Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management Meeting

Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2020 Unit Based Pricing Working Group via ZOOM

Present: See Attachment A

Next meeting: October 28, 2020, 9:00am

Prepared by: Elizabeth Moore, DEEP

I. Call to Order and Announcements

Co-chairs Katie Dykes, DEEP Commissioner and Elinor Carbone, Mayor of Torrington provided welcoming remarks, introductions, housekeeping rules and an overview of the Unit Based Pricing Working Group as part of the CCSMM initiative process.

Gabrielle Frigon, CT DEEP encouraged responses to the Public Engagement Questions-Request for Comment and Solutions located on the CCSMM webpage, and requested that responses be emailed to DEEP.RecyclingProgram@ct.gov.

II. Committee Reports

The co-chairs shared that the intent of the working group to examine best practices and unit based pricing programs in existence both in Connecticut and outside the state. The working group will consider the different approaches to unit based pricing, the effectiveness of those programs, and barriers to adoption. They noted that, together with the other working groups, the CCSMM initiative aims to work toward a more sustainable waste management system that provides reliability and predictability for municipalities.

A panel composed of the following representatives presented on unit based pricing options and best management practices:


Josh Kelly, Materials Management Section Chief, VT Agency of Natural Resources DEC – Implementation of the PAYT Mandate in VT, Universal Recycling Law

John Phillips, Director of Public Works, West Hartford – West Hartford’s UBP Efforts

John Phetteplace, Director of Solid Waste and Recycling, Stonington – Stonington’s UBP Program Implementation and Results

III. Roundtable

There was opportunity for Q&A of the panelists. Working group members were interested in best practices, UBP system options (cart vs. bins, bags, stickers, punch cards, weight-based systems), and enforcement options. Members shared their concerns about unit based pricing implementation, including
illegal dumping, “wish-cycling,” and elderly/low-income options. The group also discussed key elements of implementation of successful unit based pricing programs and state-wide, “top-down” approaches to implementation.

Other discussion included next steps, including upcoming meeting dates.

IV. Public Comment

Members of the public were asked to use the “chat” feature or the “raise hand” feature to indicate if they wanted to make a comment.

Jennifer Kleindienst, Middletown requested that materials be made available for citizens in different municipalities who want to lobby their elected officials to implement unit based pricing programs.

V. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:55pm
Attachment A.

N.B. that this list is a partial list due to a technical difficulty encountered with the ZOOM application whereby preliminary meetings were automatically purged from ZOOM before DEEP could download the files. ZOOM has a default setting that automatically purges older meetings from the list of "Previous meetings." Since DEEP became aware of the ZOOM setting, all meeting attendees' list have been captured and retained.

Katie Dykes, DEEP Commissioner
Elinor Carbone, Mayor, Torrington
Gabrielle Frigon, CT DEEP
Jennifer Weymouth, CT DEEP
Chris Nelson, CT DEEP
Elizabeth Moore, CT DEEP
Chelsey Hahn, CT DEEP
Carey Hurlburt, CT DEEP
Lisa Skumatz, Skumatz Economic Research Associates
Josh Kelly, VT DEC
John Phillips, West Hartford
John Phetteplace, Stonington
John Phillips, West Hartford
Svetlana Wasserman, Greenwich
Kristen Brown, Waste Zero
Katherine Bruns, West Hartford
Lisa Marotta, Rocky Hill
Aleksandra Moch
Steve Changaris