

**Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District
Board of Directors Meeting**

March 20, 2023

Adams County Commissioners – 215 N. Cross Street, West Union Ohio

Members in Attendance

Adams County	Clermont County
Kelly Jones	Bonnie Batchler
Barbara Moore	Claire Corcoran
Diane Ward	David Painter

Attendees:

Hannah Lubbers, Doug Snyder, Tom Eigel, Jennifer Haley, Tracie Braun; Clermont County
Dee Edge, Warren Trefz; Adams Brown Recycling

The meeting was called to order at 10:32 AM by Mr. Painter.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Ward moved to approve the minutes from the 12/19/2022 meeting. Ms. Moore seconded and the motion passed without dissent.

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Lubbers reviewed the financial report:

- Ms. Lubbers noted that a two-year supply of orange trash bags for roadside litter clean-up was purchased at a cost of \$3,118.50
- Ms. Lubbers noted that BZAK Landscaping was paid \$41,460 for three invoices for the remaining Clermont County 07/06/22 tornado debris clean-up, and that project is now complete.
- Ms. Lubbers noted that \$240,000 had been transferred from the reserve fund into the operating budget in order to cover expenses associated with the 07/06/22 tornado clean-up in Clermont County.
- Ms. Lubbers stated that the District was notified that it would be receiving reimbursement from State Disaster Relief Program for 75% of all of clean-up costs incurred.
- Ms. Lubbers explained that the District keeps a large reserve fund in place in order to cover the cost of unexpected emergencies such as natural disaster clean-ups or a dramatic decrease in the collection of waste disposal fees.
- Ms. Lubbers noted that the expenses and revenue listed on the Cash Report is consistent.

Ms. Batchler moved to approve the financial report. Ms. Ward seconded and the motion passed without dissent.

3. GRANTS

Ms. Lubbers requested authorization for the District Director to sign the grant agreement for the 2023 Ohio EPA Recycle Ohio Community and Litter Grant if awarded.

- Ms. Lubbers stated that the District will most likely be notified in May if they will receive funding from the 2023 Ohio EPA Recycle Ohio Community and Litter Grant, and she would need Board authorization in order to sign the grant agreement.
- Ms. Lubbers gave a brief overview of how the requested grant funds would be used: \$38,250 will be used to hold two scrap tire collection events in 2023, as well as the Spring Litter Clean-up and Ohio River Sweep events in 2024. Grant funding would cover \$30,600 of the total costs and the District would contribute \$8,650 of funding.

Ms. Ward moved to authorize the District Director to sign the grant agreement for the 2023 Ohio EPA Recycle Ohio Community and Litter Grant if awarded. The motion was seconded by Ms. Corcoran and passed without dissent.

4. 2026 SOLID WASTE PLAN PRESENTATION

Ms. Lubbers gave a presentation on the Solid Waste Plan, which is a requirement from the Ohio EPA and is revised every five years:

- **Overview of Solid Waste Management Districts in Ohio:**
 - o Ohio contains 52 single or joint county districts. The Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District is the only district consisting of two non-contiguous counties.
 - o The goal of each district is to reduce the reliance on landfills, with a main technique being recycling.
 - o Each Solid Waste District is charged with developing its own management plan to meet state identified goals.
- **Solid Waste Management District Representation and Policy Committee:**
 - o Solid Waste Management Districts are represented by the Board of Directors, which in the case of the Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District consists of all six County Commissioners from Adams County and Clermont County. Their role is to implement the Solid Waste Plan.
 - o The Policy Committee consists of representatives from the County Commissioners, the largest municipality in each County (Milford and West Union), the Health District, the Township Trustees, industrial and commercial waste generators, and the general public. Their role is to prepare and practice the Solid Waste Plan, including an inventory of recycling options and solid waste landfills. The District also conducts illegal dump surveys and industrial surveys.
- **Solid Waste Plan Preparation:**
 - o Inventory of existing recycling infrastructure: Includes district-funded public recycling drop-off locations in Adams County and Clermont County. Curbside programs are available in all Clermont County villages and most townships.
- **Goal 1 – Infrastructure/ACCESS:**
 - o The District must provide at least 80% of the population in each county with the opportunity to recycle, based on a credit population formula established by the Ohio EPA. The last plan showed the District providing 162% coverage in Adams County and 90% coverage in Clermont County. These numbers will change with the addition of the next site in Union Township.
- **Goals 3 & 4 – Outreach and Education:**
 - o The District must provide a website, a comprehensive resource guide, inventory of resources, a speaker or presenter, and technical assistance on waste management and reduction.
 - o The District currently meeting those goals by contracting with the Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District and Adams-Brown Recycling to provide educators to present at schools

and to other groups. The District also has a very comprehensive website that is updated frequently.

- **Goal 5 – Industrial Programs/Services:**
 - o The District must have three programs available to industrial waste generators. The services offered includes waste audits, waste management assistance, and a pollution prevention internship program.
- **Goal 6 – Restricted Solid Wastes:**
 - o Services must be available to dispose of household hazardous waste, batteries, electronics, scrap tires and yard waste. The District has a household hazardous waste voucher program in place that will need to be evaluated in the next plan.
- **Goal 7 – Economic Incentives:**
 - o Economic incentives for source reduction and recycling may be available on a case-by-case basis.
- **Goal 8 – Measure Greenhouse Gas Reduction:**
 - o USEPA’s WARM model is used to calculate greenhouse reductions.
- **Goal 9 – Market Development:**
 - o This goal is optional and allows for market development of recycled content materials.
- **Goal 10 – Reporting:**
 - o Quarterly financial reports and an annual district report is submitted to the Ohio EPA.
- **Strategic Evaluation (Appendix H):**
 - o This is a new item on the Solid Waste Plan, and requires each District to evaluate all of its programs to compare costs against the amount of waste diversion achieved.

Ms. Lubbers continued her presentation by explaining several existing programs offered by the District:

- **Public Recycling Drop-off locations:**
 - o Adams-Brown Recycling is contracted to haul and process material from the 18 public recycling drop-off locations in Adams County. Rumpke is contracted to haul and process material from the 28 public recycling drop-off locations in Clermont County.
- **Adams County Waste and Recycling (AWAR) Transfer Station:**
 - o Provides convenient waste disposal options to the residents of Adams County for only 8 cents per pound for trash and 12 cents per pound for tires.
 - o Buys non-ferrous metals and lead acid batteries from residents.
 - o Accepts ferrous metals and co-mingled recycling for free.
- **Litter Collection and Dumpsite Clean-up:**
 - o The Clermont County Municipal Court is contracted to provide year-round roadside litter pickup on Clermont County roadways.
 - o The Adams County Sheriff’s Office and the Adams County Common Pleas Court provides roadside litter pick-up and dumpsite clean-up on Adams County roadways during the summer months. The District provides a truck for these activities.
- **Emergency Debris Management:**
 - o Includes several flood events on the Ohio River in the past, as well as two large tornado events.

Ms. Lubbers also elaborated on programs that the District may consider implementing or expanding in the next Solid Waste Plan:

- **Expansion of School Recycling Program to Institutional/Commercial Assistance**
 - o The School Recycling Program was added during the last Solid Waste Plan, and may expand to include additional commercial assistance.

- **Multi-family Housing Recycling Infrastructure**
 - o No significant progress has been made with this program, but the Ohio EPA has been encouraging Districts to target this population and provide assistance.
- **Large Item Collection Site – Clermont County**
 - o The need for a large item disposal site was identified by the District during the last planning period and the District considered options for opening a facility.
 - o A private facility is currently being constructed in Clermont County that will fill that need.
- **Food Waste and Yard Waste Diversion**
 - o The District may be looking into what assistance it can provide for food waste and yard waste diversion programs.

Ms. Lubbers gave an outline on the Plan Process:

- Submit draft to Ohio EPA (45 day review) 08/07/24
- Receive non-binding advisory opinion
- Public comment (30 days) November 2024
- Ratification (90 days or less) May 2025
- Submit & OEPA Director review (90 days) 11/09/25

Illegal Dump Survey – Adams County

Mr. Snyder gave further explanation of the comprehensive illegal dump survey that is required as part of the Solid Waste Plan, and gave an update on the progress he has made on that project. Mr. Snyder noted that this is the third illegal dump survey in Adams County that has been performed by the District.

- The initial field inspections on all public roadways in Adams County were started in early February, 2023 and concluded over the past weekend, with 16 partial days being devoted to the project to date.
- Approximately 147 dump sites were documented on public roadways and vacant land visible from the right-of-way. Dumpsites on private residences were excluded from this survey.
- Over 9,600 pounds of illegally dumped tires were picked up on various roadways as a secondary project by Mr. Snyder while this survey was being performed.
- Coordination will be made with the Sheriff's Office and the Probation Department to try clean up some of the dump sites that were noted on the survey. Various dump sites were mentioned, with Bratton Township seeing the highest number of sites.

5. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Director's Report was given by Ms. Lubbers:

USDA Rural Development Grant

Ms. Lubbers spoke about the USDA Rural Development Grant in partnership with Warren County.

- This grant funding has been awarded, and will be used to connect commercial and institutional food generators in Adams, Clermont, and Warren Counties to potential end users and processing facilities.

- The District has been working with CET, a consultant who is currently providing technical support for these services.

OEPA Academic Institution Grant

Ms. Lubbers spoke about partnering with an Adams County school to apply for the OEPA Academic Institution Grant.

- Ms. Lubbers stated that she and Mr. Snyder met with Luke Rhonemus, the Agricultural Business teacher at the Ohio Valley Career and Technical Center, regarding future opportunities that may be available to be partially funded by the OEPA Academic Institution Grant.

Litter Events: Spring Litter Clean-up and Ohio River Sweep

Ms. Lubbers gave an update on several upcoming litter clean-up events being held at several locations in Adams County and Clermont County.

- The annual Spring Litter Clean-up is being held at several locations in Clermont County on Saturday April 22, 2023.
- The Brush Creek Clean-up in Adams County is being held on Friday May 12, 2023.
- The annual Ohio River Sweep is scheduled for Saturday June 24, 2023 in Clermont County at four locations: Moscow, Neville, Chilo, and New Richmond.

Compost Bin Sale

Ms. Lubbers gave an update on the District's compost bin sale. Compost bins are being sold by the District for \$60.00 each, in conjunction with the Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District's annual plant sale on Thursday May 4 and Friday May 5, 2023. The \$60.00 sale price covers the original purchase costs incurred by the District.

- Ms. Lubbers noted the compost bins proved to be a very popular item in the past, but sales have since slowed as the market has grown saturated.
- Ms. Lubbers stated that after this sale, she would evaluate if the District will sell compost bins during structured events in the future.

Pollution Prevention Internship Program

Ms. Lubbers gave an update on the Pollution Prevention Internship Program.

- The District will be covering 75% of the salary for a pollution prevention intern for 12 weeks.
- Milacron, located in Clermont County, is the only business that has returned a completed application to be considered for the program.
- The District is in the process of reviewing intern applications.

Institutional Recycling Support

Ms. Lubbers gave an update on various schools and other facilities that have recently received recycling containers from the District.

- Batavia Elementary and Amelia Elementary were the most recent schools in Clermont County to receive additional recycling containers to use inside of their buildings.
- Batavia Schools has inquired about food diversion, and discussions will be taking place in the future.

- Merwin Elementary School received the recycling and food waste diversion equipment that was purchased through the OEPA Academic Institution Grant.
- Crossroads Church in Union Township received containers from the District to use for their food waste diversion program. The church has contracted with Go-Zero to haul their food waste for recycling.
- The District conducted a waste audit at Interplex Medical in Miami Township and provided them with recycling containers to use inside of their offices and facility.

Christmas Light Recycling

Ms. Lubbers reported that 633 pounds of Christmas lights were collected over the winter months by the District and recycled at Cohen.

Debris Management Reimbursement - Disaster Funding

Ms. Lubbers spoke on the progress of the tornado clean-up reimbursement process:

- Ms. Lubbers explained that Governor DeWine authorized the distribution of funds from the State Disaster Relief Program for the July 2022 tornado, and the District applied for reimbursement of up to 75% of all eligible clean-up costs incurred.
- The District incurred costs of \$236,093.08, with \$218,841.71 being eligible for reimbursement and the remaining \$17,251.37 being ineligible labor costs. The District will be receiving \$164,131.28 in reimbursement from the State Disaster Relief Program. The District incurred expenses of \$54,710.43 that were not reimbursed.
- The vast majority of the expenses were due to the 43,000 cubic yards of woody debris generated in Goshen Township.

Public Recycling Drop-off – West Union Courthouse

Ms. Lubbers spoke about recent issues at the West Union Courthouse recycling location:

- Fast Track Auctions has been using the public recycling compactor for cardboard generated at their business. Although not specifically stated at the drop-off sites, businesses are expected to contract with a private hauler for recyclables generated at their locations.
- Recently, the business failed to cut down large pieces of cardboard and it jammed the hopper on the compactor, making it inaccessible to members of the public to use. This resulted in increased pick-ups of the container, which resulted in additional costs to the District.
- Ms. Lubbers and Mr. Trefz spoke to the business and the situation is currently resolved.

Peebles Recycling Compactor

Mr. Snyder gave an update on the Peebles recycling compactor.

- The old compactor in Peebles continues to have issues and only functions intermittently.
- A new 4-yard PTR compactor for the Peebles drop-off recycling site was ordered on October 31, 2022.
- The vendor stated that the new compactor is expected to arrive at their yard on March 27, 2023 and the custom hopper will be built and installed at their location shortly afterward.
- The new compactor is expected to be installed at Peebles in mid-April, but that may be pushed back due to a shortage of material and labor.
- Since the old compactor has been down the District has been having a roll-off container of loose material hauled from the Peebles site once per week. Once the new compactor is installed, the roll-off

container can be removed and the compactor box will only have to be switched out an average of once every 4 – 5 weeks instead.

AWAR Transfer Station – Blacktop

Ms. Lubbers gave a brief overview on blacktop issues at the AWAR transfer station:

- The blacktop area around the concrete at the end of the truck scale has deteriorated badly and required and emergency fix.
- The Engineer's office was generous enough to patch the area temporarily but advised the District that a permanent fix will be needed.

6. ADAMS COUNTY RECYCLING / EDUCATION REPORT

Education/Outreach Report: Adams County

Ms. Edge gave an update on various environmental education projects in Adams County.

- Peebles Elementary received various educational programming.
- Ms. Edge will be attending the Kindergarten Ag. Day at the Adams County Fairgrounds in late-April.
- Adams County recycling and AWAR promotion has been occurring on social media and in the business directory of the local paper.
- The Ohio River Sweep in Adams County will occur on June 10, 2023.

7. PUBLIC INPUT

No public input was received.

8. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT

After a brief discussion, it was determined that the next board meeting of the Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District would be held at 10:30 AM on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at the Clermont County Administration Building in Batavia, Ohio.

Ms. Ward moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Batchler and passed without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 AM.