

OKRA

Oklahoma Recycling Association

Board Meeting Minutes

11:00 a.m.
September 13, 2007

The M.E.T.
Tulsa

Present: Traci Phillips, Susie Shields, Jane Rauh, Linda Sturman (Abitibi Bowater Recycling) Ande Reed, Michael Patton, Ellen Bussert, Garmon Smith

- I. Welcome – OKRA President Traci Phillips called the meeting to order.
- II. Approval of Minutes – The approval of the July 20, 2007 minutes were tabled until next meeting. Members are to contact Bussert regarding any changes.

- III. Committee Reports – Doug Weirck

A. Doug Weirick was not present and did not send a report for presentation. Phillips will follow up with Weirck regarding the status of creating a membership certificate and new happenings with membership.

B. Finance – Michael Patton

Patton reported that he received 3 checks today. As of this date, OKRA has \$851 in the bank. OKRA has not paid 2007 NRC dues. Patton is going to a NRC meeting and will talk about it. NRC said OK not the only ones behind in dues. A discussion was held examining the option of paying \$25 for each member or \$1000 flat fee. OKRA now has 18 members. That will give OKRA 16 votes to use this year with NRC. There has been no progress on obtaining a Pay Pal account so people can join OKRA with a credit card. No progress has been made on the IRS paperwork. A request was made to see the OKRA budget on paper.

NRC – next year conference will be in Pittsburg. Process has changed on location. Picked 12 cities that have tourist things and will rotate between.

Fundraising – The drafting of a fundraising letter is still pending. Patton and Bussert will collaborate on this project.

- IV. Workgroups

A. Advocacy – Richard Chapman

Richard Chapman sent Phillips a report regarding the recycling legislation. He said that we would attempt to get a new House Republican author for the bill. Rep Wes Hilliard was the original House author. The bill is still alive in committee. I'll talk to the chairman and see if he will put it on the agenda for consideration. The measure has

already passed the St. Senate, so we're good there. Hopefully, it won't be held hostage this year by partisan politics.

Michael Patton reported Rep. Mike Massey might be an inroad to support recycling. All were in agreement that we need to have a written plan for next legislative session. A request was made to put on the agenda a strategy to have a letter writing campaign to support any recycling legislation.

B. Education – Sarah Kimball

Kimball reported that the display was done, minus the OKRA logo. She said that she would have all of the stuff at the ARD banquet on November 15th.

C. Communication Outreach – Ande Reed

1. Networking event – Reed reported that it was not going to happen this fall. She said that she is too busy with work events. Discussion was held about how to incorporate meeting into banquet. Shields suggested that we work with ASWANA. (It was noted that Sarah Kimball has been promoting that.)

2. On-line newsletter – Susie Shields reported that she was having problems with finding the time to get the newsletter put together. Trudi Logan volunteered to take over the job and is now the editor of newsletter. Shields will continue to provide story ideas and content to Logan.

3. WEBSITE Development – Shields has gone through the training to learn how to update website the site herself. Phillips said that OKRA needs to have a “gatekeeper” to the website. Shields passed out a copy of the names of people on the OKRA list serve a discussion was held regarding some wrong e-mail addresses. A review and update need to be done.

4. Display - Sarah Kimball reported on the status in her education report.

5. America Recycles Day – Susie Shields

Shields passed out a list of ARD sponsors. The 2007 timeline is going to be the same as last years. She is updating it on the website. Kids said they wanted t-shirts. The OKRA Board concurred that the ARD stuff looked great. Michael Patton said “thank you” to Shields for her planning and time. He said the plan and campaign looks wonderful and this is the earliest it has ever been ready to go. It is better then last year. Phillips asked for Shields to send out contact information about who is covering for her while she is gone. Next Wednesday, she will send information on ARD to everyone who signed up on the list. Phillips asked if she had a press release? Shields said she wais going to update the release from last year. Shields said she would send Phillips a copy of the press releases, time line, etc. Shields urged everyone to make personal contacts. Shields is going to make a 2007 ARD folder. She said that she thought the biggest gap last year was lack of publicity.

Upcoming Events were mentioned:

HHW Oct 27 & 28th PC Power is doing an e-waste collection
Oct 20th ARC HHW collection

V. Old Business

A. 501 (C) (3) Status – Michael Patton

Patton said that the IRS accepted OKRA's application and cashed the check. However, we missed deadline. The IRS is going to give OKRA and extension and reactivated our account. We need to submit new minutes and bi-laws.

Shields asked what OKRA was going to do about ordering prizes for ARD this year. She said OKRA needs to be an official non-profit organization for people to submit sponsorship money. She said that she cannot put them on her credit card this year.

B. Status of Phone Number – Reed

Reed said after checking, she determined that the MET did not have an extra phone line. Patton checked out the plans he had seen in the cheap ads, but they would not work. Shields has phone in the cube next to her that she is going to check to see if OKRA can use.

C. Zip code error on Brochure – Phillips

There was a problem with an incorrect zip code on the OKRA brochure. After some checking it was determined the problem was corrected. A request was made by Ande Reed and Traci Phillips for 100 brochures each.

D. Bylaws review status = Garmon Smith

The bylaws subcommittee is looking over the bylaws. A final recommendation is pending.

VI. New Business

Bussert gave an update on the 2007 Weyerhaeuser "Excellence in Recycling" Award program. She urged members to distribute information regarding the program and entry forms to each person's sphere of influence.

NRC Election Candidate Selection – candidates were reviewed and the committee selected their votes for National.

Reed talked about what a MET intern has been researching regarding options for glass. She will e-mail the information out to anyone who is interested.

BOTTLE BILL – Patton reported that there is a big push nationally to do a national bottle bill. Only 11 states have deposit law. MET has intern doing research about how it can be done in OK.

Ande Reed Moved to accept Linda Sturman as new Abitibi Board Member.

OKC – Jane Rauh gave an overview on the new addition of all plastics to the OKC program. Recycle America takes all plastic from the City of OKC’s program.. A question was asked about the end markets for 3-7. Rauh is going to ask Recycle America to give her the name of where the plastics were sent. Patton warned her to make sure that there is an actual end market. If this is not a real program, OKRA should take a stand on this. If it is good, OKRA can help promote it.

Proposal to develop a consistent membership structure. NRC has a goal to do our billing for us. (See handouts.) Discussion of standardization of membership categories. The term business is the most controversial. AR said we should ask for more time.

NRC – wants to know 5 best and worst recycling communities

Ada, Jenks, Claremore, Edmond – Linda & Ande committee to come up with this.

Interviews – discussion was held about who could do a “drop of a hat interview” in the OKC market. Fenton Rood, Dianne Wilkins , and Patrick Riley were the people suggested. Bussert will contact Riley and ask if he would serve on the board and be available to do interviews.

Membership Drive – OKRA needs to start planning the 2008 campaign.

ARD Banquet - will be November 15, 2007 in Tulsa.

VII. Next Meeting date, location & time

The next OKRA Board meeting will be Friday, Nov 30th at the M.E.T. from 11:00 until 1:30 p.m. Names will be drawn to award the ARD prizes.