

SWANA NM Roadrunner Chapter - Special NMED-SWB Meeting

Tuesday, September 20, 2011
The Lodge at Santa Fe - Ballroom
Santa Fe, NM

Submitted by JoAnne Weaver, Executive Secretary

Reviewed by Danita Boettner, Secretary & Jerry Kamieniecki, Communication
Chairman

*Asterisks indicate there are handouts filed with the copy of these minutes

General Membership Attendance: Marcia Pincus, Auralie Ashley-Marx, Danita Boettner, Charles Fiedler, Jerry Kamieniecki, Terry Nelson, Teri Monaghan, Tom Parker, Connie Pasteris and JoAnne Weaver. In addition, sixteen NMED-SWB staff members were present with twenty guests from various New Mexico solid waste facilities.

I. Call to Order, Welcome and Chapter Gift to Terry Nelson

President Marcia Pincus called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m., welcoming the NMED-SWB staff and guests from around the state of New Mexico. Marcia noted the photos of Terry Nelson that had been running on the big screen and congratulated Terry Nelson on his retirement from NMED-SWB and presented Terry with a digital frame containing pictures of his service to the Roadrunner Chapter.

Terry responded with thanks and told the group that he is really enjoying his retirement by volunteering with service projects from his church as well as hiking and traveling with his wife.

II. NMED-SWB Report by Auralie Ashley-Marx, Bureau Chief

Marcia Pincus Roadrunner Chapter President introduced Auralie who reported on the past year events of the Solid Waste Bureau as follows:

A. Appreciation:

Auralie thanked her staff and anyone else who had a part in recommending that she remain as the chief of the NMED-SWB.

B. New Permit Section Manager:

Auralie introduced George Schuman, new manager of the Permit Section of the New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED) Solid Waste Bureau. Mr. Schuman previously served for seven years as the program manager for the discharge-permitting program of the NMED's Ground Water Quality Bureau and worked for nine years (including four years as program



manager) in the Ground Water Quality Bureau's Superfund Oversight Section. Mr. Schuman replaces Terry Nelson who retired earlier this year.

C. Introduction of SWB Staff:

Auralie introduced all NMED staff present at this event thanking them for their service, especially during this past year.

D. Where the Solid Waste Bureau has Been and Where it is Going:

1. Landfills closed this year:

- a. Valencia
- b. Santa Rosa
- c. Sierra County
- d. Reserve (Final cover construction interrupted by fires)
- e. Glenwood Landfill in Catron County- gated
- f. Pie Town – gated

2. Current Landfills to be closed

- a. Raton
- b. De Baca County
- c. NMSU

3. Old STP Tire Site (Near Socorro, where fire occurred 10-years ago)

- a. Remediation is starting
- b. CDM is the engineer for this project

4. Permit Actions:

- a. Research and development (R & D) permit issued for 2.5 years to Valencia Regional Landfill, for liquids management, to aid decomposition at site
- b. High Desert Landfill should be deemed complete in September 2011 with the hearing set for April 2012
- c. Application for permit modification has been received from the City of Socorro Landfill
- d. Request for Information (RAI) issued to the Mountain View (Transfer) Eco-Station
- e. Taos Regional Landfill
- f. Silver City (sludge modification)
- g. Lea Land Landfill - NMED will probably issue a conditional permit of 5-years when the site's affirmative action issues are resolved
- h. Second RAI response has been received from the Socorro Landfill



- months
period
- i. Application for permit modification and renewal has been received from the Clovis Landfill
 - k. A Modification and Permit Renewal was granted to Mesa Verde C & D Landfill
 - j. More municipalities are pursuing C&D Landfill Permits
 - k. Turn around time for new permit applications may take about 18-
 - l. Modification permits are turned around in a much shorter time-

5. NM Landfills that Constructed Lined Cells this year:

- a. Sand Point
- b. Silver City
- c. Butterfield Trail (this site is now open)
- d. Tucumcari (opened on July 15, 2011)
- e. Sandoval County
- f. Cerro Colorado

6. Update on Grant Funds:

- a. \$613,000 has been issued in Tire Grants this year.
- b. \$300,000 in RAID grants has been issued this year.
- c. The Solid Waste Facility Grant Fund received a boost when funds were transferred from another account where money is designated for the SWFG had been deposited. All SWFG funds were awarded in the last grant cycle.
- d. The Little Dam Arroyo, a very large project east of Las Cruces, successfully included the engineered use of tire bales with riprap and shotcrete.
- e. About 50,000 tires have been recovered from illegal dumping sites.
- f. An un-permitted tire disposal site, located northeast of Wagon Mound Landfill has had the State Land Office (SLO) bring suit against it. There will be a demand to remove all tires at an estimated cost of \$350,000 to \$400,000. NMED is working with the property owner (SLO) on these issues. The tires are believed to have originated from the Wagon Mound Landfill.
- g. There are serious issues at the Sammy Small illegal dumpsite near Farmington where tires, refrigerators and even illegal cock fighting has taken place.

7. Training



- a. Auralie recognized the important benefits of solid waste employee training with more than 130 already trained this year improving operations of facilities.
- b. Special waste training has taken place in two hospitals to implement better handling of infectious waste. The goal is to increase the number of hospitals receiving this type of training.
- c. Since there are few opportunities available for landfill operators to earn Continuing Education Units (CEU's), SWB is encouraging these operators to attend alternative continuing education courses (specific courses not named) in order to earn the needed CEU's.

8. **Scrap Tire Issues**

- a. Toni Duggan is working with the Pollution Prevention program staff to educate the public on manifest system and how to use it
- b. Copy of manifest with instructions may be downloaded at <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/swb/tires.htm>
- c. Manifest must be presented, filled-out, with loads carrying 10 or more scrap tires

9. **Special Wastes**

- a. New Mexico needs more facilities to accept special wastes.
- b. SWB encourages applicants to include "other" special wastes when filling out their applications.
- c. In response to an audience question, *why are landfills not interested in accepting special wastes?* Auralie responded that their hesitation might be due to not being qualified/trained with handling the documentation requirements.
- d. More special waste training is probably needed. However, companies such as Waste Management made a clear decision long ago not to accept special waste such as asbestos in order to eliminate potential compliance issues.

10. **General SWB Issues and Announcements**

- a. Budget: Legislature already looking at cutting the 2013 budget
- b. New Legislation: As of now the SWB has no plan to introduce legislation during the next session.
- c. 2011 Revisions to SW Rules: In early April the Attorney General's office initiated action on the management of pharmaceutical waste. SWB has been working with the Pharmaceutical Board-to coordinate resources. Only two incinerators are authorized in NM to take pharmaceutical waste.



- d. SWB Staffing: There is funding for one more Outreach position.
- e. NMED SWB Position on Regulations: EIB does not believe state regulations be stonger than federal regulations.
- f. Public Notices: Average cost to publish public notices is \$6,000. Waste Management just spent \$10,000 to publish public notices for Valencia Regional Landfill.
- g. *“Environmental Justice 2014”*: EPA’s new publication. NMED’s Environmental Justice program is consistent with EPA’s new document.
- h. Grant Funding for Recycling Equipment: Auralie indicated that NM was the only state that applied for this type of innovative grant funding, and used NMRC’s Hub & Spoke model as the application basis. With this funding, balers have been installed at the T or C, Red Rocks, and Estancia Valley facilities, and will soon be installed at Raton.

VI. Adjournment/Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at about 1:20 p.m. following a buffet lunch. The November 9, 2011 Membership and Officers meeting will be held at the NMED District 1 small conference room beginning at 11:00 a.m.

