



# The Lone



## MEETING MINUTES

### TXSWANA Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, October 21, 2011 11:01 am CST  
City of Houston – 11500 S. Post Oak, Houston, TX

**Present:** Michael Rice (presiding), David McCary, Pete Caler, James Ballowe, Bengy Williams, Bill Hindman, Hector Chavez, Harry Hayes, Lonnie Banks, Vance Kemler and Paul Gosselink

**Phone:** Brenda Haney, Ellen Smyth, Ron Smith, Holly Holder

**Guests:** Christine Bergen (Manager, Texas MSW – TCEQ), Anissa Williams (Beaumont, Texas), Anthony Bowie (Assistant Director, Houston, Texas) and Herbert Mouton (IT Manager, Houston, Texas)

**Absent:** Richard McHale, Lawrence Mikolajczyk

**Call to Order:** Secretary, David McCary called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. Vice-President Michael Rice assumed chair duties at 12:45 p.m. He was delayed due to airline issues.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Brenda Haney asked that the minutes be postponed for proper reviewing. A motion for this action was made by Harry Hayes and Seconded by James Ballowe. It was approved unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Ellen Smyth presented the current financial reports for the month of September 2011.

#### September 2011:

- \$12,758.96 Checking Account
- \$ 5,227.87 Savings Account
- \$ 10,000 SWANA Investments
- \$ 30,000 SWANA Investments

Motion was made by Bill Hindman to accept the September financial reports as presented; Seconded by Vance Kemler. Motions passed.

#### 2012 ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

Lonnie Banks presented the status of the 2012 Annual Conference in Garland. Because of conflicting conferences with Waste Expo in Las Vegas and the Environmental Trade Fair in Austin, Lonnie received confirmation from the Board to move the meeting dates to June 13<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Agreements have been signed with the Garland Conference Center and the Hyatt Place for the hotel stay. The golf tournament agreement/package has also been executed. The tournament will be played at the Firewheel at Garland golf course. He asked that the board proof read the packet of information that

has to go out before it is disseminated in November. Lonnie and Bill will be meeting on details of the conference and will send out the request for technical papers soon.

### **2013 ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

Holly Holder presented information on the 2013 TXSWANA Annual Conference with the City of Lubbock. He was able to find support from his City to host the 2013 Conference. Three conference dates were presented to the board for consideration, April 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>; May 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>; and May 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>. After careful consideration and discussion the board decided to have the City of Lubbock host the 2013 Annual Conference. Holly invited the Board to host a meeting in Lubbock to look at the conference facilities.

The motion was made by David McCary to have the 2013 Annual TXSWANA Conference in Lubbock Texas. It was seconded by Bengy Williams. Motion passed.

The second part of this motion was made by David McCary to approve the dates selected by Holly Holder of April 15<sup>th</sup> through April 17<sup>th</sup> of 2013. It was seconded by Bengy Williams. Motion passed.

### **2012 ROAD-E-O:**

Vance Kemler provided an update on the 2012 Road-e-o. The Road-e-o will begin that Friday after the Garland State Conference. Denton will host the opening reception on Friday, June 15th. The Road-e-o event competition will take place on Saturday, June 16th and end Sunday. There will be two tracks.

## **CHAPTER BUSINESS**

Christine Bergen presented to the Board. During her presentation she offered to visit with TXSWANA Chapter Meeting on quarterly bases. Her topics focused on three key areas beginning with TCEQ's Annual Report; TCEQ's response to wildfires; and WTE update on renewable energy profile in Texas.

### TCEQ's Annual Report:

Christine began with the annual report and that TCEQ is working on an automated reporting electronic version on monthly bases from facility and site operators. She indicated that TCEQ is approached often from college students and other entities asking about the report or permit. The report helps to answer their questions and allows TCEQ to focus on trends and other vital information. TCEQ has a goal to complete a user friendly electronic version on line to improve efficiency. The document is very beneficial and is available on line. This year's report will still be submitted with paper and next year will be electronically. Should you have any question, you may contact Diane Barnes for additional information.

### TCEQ's Response to Wildfires:

Christine reported no the wildfires that took place around the state. It felt like one half of the wildfires took place during the Labor Day weekend in and around the Bastrop area. Although TCEQ is not the first responder during these types of disasters, they play a vital role in assisting with debris management. Over 1,200 homes burned in the Bastrop area. The post disaster report showed that 38% of the tree canopy was destroyed by the fire and that an additional 40% of the trees will soon die. They anticipate that 70% of the canopy will be lost. Temporary debris management sites were set up and permits approved by TCEQ. There is a TCEQ hotline set up for questions on there website. TCEQ also created a 30 page document on the guidelines on how to properly dispose of debris, ash and animal carcasses.

## Renewable Energy Updates:

Christine reported that Texas currently has two currently registered facilities. There are applications in process for two new facilities. TCEQ staff manages the information and processes the approval for all four facilities. Some of these facilities are managing bio-solids. Some of these facilities may produce gas and use it on their facility or they may use a pipeline to send it to the open market. Others include the process of food waste that may produce gas in different grades of fuel. TCEQ is in the process of proper classification for these facilities. They will continue to evaluate the different technologies.

## **CHAPTER BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

Hector Chavez began with discussion centered on tires that are illegally dumped in Texas close to the border. The cost of processing the tires is very costly and not effective. Previous programs appeared to be moving in the right direction and now with the market changing it is costing more and smaller cities are being affected with illegal dumping. Hector wanted to keep TCEQ in the loop on the subject and that it is still a problem managing tire waste in Texas.

Paul Gosselink updated the Board on two legislative regulatory items. Paul attended the stakeholders meeting where discussion on who will be responsible for compliance history from a landfill. Waste water treatment plant or trucking facility that is not in compliance would not carry over to the landfill site. November 2, is targeted for these rules to come out. Comments should be made prior to the target date. The legislation determined that the size of the facility needs to be taken into consideration. Title 5 permits facilities will need to be identified as complex or large.

On October 1<sup>st</sup> of every year they will share your compliance history classification is for that next year with you. A determination of which system is implemented out of point or multiplier systems, we will need to weigh both options. Michael Rice pointed out that it would be valuable to submit comments that upon motion from the permit holder, you would like the ability to recalibrate your compliance classification. The request to conduct another stakeholders meeting before TCEQ goes to proposed rule will not happen. Paul pointed out two important take away. First, we don't support the curve system and second, don't lump us in as an ownership umbrella as opposed to a facility umbrella.

Paul shared that they have been working on House Bill 2694 – Discovery Bill which there is pre-filed testimony with a staggering approach when filing, as it exists today. What did not fall in our direction was the approach to complete our discovery. If both parties agree would they be able to move forward. Paul will follow up with TCEQ on HB 2694.

## **NEWSLETTER / WEBSITE:**

Michael Rice reported he is looking for additional information to go out with the next newsletter. He is looking for news worthy events that can be shared with the membership. The newsletter will include the President's message and that he was still waiting on the safety articles. Michael asked to please forward information that is news worthy.

## **REGIONAL MEETINGS:**

No regional meeting update.

## **I.B. REPORT:**

Vance Kemler reported SWANA put out a training manual for IB members. Changing technical policy number eight will be updated. WTE definition will be clarified in the policy. There are small changes on the technical policy 4.2 to be updated. SWANA has always supported full cost accounting programs for municipal solid waste operations. Vance will keep us up to speed on this policy as it is being updated. He also discussed the new policy out on T-10 safe disposal of unused and expired household hazardous waste pharmaceuticals and he will send out the electronic version to the board.

## **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Michael Rice reminded the Board that authorization of funds is required for both the 2012 Annual TXSWANA Conference and the 2012 TXSWANA State Road-e-o.

The motion was made by Paul Gosselink to authorize Lonnie Banks the use of the 2012 Annual TXSWANA Conference checking account for conference related expenses. It was seconded by Bengy Williams. Motion passed.

The motion was made by Paul Gosselink to authorize Vance Kemler the use of the 2012 TXSWANA State Road-e-o checking account for conference related expenses. It was seconded by Bill Hindman. Motion passed.

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

- Paul Gosselink will follow up with Christine Bergen on TCEQ information they would like to see shared with TXSWANA membership via newsletter communication.
- The Board will need to discuss and finalize new attendance requirements for Board of Directors at the November Board meeting.
- A follow up to evaluate the benefits of signing an agreement with North American Hazardous Material Association and TXSWANA – Brenda will follow up with National to ensure there is no conflict with this agreement or other associations that may be interested in collaboration .
- A Conference Planning Committee is recommended to evaluate Conference Options to improve participation.
- Continue to reach out to see if joint opportunities exist between TXSWANA and APWA – Vance
- Action Items include Secretary catching up with the minutes July, September and October's minutes for November's Board Meeting. Car was broken into and laptop with SWANA notes stolen.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next TXSWANA Board of Directors meeting will be in El Paso, TX November 18, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. Ellen Smyth, Location TBD.