

OKRA Board Meeting Minutes

July 31, 2009 / 10:00am – 12:45pm (Conference Call)

I. President Traci Phillips welcomed these board members assembled for the call: Ellen Bussert, Ilda Hershey Mike Hixon (left early), Sara Ivey, Michael Patton, Susie Shields & Garmon Smith. Kathy Moore was welcomed when she joined later.

II. Minutes from April meeting submitted by Secretary Ellen Bussert were approved.

III. Committee Reports

A. Membership Chair Ilda Hershey provided a report including:

- Status of renewed and new memberships: Renewal requests have been sent to all members and invoices have been sent to board members who have not joined. Ilda will send the current membership spreadsheet to Board (done 7-31), but makes regular updates to the list posted on Google Docs, so we can peruse it anytime there. She will update before each newsletter so members can be listed there. Michael will fax Ilda info on new members: SWI and Mike Moody. To open the document click on this link:
http://spreadsheets.google.com/ccc?key=pXUj_6W4dvW8cBURovXV2LA&inv=ilda.hershey@oks.tate.edu&t=4565361074707873952&guest Current memberships stand at:
 - (4) Student Members (\$1)
 - (25) Regular Members (\$25)
 - (2) Lifetime
 - (3) Free
 - (5) Corporate Basic (\$100)
 - (2) Corporate Bronze (\$250)
 - (1) Corporate Silver (\$500)
 - (0) Corporate Gold (\$750)
 - (1) Corporate Platinum (\$1,000)
 - (7) Non-Profit / Government Partner (\$75)
- Membership brochure update: By next meeting, Ilda (with help from Garmon and Ellen) will present recommendations for benefits at each level of corporate membership and other suggestions so we can update the brochure by late fall.

B. Finance – Patton

- Treasurer's Report—*See written report at end of minutes*
- 501 C3 Status—*No change in status since we were declined*
- NRC dues – We owe \$1300, but decided to wait until and see what happens with the NRC/ARD merger to get caught up

IV. Work Groups

- A. Advocacy— Ellen will call Gil Luton (Georgia Pacific) and ask him to be the Chairperson
- B. Education – New Chair Sara Ivey will convene meeting or conf. call soon to discuss ARD 2009 school project. Ideas suggested are either an ARD essay or fine arts contest. Suggested members of workgroup: Mike Hixon, Sarah Kimball, Trudi Logan, Ilda Hershey, Susie Shields and Jane Sutter (ACOG)
- C. Market Development
- President Traci Phillips and Secretary Ellen Bussert met with Scott Thompson and Fenton Rood last Monday to discuss recycling issues. Traci had some idea about how to create more OK markets by developing end uses of recyclable materials. Traci has had a good reaction for all the people she has talked to about this, so will set up a meeting with a small group of interested recyclers and potential manufacturers around the end of August or first part of Sept. Michael Patton is working on expanding glass markets in Tulsa area. He noted the Sand Springs steel plant is struggling and may shut down by Labor Day, costing OK 300 jobs. Garmon wants to work on getting glass recycling back for Ada. Michael told him to look at Texas DOT resources.

- A. Materials Exchange – *Kennedy on vacation*—It was noted the link is now on the DEQ and M.e.t. websites as well as OKRA's.
- B. Communication/Outreach
- News letter – Editor Trudi Logan was unable to attend. Board suggestions for fall issue included:
 - Plastic bottle caps Q&A (Ilda will draft from Michael's information.)
 - ARD school project—fine arts or essay contest (Sara)
 - ARD Seminar press release (Susie or Ilda)- may be just a "Save-the-Date" depending upon publish date of the newsletter
 - Sand Springs middle school summer camp with 200 students re-engineering old e-parts (Kenneth Cole has photos)
 - Tulsa D-Fest collected the most recyclables from any event ever ... even more than the State Fair (Shelley Umezawa – with photos)
 - Ad for Alcoa bins (*rectangular like curbside bins, only deeper*) available at the M.e.t. Broken Arrow recycling center (Contact Shelley at Bins@metrecycle.com to make arrangements for pick-up.) **Susie will send this info to 11 pilot Green Schools.**
 - ARD/KOB banquets
 - Tulsa Trash Authority free TV recycling project collected just under 500 sets (Michael?)
 - 2009 Community Seminar – Ilda reported she put a hold on the Wes Watkins Center in STW for Dec. 3, the date DEQ suggested. Since Michael's board meeting is that day, he would have to leave by 11:00am, so Ilda will check on other potential dates in the first 2 weeks of Dec. Ilda will send a Save-the-Date to last year's attendees and ask for seminar session topic suggestions. She is also preparing a draft budget for the event and checking with OSU Extension's conference planning service re: handling registration, funds and name tags. Susie will compile a list of potential exhibitors to be invited and send to board for approval. Please send any ideas to her ASAP. We are considering 10-12 exhibitors at a fee of \$75 to \$100 each.
 - **ARD 2009** –Recycle America was recently removed from website as a 2008 ARD sponsor due to lack of \$500 payment committed last year. Michael requested nominations for the Recycling Hero Awards; send to Kasey@metrecycle.com by mid-Sept. Michael will ask Kasey to send Susie the solicitation request to post on the OKRA list serv.
 - 2009 Networking Event – We discussed holding a reception at the end of the seminar. Ilda will check with Wes Watkins Center regarding alcohol and food for the event.
 - Website – Project Chair Susie Shields has been working in the Starting A Recycling Program page by adding the Recycling Toolkit and all the files in its Appendix. She will update the ARD page when we have determined a seminar date and school contest parameters. Board meeting minutes from the past two years need to be added. It was also suggested we add our 2009 Goal to the website.
 - Solid Waste Trunk – Ilda Hershey prepared 3 wonderful educational trunks, keeping one at her office and distributing one to the M.e.t. and one to DEQ. She will be preparing 4 more (to be kept at regional Extension offices) in the coming year as part of the 2010 USDA grant the Extension received for her position. She has sent a press release and put the advertisement for the trunk on several websites. Susie will send it to the DEQ and Sierra Club sites.
 - **Due to Kathy Moore's question of whether the local Extension offices know about OKRA, Ilda will send introductory blurb to Ag Communications Office for distribution.**

V. Old Business

- A. Meet with Advisory Board – No movement so far on this item. It was suggested we contact them for input into 2009 conference.
- B. Review Goals for 2009 – Need someone to be responsible for each goal
1. Meet revenue projections. **All - MP**
 2. Attain non-profit status in 2009. **MP**
 3. Maintain annual affiliation with NRC (an attractive member benefit). **MP**
 4. Contact the DEQ Land Protection Director to learn the status of tracking what Oklahoma recycles and how close Oklahoma is to the determination of a state recycling rate. **EB**

5. Sponsor a statewide fine arts contest for high school students for America Recycles Day. Plan and conduct a state wide essay contest for high school students. **SI**
 6. Continue to build a working relationship with SWANA. (Ilda will discuss at next SWANA board meeting.)
 7. Establish a working relationship with Oklahoma Tribes. Identify and recruit one board member from this audience. (Garmon will follow-up with Ambrie Walker, Chickasaw Nation.)
 8. OKRA – meet with DEQ Solid Waste Management Advisory Council to talk about recycling issues. Ask Council for input on contents of next community recycling seminar. (Ellen will push to get Traci on Sept. 17 meeting agenda.)
 9. Increase awareness of organic waste, including composting. (Kathy Moore reported Craig Coker, a well-known national composting advocate, has been working with the City of Edmond on their compost facility. He also met with Fenton while here in OK. It was suggested we have a composting panel at the seminar featuring Miami, Edmond and Norman.
 10. Have OKRA booth and/or materials at 12 events that promote OKRA membership, activities, and leadership to have a visible presence. (Garmon is tracking; Ilda has done 8 or 10 this year.)
 11. To increase OKRA membership by 25 % in 2009. **ALL**
 12. Increase the Oklahoma component in the OKRA Recycling Tool Kit. When complete, put tool kit on the OKRA web site. **SS**
 13. Develop the workgroups to function and operate more efficiently. **TP, ALL**
 14. Sponsor some type of activity 51% of membership participates in and does so that they will feel more connected. (It was suggested we have a reception following the seminar, Susie or Ilda will send special invitations to all members.)
 15. Publish at least 3 OKRA newsletters in 09. **TL**
- C. OKRA Phone number: *Ilda agreed at the last meeting we could use her Extension number on the website, but not on the brochure. The Board was grateful.*

VI. New Business

- A. NRC merger with KAB (See discussion online here: www.kabandnrc.org)
 - Patton reported that NRC is \$500,000 in debt, so if the merger doesn't occur, they will go bankrupt and a new organization will be formed by some of the diehards. KAB wants to merge so they can be the voice for recycling as they are for beautification; they would pay off the debt; they would give NRC 3 seats on the board. Some feel we need a voice just for recycling. (See discussion online.)
 - SWANA is opposed because they want to be the voice for recycling (and think they already are). They look at recycling as a business, not a "feel good" thing. Recycling needs someone to lobby for tax breaks, market protection, market development, etc.
 - If merger does not happen, Waste News and Resource Recycling will put on the conference.
 - NRC members will receive ballots around Aug. 3, and if the merger is approved, it will take effect in about 3 weeks. Michael will arrange a conference next week to discuss Oklahoma's block of votes.
- B. State Recycling Goal status – Traci and Ellen met with Scott Thompson and Fenton Rood (DEQ Land Protection) on July20 and found not much has happened, but they are willing to participate. They would like OKRA's suggestions on how to collect data so that the process is not too burdensome. DEQ has to report back to the legislature by 2010. Traci is looking at gleaning information from New Mexico and Garold Beasley is checking on a few other states. It would also be beneficial if we could help get two new FTEs for DEQ's recycling. Susie will send Eric Pollard State-by-State recycling report done in 2006 (done). We are hoping Kole will have time to update it before the Aug. 24th DEQ EQB meeting. It was also suggested David Griesel (OEMA) might be a good ally on the EQB.

- VII. Set next meeting date, location & time: Sept. 28, 10:00am, Stroud (Ellen will arrange reserving a room at the Stroud Library.) We need to look at board and officer terms at our next meeting and set-up a NomCom.

VIII. Adjournment

Oklahoma Recycling Association - July 30th, 2009

Financial activities for past four months

April 9th to July 30th, 2009

Bank beginning balance **\$2,045.79**

Income

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| Sarah Kimball | membership | \$ 25.00 |
| City of Stillwater | seminar | \$ 40.00 |
| Ada Recycling Coalition | non-profit membership | \$ 75.00 |
| Abitibi | corporate membership | \$ 250.00 |
| City of The Village | seminar | \$ 20.00 |
| Solid Waste Research Institute | non-profit membership | \$ 75.00 |
| Hazel June Thomas | membership | \$ 25.00 |
| Ardmore Beautification | non-profit membership | \$ 75.00 |
| Ellen Bussert | membership (plus Jack and Paul) | \$ 27.00 |
| Natalie Uschner-Arroyo | membership | \$ 25.00 |
| The M.e.t. | corporate membership | \$ 100.00 |
| Michael Patton | membership | \$ 25.00 |
| Shelly Umezawa | membership | \$ 25.00 |
| Camille Laughlin | Corporate membership | \$1,000.00 |
| Mike Moody | membership | \$ 25.00 |
| Envirotech Global | corporate membership | \$ 100.00 |

Total Income **\$ 1,912.00**

Expenses

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| ARD 2008 final expenses | \$ 600.00 |
| Paypal charges | \$ 52.94 |

Total Expenses **\$ 652.94**

Financial change for the reporting period **\$ 1,259.06**

New ending balance **\$3,305.73**

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Bank of America | \$ 1,930.93 |
| Paypal | \$ 1,479.80 |