each other Not sure if 10-foot separation will be able to be maintained into construction season and pipe placement Closed haz waste collection facility but looking for options to open for some time sensitive drop offs Compressed gas plant has limited operators so people entering that operating area are required to complete a health survey and temp monitoring before entering. Asked how DNR will be doing any onsite construction inspections. Brad replied that the Department has established protocols on field work and that staff are supposed to be working from home. Construction inspections will primarily be done using photos and video. Construction season just starting so we have not had a construction inspection event yet and will be learning how to do that remotely. Brad predicted staff would call into preconstruction meetings and then make case by case recommendations on what they need to see by photo or video. <p>Meleesa -- Marathon County</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following similar procedures of distancing, not sharing equipment, disinfecting, cash is still coming in but they are rounding down to nearest dollar and is treated per Marathon County EHS staff recommendation. Public is not doing a good job following social distancing when they come to the site The landfill is busier than ever and Meleesa has some concerns about employee burn out due to increased waste and general stressors associated.
11:00 Kate Strom Hiorns	C&D Subgroup DNR Info Follow-up	Kate will send documents to Study Group members for discussion at next meeting Bart Sexton, Subgroup leader, was not in attendance
11:10	Recovery & Diversion Subgroup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group met in March Waiting for additional information and potential recommendations from the Legislative Audit Bureau report on recycling in WI
11:20	Next meeting plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next meeting: June 5, 2020 Suggested agenda topics: C&D follow up, Recycling Audit, WisPAC PFAS report if available, Glass recycling discussion