

# OKRA

## Oklahoma Recycling Association Board Meeting Minutes

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
September 24, 2010

The MET  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Present: Michael Patton, Ilda Hershey, Traci Phillips, Ellen Bussert, David Griesel, Susie Shields Derichsweiler, Melody Martin

Absent: Chris Daniels, Mike Hixon, Sara Ivey, Kole Kennedy, Trudi Logan, Kathy Moore, Garmon Smith

### I. Welcome: Traci Phillips

II. Approve Minutes - Hershey made motions to approve minutes as presented. Patton second.

### III. Committee Reports

#### A. Membership - Hershey

Hershey reported that OKRA had a brief membership flurry with people who wanted to get a discount rate. She asked if anyone had a list of K-12 recycling coordinators? Hershey wants to do outreach with this audience and it is worth a little promotion. Susie said only the Department of Central Services.

Hershey asked Melody Martin if she through OG&E had any contact names with the school systems? Martin said yes, OG&E has some community reps. Bussert will send the list of previous Weyerhaeuser winners to Ilda. Shelly (MET) has a list of Tulsa schools. Hershey is wanting to let educators know about this new membership level. It was mentioned that another source would be the Abbitibi Bowater list.

#### B. Finance Report – Patton

Patton sent out a financial statement for the almost eight week period from July 30th to September 24th, 2010. P is for pending and PP is for pay pal on the financial statement.

For the period OKRA had \$1,400 in income and \$476.13 in expenses for a positive change of \$923.87. Our new balance is \$8,106.01.

He said that there was one small amount that needed to be explained. Our bank balance combined with our Paypal balance shows eleven cents unaccounted for. I could not figure out why and added a line under Expenses and called it "Account Adjustment". I looked and looked and just gave up. I will gladly pay the eleven cents to avoid the embarrassment if needed. He said the statement reflected that OKRA got some money from memberships. Patton thinks it is positive that we continue to operate with donated stuff. Our expenses are really modest. He suggested that maybe at the first of the year we can look into a part time staff person.

Patton said that there was nothing new on 501 C 3 status.

He concluded with the request that the OKRA Board needs to have a real budget planning session. He requested that it be on the next agenda. The board was in agreement. Phillips asked for an extra hours to the meeting. It will be a 3 hours meeting.

Other miscellaneous items were discussed. Bussert was asked to send a check request form to Ilda for Atherton expenses. The question was asked by Patton if the board thought OKRA should get a debit card? He said it was Offered free from Pay Pal. A discussion was held on the pros and cons of having one. It was decided a decision should be tabled for about 6 months. Maybe it would be good in the future to have the ability to make payments electronically. Hershey was asked to see if the Atherton could accept a Pay Pal payment.

Web hosting payment is set it up so it is automatically withdrawn . This way Susie will not have to pay.

#### IV. Work Groups

##### A. Advocacy – David Griesel

David Griesel gave a report about the Department of Environmental Quality's Environmental Quality Board meeting on 8-24-10. At this meeting, the EQB addressed support of the container deposit law. After short period of discussion there was a motion for a resolution to be passed. The resolution passed and will be forwarded to the **legislature** for the session.

Patton said it looks great. He said the return beverage container machines in Tulsa shows that it is not a burden to store owners and people will use them. David was in Boston and said he saw the reserve recycling machines works.. David said to let him know if there is anything else he can do. Phillips thanked him for his efforts and work.

##### B. Education

PSA contest – will reschedule a meeting for week of Oct 4<sup>th</sup>. Send an invitation so people to join to the committee. Put info in the newsletter and list serve. MET needs to identify educator for award in November and would welcome suggestions if anyone has a nominee.

##### C. Market Development – no report

Patton said Tulsa is going out for a bid to get a single stream facility. Tulsa is going to a one- time poly-cart collection each week. Patton thinks it will really help to have a big local facility that handles materials and he sees a whole lot of positive stuff about Harley Holland. In Tulsa, if you get Styrofoam to Holly Holland, they will recycle your Styrofoam for industrial customers. This is the first time in Oklahoma we have had Styrofoam recycling

Phillips met group in Lawton that are manufacturing insulation out of cardboard. It would be good to get anybody who manufactures an invitation to exhibit. Discussion was held on a glass landscape company in Tulsa. Taking mostly contaminated glass on a very small scale,they are making a landscape

mulch. You put it around your hedges, small round glass that isn't sharp, keeps plant moist, and reflects heat. Bologna – asked for contact info because he has glass that is contaminated that he needs a market. Patton said that we need to figure out how to do more to highlight and help companies with market development.

In additional discussion, it was decided that Bussert would get info to Hershey about Oklahoma Department of Commerce contact to get someone from the Department to the seminar. It was suggested that maybe at the first of the year OKRA could get facts together and meet with Carolyn Sullivan. OKRA needs to foster the relationship.

Bologna requested Patton to do a walk through his plant to help them toward their goal of 0 waste.

D. Materials Exchange – no report

E. Communication/Outreach

a. 2010 Seminar.

Information regarding the Seminar is on the website if you want to see the press release and information. Hershey said it was a packed agenda. The only speaker she is still looking for is glass in road work. TX website has recipes about how you can put glass in your road site.

She said that she added Craig Coker from North Carolina to talk about composting on a municipal scale. Phillips asked if she was making that distinction in publicity? Hershey said no, but she thinks what he says can also apply to back yard composting. Patton said he was very excited about Coker coming to speak at the Seminar.

General information discussed was:

- Patton has 30 minutes to make his presentation. He plans on doing same type of slides. It will show a lot of down and ups in the market. Someone asked Patton if he was seeing more stability in the market. His response was that we are right at the 5 year average.
- Phillips has liberty to speak on whatever she wants for her introduction.
- Fenton Rood will moderate a panel regarding regional recycling.
- Chris Daniels will speak for 15 minutes. Goodwill Industries in OKC has a new mail program.
- Lunch 45 minutes
- Patton moderating panel of beneficiation = adding value.
- Bill Hoskin – Dublac Class
- Dianne Wilkins is– moderating the panel on product stewardship. OK is a member. Fenton Rood is going to talk about how we can take advantage of it.
- First time OKRA will have a break out session.
- Everyone on list is confirmed.

- The seminar will be ending at 4:00 p.m.

List of volunteer needs:

Bush is sending bins to pass out.

Hal Cantwell is taking pictures. Can DEQ make big posters again? Susie will check. We will need 3 sponsor signs and 2 exhibitor signs.

Registration = have 33, but this is very early + 20 speakers. Hershey expects more registrations by the early bird deadline.

5 exhibitors confirmed. OKRA will not have a display. The question was asked if DEQ was going to exhibit.

SWANA members can earn 5 CE Units for attending the OKRA Seminar.

It was suggested that the seminar be held in Tulsa next year.

During lunch there will be an informal visual presentation. Hershey will put a request out on list serve for people to submit pictures of recycling around the state. Showcase your recycling.

B. Web site – Susie Dershweiler

Susie Dershweiler said she did not have much to report. One of the reasons OKRA hasn't spent much money on website is that ILDA and I have been doing a lot of it. Daniel, from the MET, has put on the website labels for recycling that can be pulled down.

C. Newsletter – 4 pages sent out to Ilda and Susie to proof. It will go out in September. Ilda put an article in about taking advantage of the early bird rate.

D. E-mail inquiries – Hershey reported that there have been 6 inquiries since the last meeting.

V. Old Business

A. KAB & RONA issues and discussion

KAB took all of the assets of NRC when it folded. (Basically it was or America Recycles day.) Only 11 states have joined KAB. They also joined RONA. Each group is going to be in San Antonio in 3 weeks. Patton wants a sense of what OKRA wants. Yearly dues for KAB are \$500. RONA is \$200.00 for under 50 in membership and \$400 for over. RONA emphasizes helping organizations. Patton would like to make a motion that we join RONA.

Patton wants to hear what KAB has to say about America Recycles Day and what they do. Hershey liked the idea of joining RONA. Hershey made a motion that OKRA join RONA. Patton will contact them – want to get full year membership for dues.

B. Process to invite people to join board – status

Bussert will send out information about criteria for bringing new board members on OKRA to the nominating committee.

C. OKRA info letter to political candidates

Patton has drafted a letter, but it did not go any further. Group said it was probably too late to send a letter out at this point.

D. Lake Keystone Grant update

Bussert will check with Oklahoma Department of Tourism on the status.

VI. New Business

A. By-Law update – to reflect new membership dues

Hershey is working on this. She will send by-laws out to board of directors to review and vote on it. She is also going to clear up the archaic language. Patton asked if it is the \$25.00 hindering board of directors, can we give them a scholarship? A discussion was held about the benefits to teachers. Consensus was that board members needed to make a financial commitment.

B. Other

Tulsa – a new waste proposal to be debated. Each household will get one poly-cart for trash, one for recyclables per week. A little bit of a volume based waste. When this comes down in Tulsa, Patton would like to see OKRA come down with a policy position. He would like to see the OKRA president speaking out supporting more recycling for the citizens. Written comments will be drafted by Patton and sent out to the board for review.

100 volunteers at Tulsa State Fair are working to facilitate recycling. It is so convenient it is hard not to do recycling. Shift is pulling cans and bottles out of trash and into recycling bins. It is a big event for city 950,000 last year. Can't enter and exit without seeing recycling bins.

VII. Set next meeting date, location & time

The next OKRA Executive Board meeting is December 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Phillips requested that everyone save an hour for discussion of the 2011 budget.

**Upcoming Events:**

America Recycles Day Banquet – November 15, 2010 - Patton asked OKRA to host cost of up to \$300 for hospitality. It was agreed upon to do so.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.