

The Regional Municipality of Durham

Minutes

Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

A meeting of the Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:00 PM. Electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: G. Gordon, Whitby, Chair
G. Baswick, Clarington
G. Best, Whitby attended the meeting at 7:06 PM
M. Cannon, Oshawa
R. Fleming, Pickering
K. Palinka, Oshawa attended the meeting at 7:07 PM
T. Shomar, Clarington
***all members of the Committee participated electronically**

Absent: P. Haylock, Clarington, Vice-Chair
J. Vinson, Clarington

Non-Voting Members

Present: S. El-hajjeh, Local Councillor, Municipality of Clarington
***all non-voting members of the Committee participated electronically**

Staff

Present: S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
K. Dykman, Supervisor, Waste Services
A. Evans, Director, Waste Management Services
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist – Information Technology
D. San Juan, Environmental Health Specialist, Health Department,
Durham Region
***all staff members participated electronically**

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by T. Shomar, Seconded by M. Cannon,
That the minutes of the EFW-WMAC meeting held on Tuesday, June
27, 2023, be adopted.

CARRIED

Moved by T. Shomar, Seconded by M. Cannon,
That the minutes of the EFW-WMAC meeting held on Tuesday,
September 26, 2023, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Presentations

There were no presentations heard.

5. Delegations

There were no delegations heard.

6. Correspondence

There were no correspondence items to be considered.

7. Administrative Matters

A) EFW-WMAC Work Plan (2023-2024) – Working Group Updates

A. Evans reminded Committee members that the three areas of the workplan that could be further investigated are:

1. Plan and Program Implementation (as it relates to the Long-Term Waste Management Plan, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), and changes and enhancements to the Region's Organics Program);
2. Diversion Program Assessment (review and assess opportunities for the Region to optimize and increase diversion opportunities within Durham Region); and
3. Technology and Facility Review (reviewing key technologies which are or may be utilized by the Region in delivery of waste management services).

K. Palinka expressed an interest in investigating the green bin program, and G. Gordon expressed an interest in the new commercial or multi-residential facilities and their waste and recycling streams.

A. Evans responded to questions from the Committee regarding when the contract for the Region's organics program will come into effect; whether asphalt shingles can be diverted and if other jurisdictions are using this process; the adoption of new waste streams (such as pet waste and diapers), how the additional waste will be managed, and whether waste workers would be exposed to any pathogens; an update on the landfill mining program; and

whether communication materials regarding various Regional waste activities are being put together to keep residents informed.

- B) Update by Greg Gordon, EFW-WMAC Chair, and Phil Haylock, EFW-WMAC Vice-Chair, regarding the Finalization and Presentation of the EFW-WMAC 2023 Annual Report for Presentation to the Durham Region's Works Committee on December 6, 2023 and to the Municipality of Clarington's Council on December 18, 2023
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G. Gordon provided an overview of the draft 2023 Annual Report that will be presented to the Durham Region's Works Committee on December 6, 2023 and to the Municipality of Clarington's Council on December 18, 2023.

The Committee discussed the need for continued oversight on the Biocover program through the Landfill Mining Project.

A. Evans responded to a question from the Committee regarding whether the land and new facility located North of the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) would be used in collaboration between the Region of Durham and the Municipality of Clarington, and whether some of the energy produced at the DYEC could be used for the new facility.

8. Other Business

- A) Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding Community and Outreach Activities
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A. Evans advised that the Curbside Swap Day held on September 16, 2023 was very successful. He advised that staff will be bringing forward a report with the results of the day to the Works Committee at their December 6, 2023 meeting and recommending that a curbside giveaway event be held twice a year in the Spring and Fall.

A. Evans also advised that October was Circular Economy Month, with waste reduction week being held the third week of October. He also advised that there is currently a major push in messaging to residents regarding the Region's two stream recycling process (separation of containers and fibres) as a result from feedback staff received from the market. He further advised that battery collection was held in early November.

A. Evans responded to questions from the Committee regarding the results of the battery collection event in November; whether the Region attended any community events in 2023, and if there is an opportunity to increase staff at those events; and what the process is for getting new residents adjusted to the waste and recycling process in Durham Region.

B) Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding the '2022 Annual Waste Summary' and the 'Summary of Waste Management Curbside and Multi-Residential Waste and Green Bin Audit'

A. Evans provided the following results from the 2022 Annual Waste Summary:

- 228,884 tonnes of waste was collected from 248,846 households (62% diversion pending verification);
- 84% blue bin participation; and
- 61% of houses used the green bin (increase since pre-pandemic).

A. Evans advised that staff periodically audit materials to see how the Region's programs are being utilized by the community and to identify any gaps in the program which could stem from individuals moving between neighbouring jurisdictions that may accept materials that the Region does not currently accept.

A. Evans responded to questions from the Committee regarding why waste diversion has increased since 2018; and whether staff can breakdown the waste diversion numbers by municipality.

C) Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding Durham York Energy Centre

A. Evans advised that the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) facility remains fully operational with no issues to report. He advised that the compliance source testing was completed in late September/early October, and that the results should be available early next year.

A. Evans responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP) has released any new information regarding the tonnage increase for the DYEC.

9. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EFW-WMAC will be held on Thursday, February 27, 2024 in Council Chambers, at 7:00 PM, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

10. Adjournment

Moved by R. Fleming, Seconded by K. Palinka,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM.

G. Gordon, Chair, Energy from Waste – Waste
Management Advisory Committee

S. Ciani, Committee Clerk