

9/3/19

Convened: 2:30 PM

Adjourned 4:15 PM

See Attendance Log in File
HB 617 Recycling & Solid Waste Committee Meeting

NERRC Regan Bissonette:

- What's going on with recycling?
- Are a Non-Profit to help Market Recyclables and Sell Them
- Helps 400 Municipalities in NH
- 65% Members are in NH Municipalities
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- NH highest landfill disposal rate in the country
- Increased costs and space limits in landfills
- Fiber, Glass, Residue of non recyclables, plastic & metals
- Separated materials is crucial to yielding higher revenues
- Recycling seems to be impacted by trash contamination
- Source Separation tends to yield higher revenues
- China 31% of scrap was going to them in 2017 was highly contaminated and therefore banned plastics imports textiles, mixed papers, and glass (National Sword Program)
- China 55% of the worlds mixed paper at that time
 - Mar. 2017 \$85 per/ton in purchase
 - Current 2019 paying for haul and recycling @ municipal levels
- Look at cost avoidances to reduce costs of recycling
- Rise in Domestic investments in recycling
- 19 mills used to use mixed paper in feedstock
- Looking at alternative markets for things like mixed paper
- Glass - market is declining on own for years, mixed glass used in fiberglass, and cleaned in Canada
 - Communities can bring glass to host sites to be crushed in mobile crushing unit
 - New London/Turn Key
- Metal - Plastic - highest commodities values the more you sub-sort the more value you can extract from them
- How can the state help?
 - There was a solid waste task force in 1999 - report was in 2001. Maybe a similar task force is needed again
 - NHDES is understaffed and underfunded and has a limited availability to do proactive municipal level work
 - Purchase recycled content for the state to use

Sen. Watters: What % of waste in the state is recycled?

Regan: ~30% but we don't have a clear idea

Sen. Watters: How Many municipalities/commissions are recycling? Waste Diversion

Regan: I don't know, solid waste materials waste 50% 25% is actually compostable organic material that is going into waste stream

- There are regs preventing meat and dairy composting currently
- Anaerobic digestion

Sen. Watters: What's the cost differential on glass aggregates?

Regan - Glass is heavy ideally needs to be processed near location collected PGA can be used 20% mixed with 80% gravel for under roads so long as it meets other specs.

Sen. Watters: What about prices in tipping fees and commodity values?

Regan: They Are interrelated. And it's expensive in the North East when fees rise and values lower. Therefore prices on disposal fees increase. .5% China Natl Sword imposed new contamination acceptance level.

K.Ebel: What is the future of single stream:

Regan: Those who are still using it must educate folks as to what is actually recyclable and invest in an education infrastructure.

K.Ebel: How many municipalities are members of NRRA?

Regan: I am not sure

K.Ebel: Are paper mkts and growth in paper recycling in NH?

Regan: Actually in Maine

K. Ebel: Plastics 1&2 are accepted but 3-7s are not. So what is the state of those?

Regan: Plastics 3-7 don't have a large market. Municipalities need to accumulate enough to make them profitable.

M. Murray: Composting envisioning the future? Could it happen at transfer stations or regionally?

Regan: I could envision both

City of Raymond - Steven Brewer:

- Pay as you throw program w/costs of bag \$3.25 for a small/\$4.25 for a large bag
- 10,300 residents
- Single Stream Recycling is picked up 4 days a week in a bin
- In April Voters chose to approve warrant to pay for 100% of costs in both trash and recycling

J.O'Connor: Where do folks trash go, for who don't participate in pay as you throw program?

Brewer: I believe it goes to a larger facility. We get a charge for tipping.

- 2018 - 1,643 tons trash/912 tons recycling ~ 36% recycling rate
- 2019 - 1,470 tons projected for trash/810 tons of recycling (11% drop but overall still recycling 36% of items)
- Monthly rates is a blended rate of commodities : \$41 to \$98 increase roughly to 113 dollars a ton

- It's going to cost us more to recycle less.
- We get audited for contaminated loads

K.Ebel: Just to confirm what do you contribute to contaminated loads?

Brewer: Tipping fees are going up due to cost of disposal, due to cost in commodity values dropping. Landfills will approach capacity and it puts pressure on costs too.

Nancy Amatto - Milfrod Solid Waste

- Presenting Types of Zero Waste Products to reduce placing in landfill
- Looks for ways to avoid adding things to landfills
- Legislation is needed to allow meat and dairy composting
- Mr. Fox, Elm City, Terra Nova, Divert Inc. (Anerobic)
- PGE - under asphalt less susceptible to frost heaving
- 8% of waste is textiles
- Simple Recycling

K. Ebel: What is with the compost regs for meat and dairy

Mike Nork (DES) :

We are looking at HB 251 - potential there to revamp regs. Looking to modify policy that is hindering composting.

Celeste Barr: Municipalities & Waste managers see need for composting.

Mark Morgan - Solid Waste Manager City of Lebanon

- 90k people in service area
- Source Separated
- 1/3 of waste in from vermont
- 15 years ago was on Planning Community Assistance & State Recycling Coordination for 4Years -these positions were cut
- NH DES doesnt seem to have the money or resources for these programs and to keep up with tasks for recycling and solid waste management
- DES seems to be able to do only permiture I would to see the group reestablished
- 149:M5 Surcharge but it isnt used but ICC rules make it difficult to use.
- Vermont uses (initially said surcharge but he corrected the record to be the following: regulation) to help stave off tipping unless it meets stringent requirements
- Meat & Dairy is composted at our facility using the footprint of our landfill to do it on ~1,000 tons of food waste in the composting.

J. O'Connor: Is the state permitting this

Morgan: We are working creatively within the rules.

K. Ebel: Are residents using that?

Morgan: Not yet.

Sen. Watters: How is it that Vermont does the surcharge?

Morgan: I don't know.

K. Ebel: Have your landfill tipping fees changed?

Morgan: Yes, banned construction and demo. debris and have raised rates for disposal, on a variety of items to account for bulk volume and size? We manage biosludge, we flare some gas, but are looking to produce energy on site. Anerobic digestion possible.

John Early, New London

- Space is an issue
- Education is much needed
- 1 yr in plastic collecting before we can get rid of it to a tipper
- Commodity rules seem to change alot that we have to adjust to.
- Maybe we can use glass aggregate in public works projects
- Manufactures are responsible for e-waste
- Tipping fees are rising and transport is becoming expensive