

City of Lawrence  
**Solid Waste Task Force**  
August 25, 2011 (6:00 PM) Meeting Minutes  
City Commission Room, City Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mayor Aron Cromwell, Billy Beeson, Joe Harkins, Daniel Poull, Charlie Sedlock, Jeff Severin, Christine Tomlin
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Suzi Cammon, Sam Porritt, Ralph Reed, Dan Wethington
STAFF PRESENT:	Dave Corliss, Tammy Bennett, Michael Eglinski, Eileen Horn, Kathy Richardson
GUESTS PRESENT:	Don Rogers, Tom Coffman, Michael Utz
PUBLIC PRESENT:	Kris Hicks, Jim Mullens

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**CALL MEETING TO ORDER** - Mayor Aron Cromwell

**REVIEW AND APPROVE MEETING MINUTES**

Motion and second to approve the [August 11, 2011 meeting minutes](#) (Poull/Sedlock).  
Vote was passed unanimously.

Staff mentioned that the task force agendas and upcoming meetings dates are posted on the city's [webpage](#) and online [calendar](#). In addition, agendas will be sent out to the task force members and any interested citizens who sign up via the city's [email subscriptions](#).

**PRESENTATIONS ON EXPERIENCES PROVIDING COMMUNITY WIDE SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING PROGRAMS**

A [presentation](#) by Don Rogers, Municipal Marketing Manager for Stutzman Refuse Disposal, a Waste Connections of Kansas company, described the step-by-step process of their single stream recycling program which includes glass. They currently have 55 city contracts in Central Kansas for trash and/or recycling collection. The Stutzman/Waste Connection Material Recovery Facility (MRF) located in Hutchison is unique because it has equipment that can effectively sort single stream recycling with glass. They also have an agreement with Harvey County to operate their recycling facility. Don Rogers highlighted that many of the recyclables collected have local markets (i.e. glass goes to McPherson to be manufactured into insulation and paper is sold to a paper mill in Hutchison). He also mentioned that they participate in [Recyclebank](#) which rewards their customers for the amount of materials they recycle by weight.

Tom Coffman, Deffenbaugh Industries Senior Vice President of Strategic Partnerships, discussed their single stream recycling program which does not include glass. His [presentation](#) showed that the overall tonnages collected by Deffenbaugh Industries comes from commercial curbside recycling (61%), residential curbside recycling (19%), drop-off recycling locations (11%), and third party co-mingled loads (9%). Tom Coffman reported that they have 4,028 residential curbside recycling customers and 55 drop-off recycling locations in Lawrence. Currently they charge \$4.95 per month to Lawrence residential customers plus a quarterly fuel surcharge.

Michael Utz, Principal and Co-Founder of Ripple Glass, shared information about his company's glass recycling program. His [presentation](#) highlighted the importance of recycling glass and the reasons Ripple Glass was created in Kansas City. The glass collected for recycling is used in fiberglass insulation and new glass containers. Michael Utz mentioned it is estimated that Lawrence generates 4,000 tons of glass and approximately 800 tons is currently recycled which is 20% of the glass generated. This is close to the national average and he attributes it to Lawrence having an environmentally conscious population. Ripple Glass may be able to help Lawrence recycle more glass. Additional information about Ripple Glass can be found on their [website](#).

## OPEN DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Joe Harkins asked if the local Wal-Mart store that operates the community recycling center is aware of the Solid Waste Task Force and the conversations about curbside recycling in Lawrence. Staff has informed Wal-Mart and other stakeholders involved in community recycling about the task force. The City Manager agreed to send Wal-Mart a letter stating their value as a regional recycling resource and also informing them of the task force efforts.

The task force requested a spreadsheet with a list of all the existing recycling services (private and public) in Lawrence and the fees associated with these services.

There was discussion on starting to work on the rough draft of the task force recommendations. Mayor Aron Cromwell stated that he would like the task force to avoid specific recommendations such as including the color or size of the carts. It will be a general strategic plan instead of a technical one. The recommendations will set out the framework of hard work that would still need to be completed. The Mayor added that he would like to keep the document to 10 pages at most. Daniel Poull suggested that they include diversion rate goals.

**Note meeting location change:** September and October meetings will be in the Jayhawk Room at the Fire-Medical Administration building located at 1911 Stewart Avenue.

Date	Topics
Monday, September 12, 2011	Bucket List Item Discussion and Presentations: Curbside Recycling <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o Honey Creek Disposal</li><li>o Hamm Waste Services</li><li>o Waste Management</li><li>o Q&amp;A: Task force questions to guest speakers</li><li>o Open discussion on curbside recycling</li></ul>
Saturday, September 24, 2011	Focus: Material Recycling Facility (MRF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o Deffenbaugh MRF in Edwardsville, KS</li></ul>
Wednesday, September 28, 2011	TBD
Thursday, October 13, 2011	TBD
Monday, October 24, 2011	TBD
	Future meeting topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Input from stakeholders involved in recycling in Lawrence</li><li>• Second public listening session</li></ul>

**Adjourned at 7:45 p.m.**