MINUTES

Attendance
Rob Smith Athabasca Regional Waste Services Management Commission
Ben Armstrong Drumheller Regional Waste Commission
Janet Altmiks Crystal Clean Water
Art Sawatzky Peace Regional Waste Management Company
Jennifer Besinger County of Grande Prairie
Paul Ryan Bow Valley Regional Waste Commission
Molly Fyten Lac La Biche County
Reid Williams Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority
Carol Nelson County of Grande Prairie
Dana Swigart MD of Bonnyville
Lorna Storoschuk Town of Bonnyville
Marc Jubinville MD of Bonnyville
Brad Ollen MD of Bonnyville
Linda Davies St. Michael Regional Waste Services
Dan Gawalko Smoky Lake County
Paul Poulin Evergreen Regional Landfill
Sarah Kaut Aquatera
Roxi Rutt MD of Greenview
Terry Hampson Town of Elk Point
Dale Rankel Town of Whitecourt
Randy Orichowski Smoky Lake County
Susan Berry Roseridge Regional Waste Commission
Tracy Boutilier RM of Wood Buffalo
Tony Tymchyshyn Town of Vegreville
Pat Siliworsky Alberta Recycling Management Association
Brad Trimble Town of Bonnyville
Lars Hensen City of Leduc
Jonathan Beekman Full Circle Plastics
Ian Bone Quantum
Andrew Sorenson Beaver Municipal Solutions

Linda McDonald Alberta CARE

Regrets
Tom Moore Westlock Regional Waste Commission
Glen Finstad City of Leduc
Dennis Lang North Peace Regional Landfill
Dale McQueen Woodlands County
Glenn Belozer Leduc County
Audrey Gall Northern Sunrise County
Kelly Lynn Lewis Leduc County
Andrew Calder Bow Valley Regional Waste Commission
Tammy Eliza Leduc County
Gary Couch MD of Greenview
Randi Dupras County of Lac La Biche
Alana Okrusko County of Lac La Biche
1. Meeting called to order/Introductions at 10:12 a.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Art Sawatzky moved to accept the agenda as presented..................................................CARRIED

3. Old Business
   a) Alberta CARE Conference 2019’ was held in Peace River, AB and was very successful.
   b) The Alberta CARE Spring Seminar 2019’ was held in High River, AB. It was a good turnout for the Pre-Disaster Debris Planning Workshop.
   c) The Bomber Command Museum of Canada sent a thank you letter for our donation to the organization for $750.00.

Marc Jubinville moved to accept items 3(a) to 3(c) as information.............................................CARRIED

4. New Business
   a) Alberta CARE Spring Seminar will be held in the Town of Westlock, hosted and sponsored by the Westlock Regional Waste Commission on Feb 26-28th, 2020.
   b) There will be a Landfill Fire SWANA Course prior to the seminar on Feb 25th. All fire fighters are encouraged to attend.
   c) Meeting with the Minister of Environment was discussed and a handout of the notes and agenda were distributed. All the Alberta Board members that attended were very pleased with the Minister's knowledge of the waste and recycling industry and was very receptive of the concerns and issues facing municipalities. The Minister's staff were very prepared for this meeting. Jennifer Besinger reported that the EPR be separate to any of the other items discussed in the meeting. She was very impressed with his knowledge of the industry. Linda McDonald reported that it has been a pleasure to be able to pick up the phone and speak to his Assistant, as no phone calls or emails were not answered in the past 4 years from the prior Minister of Environment's office. It seems that Phase II of e-Waste could be coming in the spring of 2020.
   d) The Alberta Wage Range Survey 2019’ was discussed and it was noted that this was only a guide line for budgeting purposes. This did not include Edmonton or Calgary.
   e) Chris Neilsen suggested a winter week of courses, such as HHW, Transfer Station, and Freon Removal Courses at the DBS Environmental site. This was discussed and agreed to advertise this in January.

Jennifer Besinger moved to accept items 5(a) to 5(e) as information.............................................CARRIED

5. Other Business
   a) New Plastic Program at the Westlock Regional Landfill. Chris Neilsen reported on behalf of Tom Moore that Westlock will be collecting plastic 1-7 with no film from surrounding municipalities and pelletizing. This will add employment to the site. The cost for set up is $25,000.00. Chris reported that power is costly running these machines.
   b) Paul Ryan reported for the Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association that they have had more meetings with MLAs than in the last 4 years. They have a meeting planned with the Minister of Environment in January, 2020. Paul has been very busy with traveling and bringing awareness of this project to municipalities and to the First Nations. They have received one and half million into the project federally and two million from the rural municipalities. They will be taking in 300,000 tonnes a year and making electricity for homes by steam. China is putting plastics collection close to its facilities to potentially gather surplus steam for a waste to energy facility. SAEWA had 11 sites chosen for their facility and it has been short listed to 3 sites (Vulcan, Wheatland County and Brooks). Highway corridors were required to make the decision for short listing. SAEWA is a 5 million dollar project. The estimated time to be completed and be up and running will be another 4 years.
c) The Alberta Pilot Clean Farms have chosen the collection sites (attached). The County of Grande Prairie is one of those sites. Jennifer Besinger reported that they do not have a roller yet. They do have a policy in place to what is accepted and what is not accepted. They are still dealing with how to set up and put into place an education program for the farmers.

Ben Armstrong reported that the County of Wheatland has been doing this for the past 3 years with their Ag Services. They have a mobile roller, and haul the material. In this way they have control of the cleanliness. Clean Farms has an electronic package for setting up and signage. Chris Neilsen reported that there will be a new plant in Bashaw, AB for plastics.

**Linda Davies moved to accept items 5(a) to 5(c) as information..............................................CARRIED**

6. **Information**

   a) Alberta CARE Meeting Minutes - Region 1-5 - December 7, 2018
   b) Alberta CARE Draft Meeting Minutes Region 1
   c) Alberta CARE Draft Meeting Minutes Region 2&3
   d) Alberta CARE Draft Meeting Minutes Region 4&5
   e) SWANA Conference 2020' - April 21-23rd, 2020

**Lorna Storoschuk moved to accept items 6(a) to (e) as information.........................................CARRIED**

7. **Round Table**

Ben Armstrong reported that Wheatland County has had a dispute with GFL "Green for Life" in Court of Queen's Bench and ruling should come down by the end of December, 2019. The company had bought a 20 acre parcel of land and was composting on it, but the neighbors complained about the smell and flies. There was a legacy pile of 100,000 tonnes and Alberta allowed this. There has been some clean up, but it couldn’t be tested. There is a sulphur issue, although there was some sulphur moved out. This has effected livelihoods, live stock and crops. This has cost the municipality $400,000.00.

Janet Altmiks asked if Roseridge Regional Waste could take her 18 litre plastic bottles for recycling. Roseridge will send them to Edmonton Waste for recycling with their loads.

Ray Juska reported that recycle markets are still challenging. Newell Regional Waste does custom grinding for #2 plastics out of Calgary and the Military plastics are bringing revenue up for them.

Tracey Boutilier reported that they had a Composting Course done by Larry Conrad from the Canadian Composting Council of Canada. Only one of her staff passed the course. The instruction of the course was terrible. The RM of Wood Buffalo has sent a letter of complaint to the CCC. It was suggested by the members that there be a refund of course fees. The RM of Wood Buffalo is looking for a Supervisor for waste collection and a Supervisor for a member of staff retiring for April, 2020. The RM has had a massive Blue Algae in the retention ponds. The mortality of the birds were on it and a wolf had to be euthanized due to eating the birds. They are moving to closure and some green gas will be captured when the cells and wells are capped. They have 40,000 cubed compost if anyone needs this they are welcome to it. They are suspending their recycling programs especially #2 plastics.

Roxi Rutt reported that the MD of Greenview has taken over the garbage pickup in Grande Cache. They have a "Take or Leave It" at every transfer station. They are very busy in their waste collection.

Sarah Kaut reported that Aquatera has done recycling and waste audits. They have installed 5 new gas cells and have 30 gas wells. They had an event partnering with Aquatera, City of Grande Prairie and Good Will to do a "Drop and Swap" clothing. They received 284 boxes of clothing (5685 lbs or 2.7 tonnes). They only had 3 bags left over at the end of the event. There were 500 hundred people in attendance in 4 hours.
This was so successful and meaningful to the residents that are having a tough time, that this will be an annual event, either at Waste Reduction Week or Earth Day. They had water stations at the event and the cookies were donated by the Coop. They had 6 volunteers from Aquatera, 1 from the City of Grande Prairie and 4 Goodwill volunteers. Goodwill provided all the hangers and racks.

Terry Hampson from Elk Point reported that they have upgraded their "Take or Leave It". She is happy to be back as a representative from the Town for Alberta CARE. She is also on the committee for EPR, if anyone needs information or has questions.

Lars Hensen reported that City of Leduc passed their budget. They are starting to ban single use bags in the city. Devon has banned it as well.

Susan Berry from Roseridge Regional Waste Commission is happy to be back as a representative for Alberta CARE from their Commission.

Paul Ryan reported that the new regulation from for a class 3 from Alberta Environment has added 2.5 million dollars to cell costs. The Bow Valley Commission has a post closure reserve of $300,000.00 a year. They have a bio-mass gas furnace, 500,000 BTUs and are waiting for a code of practice from Alberta Environment. They have a new building with solar panels, which will be good for 16 years, but that is unrealistic because of cloud and snow, so therefore the true years is 32 years.

Jonathan Beekman reported that Full Circle Plastics has been doing recycling for the past 3.5 years in partnership with DBS Environmental. He is looking at new markets in the USA and South America. They focus on plastic fence posts, park benches, etc to retailers such as Peavey Marts, Western Lumber and just began into Home Hardware. Alberta CARE will be selling our products at discounted prices to their membership.

Jennifer Besinger reported that single use plastics is not an interest of Council. Single use of plastic should be at a provincial government level. They will have a new cell in 2021’. The water ponds are completed. Their recycling contract has moved forward and has an extra $80,000.00 cost attached to it. They have referred their concrete crushing to Art Sawatzky, Peace River. They are looking at buying a grinder, possibly the Terminator to do wood and shingles.

Molly Fyten reported the tragic death of a child on the landfill. The father had run over his son. Her staff did CPR on the child. There has been resources put into effect for the staff’s mental health and a lot of lost time because of this. This type of tragedy effects the whole community. The challenge is the mental health issues and being able to come back to work. Signage was discussed, but they do not have signage on site. The other issue was to have all staff fill out a WCB form for future mental disability. The members discussed this matter as to PTSD and work environment safety. Tracey Boutilier reported the fire in Fort McMurray had staff claiming WCB disability due to PTSD two years later. Their CEO was terminated. They have completed two landfill closures. She reported that their budget has been approved. Dana Swigart reported that "Homeward Help" can help in this tragic situation and can be set up with their fire department. He will share that information with Molly Fyten.

Art Sawatzky reported that the Alberta CARE Conference in Peace River was very successful. They have a low collection of construction waste. They have 3 more deep wells waiting for approval for a 10 year window. They have increased their tipping rates by 10%.

Paul Poulin from Evergreen Regional Waste reported that they purchased a new loader. They are looking into a shredder to do bedding material and put it back into the community. Two of the staff have completed their Certified Landfill Operator course.
Carol Nelson from Alberta Environment reported that not much is new. She has nothing further on Hydro Vac new regulations.

Marc Jubinville from the MD of Bonnyville reported that this is a great group and gets a lot of good information. Brad Ollen from the MD of Bonnyville reported that they have selected a site for the AG Plastics. They have a mobile baler and do not charge for rolling bales. They are baling twine, but need 1 or 2 wraps around it to hold it in place. They will be purchasing a new garbage truck in 2020. They are putting a hyro vac truck into the 2020' budget. They are still collecting mattresses, but are shipping to Taber (Tectro Trash) instead of Edmonton. The processor has two facilities locations. (Tabor and Edmonton)

Linda Davies reported that the St. Michael Regional Solid Waste Commission is doing well. They are a supporter of the new GEEP (Quantum). Their recycled materials are 90% contaminate free. Their new shop is completed. They do bike recycling and now small engine recycling has been added to the program.

Tony Tymchyshyn from the Town of Vegreville reported that this was his first time at an Alberta CARE meeting. Vegreville is doing a study of their landfill.

Dale Rankel from the Town of Whitecourt went through lengthy court days for 1 million in fines of 19 charges. The fine was reduced to $100,000.00 for pleading to guilty for failing to correctly notify Albert Environment. The $100,000.00 fine was redirected, $20,000.00 was allocated to SWANA for Landfill Courses and $80,000.00 allocated to a research grant for leachate management through Alberta Environment of which the Westlock Regional Waste Commission received $14,000.00 for this. There are other partners in this research grant. Dale reported that they are doing a study on becoming a Commission. They are doing additional work on the storm water works system at a cost of $40,000.00. The new scale and scale house is approved for 2020'.

Ian Bone from Quatum formally GEEP reported that everything is going well. Quatum has people that have drive and passion from young to old. Gary Diamond is the President. Clayton Miller is the Vice President of EOL Sales. In 2019, GEEP processed 50 million tonnes of electronics, only 1.2% was landfilled.

Chris Neilsen reported that DBS Environmental had a good year. Clean Farms is up and running. It looks stable for 2020' for DBS Environmental. They have 2 transfer buildings completed for under $50,000.00. Chris is working on capabilities of washing and grinding chemical jugs.

Pat Sliworsky is working for Alberta Recycling Management Authority as a field services inspector and enjoying it.

Reid Williams reported that Rocky Mountain Hose is working on a cell with a time frame of 5-7 years. All things are going well.

Linda McDonald reported on behalf of Glen Finstad that The Leduc & District Waste Management Board has approved the move towards a commission. The application has been filed and should take a year to complete. The "Terminator Shredder" is on site and they will consider doing a feasibility study of the viability to contract it out. The Leduc Environment Advisory Board has brought to Council to pass a by-law regarding single use plastics.

8. So moved by Rob Smith to adjourn at 12:50 p.m.