



Henry McMaster
Governor

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Robert M. Hitt III
Secretary

Recycling Market Development Advisory Council (RMDAC) Meeting
Tuesday, November 17th, 2020
10:00 AM – 12:00PM

Meeting ID: 959 5365 5639
<https://zoom.us/j/95953655639>
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

RMDAC

Kristen Brown, WasteZero
Tina Huskey, Mumford Industries
Norman Chandler, Republic Services
Bill Laursen, Universal Environmental Services
Dr. Andy Spicer, USC Darla Moore School of Business
Wes Westbrooks, BMW
Carol James-Gilchrist, Sonoco Recycling
Allison Brockman, City of Greenville
Chris Fisher, GlassWRX SC
Brad Dutton, Dutton Polymers
Vic Carpenter, Kershaw County

ABSENT

Tyler Smith, Michelin
Chad Prescott, Mid Carolina Steel
Joseph McMillin, Atlas Organics
Angel Lara, Southeast Recycling Resources

GUESTS

Glenn Odom, Retired
Ronnie Grant, Retired
Cynthia Davis, SC Department of Commerce

STAFF

Anna DeLage, SC Department of Commerce
April Chaffins, SC Department of Commerce

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Wes Westbrooks motioned to call the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

MINUTES

The September 2020 RMDAC meeting minutes were approved.



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Wes Westbrooks introduced guest, Cynthia Davis, and the speakers.

Chris Fisher presented information on GlassWRX.

Chris: Showed a video of the new GlassWRX facility in Beaufort, SC. This facility is 84,000SF and sits on 35 acres. The offices will be open by Thanksgiving, and be in full production by February 18th. In addition to SC, he is looking to receive glass from both North Carolina and Georgia. He will accept all types of glass, except windshields and lightbulbs, and it doesn't need to be separated by color.

He will use the glass to create the following: Roman Concrete (clean buildings), WWTP Incinerator ash and glass (clean water), and Size Up (clean air). The material is projected to last for 200 years. The price point will be high at first, but will eventually level out. He has no competitors in this market, and even has a national contract. The goal is to have 30 plants in the next 40 years. The Beaufort facility is the model and everyone will be trained there as new facilities come online. This venture is funded by a private family out of Missouri who has ties to the SC Lowcountry.

Some of the biggest challenges he is facing are betting glass out of single stream, restarting county programs that have stopped, and transportation. He needs clean glass and can take fiberglass. He is currently working with Boeing to take their carbon fiber, and has agreed to test limestone from BMW. He needs 10lb bags of the product to run tests on it.

Kristen Brown presented on Carbon Neutrality.

Kristen: Is currently working on an ongoing carbon neutrality project in another state. There are two ways of thinking, consumption based and sector based. Consumption is a look at the full life cycle, and waste is more important than it is in sector based. Sector, most commonly used, looks at the supply chain where waste is only a small part. This project takes a look at carbon output for each commodity when it's thrown into the landfill, incinerated, or a combination of the two.

It's noticeable that the carbon accounting can get in the way of recycling logic sometimes. There are two national companies that have big campaigns for carbon neutrality, where they are planting trees, but don't really have strong recycling programs. Buying credits is another option available to companies.

Spicer: There is not really a standard around this. Time is an issue, and the emissions over time. Businesses have a difficult time of account for long term effects over time.

Kristen: Waste reduction is the single greatest action a city or state can take to affect climate change. Local decisions have an impact. An avenue to consider is a save as you throw program, similar to the pay as you throw program.



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Tina Huskey presented on Mumford Industries' new product.

Tina: Mumford Industries has launched a new product, 33-gallon size 3.5 mill bag made of LDPE and a little bit of nylon. They are puncture and tear resistance, good for abatement, and can be used for whatever you need. They are one size fits all, but are customizable and printable. This new bag means you don't have to create a new one.

Purchased the equipment to the make the bags in Q1 2020. Due to COVID, Mumford pivoted their operations to create PPE ponchos, and have now pivoted back to making the bags. They haven't sent the bags to the distributor yet.

Kristen: Has cities up north who may be interested in this product. She is going to call Tina to discuss.

DISCUSSION

Recycling Markets Directory: We are already thinking about version 2.0 of the Recycling Markets Directory and ways we could make it better. We have received feedback from electronic recyclers who are interested in seeing a distinction for R2 certifications.

Spicer: It's going to be a sticky situation when you start adding certifications. Maybe it would be better to put a disclaimer instead, that this is a resource and we are not guaranteeing quality.

Clemson: Clemson University and allies have offered REMADE grants. Two applications have reached out to us and we have sent them letters of support.

2021 Meetings: We discussed potential locations and speakers for 2021 RMDAC Meetings. If possible, may also offer a hybrid option that offers both in-person and virtual. Some of the locations mentions were: Nucor Steel, GlassWRX, Sonoco MRF (Columbia), and BMW, if they'll allow guests. Potential speakers are Demand Champions, Okra Med, Clemson (REMADE), and NC State (Carpet Testing project).

Addressing Market Needs: We had a discussion on market needs in the new environment with COVID. What do businesses need, want, and how can we help? Spicer: There is no direct impact on recycling with COVID. It's more indirect impacts to county offices, workers, and the canceling of recycling programs. Brown: Residential waste and recycling is up, and commercial is down. There is a concern that COVID will likely affect county budgets and how that will affect recycling programs. Chandler: The recycling that is coming is contaminated. There is a need for re-education, especially after everyone being home due to COVID. Brown: Believes some of the contamination will be cleaned up when COVID is over. Brockman: Educational and outreach materials would be helpful. MRF costs are up, and counties are having to take materials that the MRFs won't take. James-Gilchrist: MRF costs are actually down right now. Everything is based on the recycling markets. Seeing higher contamination and commercial is going up.



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Best Management Practices: There are two audiences: recycling 101 crowd who is just getting started and our sustainability champions. For recycling 101, we plan to rely on DHEC's Smart Business Guide. For our sustainability champions who want to take things to the next level, we will create the Best Management Practices one-pagers. To get us started, we have selected: paper, plastic, textile, glass, and biomass. So far, we are thinking of including for each commodity: industry statistics, what is recyclable, how to recycle properly, what not to do, how it's recycled, end products, and resources. Brown: Graphics would be helpful at telling the full story of recycling, the "big picture". Spicer: Know your audience and tell the right story for them. Huskey: Recyclesnomics may be a helpful resources when developing these one-pagers.

MARKET UPDATES

Paper: OCC holding at \$70/ton and expected to hold for December and the full year. SOP is \$80/ton and \$30/ton for mixed paper. China ban goes into effect on January 1, 2021, and will no longer take OCC. Will see facilities in US setting up to take the material that would be going to China. May have a drop, then a spike. One of the reasons we are seeing mixed paper go up is because mills are ramping up mixed paper production.

Recycling Industry: Seeing innovation. Customers are looking for innovation for materials at the front end. Brokers are struggling due to the China ban.

Solid Waste: Volume and prices are going up.

Glass: Holding steady at 30-40/ton and hasn't changed.

Carpet: Nylon 66 in high demand and price came down. Low demand for Nylon 6.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

The RMDAC board meeting was adjourned at 11:48 am.

The next RMDAC meeting will be held via conference call January 19th, 2021 at 10:00am.