### Executive Board Members present:
- Marie Steiner, Chair, Kearney

### Executive Board Members not present:
- Chris Bussen, Lee’s Summit
- Doug Wylie, Vice Chair, Parkville
- Jimmy Odom, Cass County
- Gary Wilhite, Ray County
- Gene Owen, Clay County
- Matt Willier, Jackson, County
- Daniel Erickson, Platte County
- Chris Hawkins, Lake Lotawana
- Forest Decker, Kansas City, Mo.
- Mike Larson, Sugar Creek
- David Gress, Raymore
- Matt Wright, Blue Springs
- Mike Jackson, Independence

### Management Council Members present:
- Andrew Savastino, KCMO
- Sheila Myers, Johnson County Mayors
- Kirby Wiley, Shawnee
- Trent Thompson, JOCO DHE

### Others present:
- Angie Gehlert, MORA
- Anthony Osborn
- Brad Schleeter, Affinis
- Brenda Mott, Scraps KC
- Charles Marx, JOCO DHE
- Diana Johnson, KCMO
- Erika Jones, Shawnee
- Gabriel DuPree, EPA Region 7
- Gayle Hubert, EPA Region 7
- James Walton, KCMO
- James Helgason, MDNR
- Jared Lind, Lenexa
- Jerry Sheechter, KCMO
- John Holmes, EPA Region 7
- Kathryn Persley, Heart of the City
- Lara Isch, KCMO
- Lauren Grubbs, Burns & McDonnell
- Lee Kellenberger, JOCO
- Lisa McDaniel, MARC SWMD
- Lydia Gibson, Ripple
- Marie Steiner, Kearney
- Matt Riggs, MARC SWMD
- Nadja Karpilow, MARC SWMD
- Penny Harrell, EPA Region 7
- Ron Alexander, speaker
- Shay Hanysak, LRSWA
- Tom Jacobs, MARC
- Unidentified Caller 01
- Unidentified Caller 02

### Opening
Lisa McDaniel opened the meeting and introduced Ron Alexander, president of R. Alexander Associates. Ron Alexander has been assisting the district with a compost market development study. His presentation will give attendees information on some of the benefits of compost use, creative uses for compost, and some updated information on compost specifications.

### Presentation: Compost for Use in Green Infrastructure and Land Management

Compost is the product manufactured through the controlled aerobic, biological decomposition of biodegradable materials. The product has undergone mesophilic and thermophilic temperatures, which significantly reduces the viability of pathogens and weed seeds, and stabilizes the carbon, such that it is beneficial to plant growth. Compost is typically used as a soil amendment but may also contribute plant nutrients.

Compost is:
- An incredibly efficacious and versatile product
- Most inexpensive form of stabilized organic matter available to the land management industry
- Great tool for creating healthy soils, sustainable landscapes and green infrastructure

Typical compost feedstocks
- Yard trimmings
- Food residuals
- Manure
- Biosolids (municipal sewage sludge)
- Industrial by-products

Compost feedstock affects compost characteristics. Desired characteristics are based on application (and soil and plant requirements/characteristics):
- Biosolids: Greater “ick” factor, typically low in inerts, higher nutrient content (NH4-N), can be higher in soluble salts
- Yard Trimmings: Highly available, lower nutrient and soluble salts content, OMRI Listable registration available
- Yard Trimmings / Food Waste: Highly available, lower/moderate nutrient and soluble salts content, OMRI Listable registration available, man-made inert contamination can be an issue
- Manure / Ag By- Products: Less available, typically low in inerts, often higher bulk density, higher nutrient and soluble salts content, OMRI Listable registration available

Benefits of compost use to landscape/construction soils:
- Physical:
  - Improves soil structure
  - Porosity – large pore spaces
  - Moisture management
- Chemical
  - Increases cation exchange capacity
  - Supplies slowly releasing nutrients
- Biological
  - Assists soil aggregation
  - Feeds soil biota
  - Suppresses plant diseases
- Other
  - Binds/degrades contaminants
  - Binds nutrients

Trends in compost use: low impact development, green building (and infrastructure) and sustainable landscaping:
- Soil and water protection by improving infiltration capacity
- Improve quality of damaged and/or depleted soils by improving soil structure and adding organic matter
- Feeding soil biology

Choose the proper compost product. Tips for specifying and purchasing compost:
- Get samples, test data and end use information from supplier – up-front, multiple analyses
- Know how to interpret the specification and test results
- Understand the application (specific end use)

Choosing the Proper Product:
- Buy certified / listed products - know logos and programs
- Know the Supplier - visit the production facility if you can
- At the project site:
  - Try to inspect product before it is dumped
  - Verify volumes by counting B/L

Use the right compost. Specify U.S. Composting Council Seal of Testing Assurance Program Participating Composts.

Participating STA Composters
- Complete on-going product testing
- Operate on-going sampling/testing regime, so historical product data is available
  - Using uniform sampling and analytical testing methods (from the TMECC)
  - Using only STA Program certified labs
- Disclose test data results (lab analyses) on uniform label
- Provide appropriate end use instructions to end users
Erosion control, storm water management, green infrastructure applications for compost:
- Erosion/Sediment Control
  - Compost Blankets
  - Compost Socks and Berms
- Topsoil Manufacturing
- Site Restoration / Establishment of Natives
- Bioretention Ponds/Features

Compost, an engineer’s tool:
- Large volumes of compost are available now, more coming
- Stabilized organic matter is important for creating ‘healthy soils,’ improve site hydrology, and keep ‘living’ systems alive
- Compost-based erosion control and storm water management techniques exist and have been extensively used
- Important to understand compost testing data and new low impact techniques
- Tools are available

Old Business / New Business
None.

Closing
The meeting ended at 10:05 am. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 7/15/20 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. The next full Management Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 8/19/20 from 9:00 to 10:30 am. Due to COVID-19 concerns, these meetings may be held by teleconference.

MARC Solid Waste Management District

______________________________  ________________________________
Doug Wylie, Chair                      Lisa McDaniel, Secretary

Approved:  September 16, 2020