

**MARC Solid Waste Management District
Management Council (Open Meeting)
Wednesday, June 16, 2021, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.**

Meeting Location: Due to COVID-19 response, the meeting was held via ZOOM teleconference

Executive Board Members present:

Chris Bussen, Lee’s Summit
David Pavlich, Kearney
David Gress, Raymore
Brenda Franks, Jackson County
Mike Jackson, Independence

Executive Board Members not present:

Doug Wylie, Chair, Parkville
Forest Decker, Kansas City
Matt Wright, Vice Chair, Blue Springs
Gene Owen, Clay County
Daniel Erickson, Platte County
Bob King, Ray County
Jimmy Odom, Cass County
Lauran Kurtz, Lake Lotawana
Mike Larson, Sugar Creek

Management Council Members present:

Frankie Petty, Glenaire
Kirby Wiley, Shawnee (ex officio alt)
Brandon Hearn, Johnson County (ex officio alt)
Jonathan Gutierrez, Wyandotte Co. (ex officio alt)

Others present:

Rick Caplan, Presenter
Noel Bennion, Riverside
Kent Luke, Region S
Kim Murphy, Kearney
Jensen Adams, Kansas City Public Library
Cassandra Ford, Recycling Partnership
Shay Hanysak, Lake Region SWA
Trisha Durman, Service Recycling
Lydia Gibson, Ripple Glass
Morgan Henderson, Ripple Glass
Sherri Davis, Compost Connections
Lisa McDaniel, MARC SWMD
Nadja Karpilow, MARC SWMD
Matt Riggs, MARC SMWD

Introductions

Lisa McDaniel welcomed the group and introduced the speakers.

Presentations

Invest in Environmental Stewardship for Today and Tomorrow (INVESTT), Rick Caplan

Rick provided an overview of two grant projects: INVESTT and the Environmental News Channel.

INVESTT’s mission is to show participants how to reduce the amount of solid waste (trash) they create by helping them:

- Understand how their financial and environmental choices impact each other.
- Recognize what their values and beliefs about financial responsibility and environmental stewardship are, and the origin of those beliefs.
- Identify new choices that can be made to both save money and produce less trash.

INVESTT’s mission isn’t to focus on sacrifice but to provide information on how to have a quality of life that has the least negative impact on the environment. INVESTT asks students to consider the world beyond themselves and a time beyond the present.

The course consists of four parts:

- Part I:
 - Intro to INVESTT and the MARC SWMD
 - What is Financial Literacy & Environmental Stewardship
 - Start the process of helping participant develop their goals for the Action Plan
- Part II:
 - Values – Beliefs – Behaviors

- Part III:
 - Connecting the dots between Financial Literacy and ES
 - Identifying Your Specific Goals
 - Creating an Action Plan
- Part IV: Sharing the results

Sustainability is a common thread throughout the course:

- Sustainability is central to both financial literacy and environmental stewardship.
- Financial sustainability is the capacity to prepare for a lifestyle without exhausting renewable financial resources.
- Environmental sustainability is responsibly interacting with the planet to maintain natural resources and avoid jeopardizing the ability for future generations to meet their needs.

Students are given a survey prior to taking the course and a post-course survey to evaluate and gauge potential shifts in behavior. Rick stresses to the students that he is not looking for the “right” answer, but rather, an honest answer.

Commitments for participation:

- Crossroads Preparatory Academy – Eight Classes/160 students
- Citizens of the World Charter School – Nine classes/150 students
- Cristo Rey High School – Two classes/20-25 students
- Girl Scouts – Two classes/60 participants

Rick also discussed his upcoming grant to create an environmental news network for students

The project’s mission is two-fold:

1. Raise the awareness and educate our community about waste reduction efforts, strategies, and best practices.
2. Bring real-world learning experiences to young scholars in the critical years when students use their experiences to determine what direction they want to journey.

Rick will partner with Cristo Rey High School to develop a YouTube channel specific to environmental waste reduction issues. Viewers will see a TV newscast but with student broadcasters, reporters, and production team. Schools or organizations within the MARC SWMD will be invited to view the channel; and 5-8 of them will be asked to participate by creating their own news broadcasts. The YouTube channel will be accessible to all schools in the MARC SWMD metropolitan area through safe school-approved memberships to the YouTube channel and Cristo Rey's website and Facebook pages.

Rick and Cristo Rey's Director of IT will supervise and implement the grant and monitor content for relevance and accuracy.

Rick proposes to develop 15-20 broadcasts during grant period covering topics such as:

- Environmental Good News of the Week;
- “How To” demonstrations around the 3 Rs;
- Interviews with local waste reduction businesses, organizations, and experts;
- The reporting of current national and international waste reduction topics and news.

The project will help students with:

- Environmental Education: Prior to broadcast productions, preparing students regarding the environmental aspect of the project. This will include topics such as the 3R's; what is going on locally, nationally, worldwide; the most significant issues of the day.
- Broadcast Training: Teaching the students how to market for and then conduct interviews; and how to research for topics; how to use the equipment; how to film and edit; how to post on YouTube.

City of Lee’s Summit Recycling Center, Chris Bussen

Chris shared information on the grant that was used to reopen the city’s south recycling center:

- Awarded MARC SWMD grant in 2019
- Awarded \$42,189
 - (6) 30-yard containers
 - Spent \$40,253

- Match: recycling center staff
- Center reopened in March 2020 – located at the Resource Recovery Park, operated by KC Dumpster
- Diverted 131 tons first year

Riverside Recycling Sculpture, Noel Bennion

Riverside received grant funding for an educational program on plastics recycling. Part of the project includes the installation of a recycling sculpture in a public park. The city chose artist Kenny West to design a metal fish (named Shiner) that is adorned with plastic bottles for scales. The sculpture also includes a cluster of cattails, which provides a resting place for Shiner’s frog friend “Tad.” The cattails are made from repurposed scuba diving tanks.

The bottles used for the fish scales were collected by:

- Park Hill South High School STUCO and Recycling Club
- Montebella Subdivision
- Boy Scout Troop 606
- Girl Scout Troop 3257
- Gatewoods HOA

The sculpture also includes an interpretive sign that illustrates the impacts of plastic waste on aquatic life.

- The city will be collecting data from the recycling bins located in the park to measure the impact of the sculpture:
- Collection from 10 (36 gallon) receptacles placed throughout the park
- Average of 50% of the cans are contaminated with other trash on a weekly basis
- The contaminated cans are not counted in the total collection data
- Cans contain messages about recycling right

An event to introduce the sculpture to the city is being planned for June 25th.

Closing

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 21, 2021 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. The next full Management Council meeting will be held on August 18, 2021 from 9:00 to 10:30 am. At this time, it is anticipated that both meetings will be held virtually via Zoom.

MARC Solid Waste Management District

Doug Wylie, Chair

Lisa McDaniel, Secretary

Approved: July 21, 2021