

Minutes
Alabama Scrap Tire Commission
October 7, 2020

Virtual Meeting

Commissioners Present: Mike Thornton, Ken Stephens, Stephen Cobb, Tony Cooper (proxy for Jon Howley), Adam Anderson, Randal H. Ward, Mike Godfrey, Bobby Gillespie

Others Present: James Thrash. Attorney for the Commission, Matt Boggan, Adam Rhodes, Scott Story, John Sheerin, Matt Ward, Rick Kelsey

Call Meeting to Order

Mike Thornton welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order.

Introduction of Commission members and ADEM staff

Commissioners and others in attendance introduced themselves and gave their affiliations.

Consideration of Minutes from April 2, 2019 Meeting

The first order of business was to consider the April 2, 2019, Scrap Tire Commission meeting minutes. Stephen Cobb made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous Commission meeting. Mike Thornton seconded the motion. All Commissioners were in favor of the motion, and the motion was carried.

ADEM Report

Stephen Cobb started off by introducing Rick Kelsey, who is now the Chief of the Materials Management Section. He stated that Rick Kelsey took over the position after Gavin Adams moved to the Brownfields Redevelopment Section. He then introduced Scott Story as the new Solid Waste Branch chief, and he was promoted to this position after Eric Sanderson retired. He then stated that we are trying new and innovative ways to build sustainable end-uses for scrap tires, which will help prevent unauthorized scrap tire dumps.

Scott Story introduced himself and stated that Rick Kelsey and Adam Rhodes have done a great job with moving forward with all the new ideas and projects. Scott Story then turned the meeting over to Rick Kelsey.

Rick Kelsey introduced himself and then presented the following fund numbers from the ADEM report for fiscal year 2020. The Fund balance is currently \$14.3 million. Of the Fund, \$10 million is obligated to the remediation of scrap tire sites and to our county Right of Way contracts. Rick stated that the pandemic has limited our ability to perform inspections, and that number will increase as we get through the pandemic and our staffing increases. Rick stated that we currently have 2661 registrations and that that number should decrease as the new database comes online and we identify closed facilities through it. He stated that the two Administrative Orders are currently not finalized but are in the process.

Rick stated that Cody Causey, who is with the Alabama Department of Revenue, was unable to attend the meeting but he wanted to report to the Commission that there are currently no issues at this time.

Rick then gave the following updates:

Coffee County RMA Project

Coffee County has recently received a Scrap Tire Marketing grant award from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. This award will provide approximately \$288,800 in grant funds to support the use of

recycled scrap tires in Rubber Modified Asphalt (RMA). Rubber Modified Asphalt helps to divert scrap tires away from the landfills and brings them to a beneficial end use. According to the Asphalt Rubber Technology Service of Clemson University, approximately 400 to 970 scrap tires can be beneficially used per lane-mile of pavement, depending on which grade is used. The grant funds will be utilized in the resurfacing of a portion of Coffee County Road 110 utilizing Rubber Modified Asphalt in lieu of traditional asphalt. The resurfacing will extend for approximately two miles. The two miles of resurfacing will utilize a "Balance Mix" design with a Recycled Rubber Additive. It will be evaluated and compared to the approximately five miles of traditional asphalt resurfacing, also on Coffee County Road 110, utilizing the Alabama Department of Transportation's current "Superpave Mix". The National Center for Asphalt Technology has partnered with the Coffee County Commission. The National Center for Asphalt Technology will provide the training, mix design services, and evaluate the performance of the rubber modified mixture. They will also evaluate and report on the performance of the sections.

The Department also has six additional RMA projects that are currently in the Scrap Tire Marketing Program application process. These projects include roads and parking lots.

ADEM - Track Resurface

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management is resurfacing the existing recycled tire track, located at the Department. The work on the track will consist of supplying, delivering, and installing 1.5 inches of recycled tire rubber. The work will require the removal of 3 inches of existing edges on each side of the trail. Additionally, border material will be used on each side of the track to prevent the loss of base material from under the track, and it will also aid in the prevention of grass from growing into the tire material.

Town of Pine Hill – Grant

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management awarded \$12,750 to the Town of Pine Hill in Wilcox County for a Scrap Tire Marketing Grant project. The town has been approved for the grant under the Alabama Scrap Tire Fund to upgrade the playground area to include recycled scrap tire mulch providing a safer play area. The mulch will be used on the playground at Depot Park, which sees an estimated annual visitation of approximately 35,000 visitors. This mulch will provide a safer surface for children and should provide a 10-foot fall protection pad for those using the playground equipment. More than 4,800 scrap tires will be recycled for this project.

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management's (ADEM) Scrap Tire Marketing Program (STMP) has worked to create a statewide interest in tire derived materials and overall scrap tire concerns and solutions. One-way STMP operates in the promotion of tire derived materials, is by using the program to understand the needs of municipalities and communities throughout the State and then provide solutions by suggesting alternatives through tire derived materials.

Currently the Department has sixteen projects that are in the Scrap Tire Marketing Program grant process. There are several different types of project including rubber modified asphalt, recycle tire mulch, walking tracks, and solid rubber surfacing.

ADEM Grants Workshop

The Department hosted its first virtual grants workshop. On September 15, 2020, the grant workshop was hosted through Microsoft Teams. There was a large number of participants including cities and counties. The workshop covered Scrap Tire Marketing grants, Recycling grants, and the County Right of Way program. The workshop was a success and we have had several follow up conversations with potential grantees.

Alabama & Neighbors Scrap Tire Round Table

The Department held its first virtual roundtable meeting for neighboring states on June 24, 2020. The meeting was held through Microsoft Teams. The main goal of the meeting was to grow sustainable scrap tire markets and the southeast. We had discussions with other states concerning the challenges, opportunities, and outlook of their

programs. We were able to gain some useful insights to better assist with the implementation of our program. We will continue to have these meetings in the future to help better understand surrounding states programs and ours.

AEPACS – New Department Wide Database

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management is transitioning the Scrap Tire Program to the AEPACS- Alabama Environmental Permitting and Compliance System web portal. AEPACS is an electronic system that allows facilities to apply for and maintain permits as well as submit other required applications, registrations, and certifications. In addition, the system allows facilities to submit required compliance reports or other information to the Department.

The Department has reached out to the Alabama Tire Dealers Association (ATDA) concerning AEPACS. ATDA as agreed to assist the Department with sending the information to the tire dealers.

Hub & Spoke Central – Sustainable Recycling Market

The Department has been hosting virtual meetings to discuss the future development of a sustainable market in the Birmingham Area that would better use/recycle tire material and other fuel material. We are currently scheduling monthly meetings to further this project. During the meetings we have discussions with most of the fuel users in the state concerning their needs and requirements for alternative fuels. We are also in discussions with landfills to potentially divert alternative fuels from the landfill to fuel markets. We have had several members that produce fuel products from raw material assist in the project, and we have recently added recycling operations in hopes that we can divert their waste material to potential fuel users.

Hub and Spoke System - North Alabama

The Department is looking at opportunities in North Alabama. The City of Scottsboro in Jackson County has applied for a grant that would include a tire shredder. They could potentially provide tire material to WestRock paper mill in Jackson County. WestRock currently holds a fuel user permit. A shredding operation in Huntsville could also help to feed WestRock Tire Derived Fuel (TDF).

Scrap Tire Marketing Program - Summary

The ADEM Scrap Tire Marketing Program was established to demonstrate potential beneficial end uses of scrap tires. Included in the potential uses are scrap tire derived products and applications, and their suitability for substitution of new raw materials. The program aims to support research and demonstration of end uses which may overcome current misconceptions and technical barriers, which will lead to more widespread implementation. The Department utilizes an open grant process to select demonstration projects for reimbursement. Such projects are meant to encourage the use of tire derived products and applications. These projects have not only provided environmental and economic benefits in their application but have improved communities and public facilities across Alabama.

The Department is currently looking at new and innovative ways to market recycled scrap tire material. Several options are currently being considered, some of which include a reimbursement program for scrap tires that would allow for them to be delivered to one of the potential Hub systems. The Department is also considering the Hub and Spoke model for other areas of the State, which would help prevent illegal dumping by giving the public a drop off location. This system would also allow for the recycling of tires from remediation sites.

Site Remediation Update

Matt Boggan gave the following update:

FY2019 Small Scrap Tire Sites

Ten (10) small scrap tire sites were remediated in FY2019 at a cost of \$1,027,515.93. Approximately 338,844 Passenger Tire Equivalents (PTE) and 70.76 tons of solid waste were removed from those sites.

FY2019 Small Scrap Tire Sites

COUNTY	SITE NAME	CONTRACTOR	TIRES REMOVED	CONTRACT AMOUNT
Marengo	East Jefferson STS	Matthews Clearing and Excavating	390 ST + 7.36 Tons SW	\$24,032.98
Bullock	County Road 89 STS	Matthews Clearing and Excavating	1312 ST + 1.16 Tons SW	\$31,096.05
Chambers	Sullivan STS	J Hunt Enterprises	335,785 ST	\$888,194.40
Lawrence	WMA Waterloo STS	Josh Webster	154 ST + 27.95 Tons SW	\$4,750
Blount	Lincoln Road STS	Matthews Clearing and Excavating	709S T + 28.28 Tons SW	\$49,000
Jackson	The Nature Conservancy STS	Gamble Construction	1.19 Tons	\$2,000
Lauderdale	County Road 534 STS	Josh Webster	83 ST	\$3,242.50
Walker	Highway 78 E STS	Gamble Construction	150 ST	\$18,500.00
Jefferson	Tarrant Huffman Rd STS	Josh Webster	236 ST	\$2,749.50
Mobile	Reed Lane STS	Gibson Engineering	25 ST + 6 Tons SW	\$3,950.50
FY2019 TOTALS	10 Sites	5 Contractors	338,844 ST + 70.76 Tons SW	\$1,027,515.93

FY2020 Small Scrap Tire Sites

Five (5) small scrap tire sites were identified for remediation for fiscal year 2020; two (2) sites have been remediated at a cost of \$9,398.50, which accounted for 683 PTE removed, and three (3) sites are in the process of being remediated through contractual agreements with the Department.

COUNTY	SITE NAME	CONTRACTOR	TIRES REMOVED	CONTRACT AMOUNT
DeKalb	County Road 689 STS	Josh Webster	183 ST	\$2,949
Lauderdale	US Highway 43 STS	Josh Webster	500 ST	\$6,449.50

Fayette	Prospect Road STS	Raymond Butler Construction	In Progress	\$4,900.00
Greene	County Road 53 STS	Greene County Commission	In Progress	\$23,613.13
Blount	Pleasant Grove Road	Raymond Butler Construction	In Progress	\$5,600
FY2020 TOTALS	5 Sites	3 Contractors	683 ST	\$43,511.63

Large Scrap Tire Sites

As of this report, there are no large scrap tire sites awaiting resolution. The Department is currently in litigation concerning the Sullivan site in Macon County to recover cost associated with its clean-up. The site was remediated using STC money and the project was completed in May 2019. A total of 335,785 PTE were removed from the site at a cost of \$888,194.

Discarded Tire Reimbursement Program for Counties

Since the inception of the Department's Scrap Tire Right-of Way (ROW) program in 2011, there has been approximately 1,156,808 PTE removed from county right-of-ways, with a total reimbursement to counties of 7 million dollars. The current ROW agreements are effective from October 1, 2018 (or enrollment date) through September 30, 2021 and offer up to \$150,000 in funding for removal and disposal of scrap tires discarded along county right-of-ways. Currently, 50 of the 67 Alabama counties have enrolled under the new, revised agreement. The Removals and Response Unit is working hard to ensure that all 67 counties are enrolled in the new agreement. New agreement notification letters will be sent out in the spring of 2021.

James thrash gave an update on the Sullivan scrap tire site. He stated that the Department was seeking cost recovery from the Sullivan's and they appealed the favorable rulings that we received from the Circuit Court, so the Department has briefed the Court of Civil appeals and received a favorable ruling and now the Department is going back to the Circuit Court to finish trying the case. The Sullivan's have asked for a rehearing and their Brief is due today and the case continues to move along in the Circuit Court of Tallapoosa County.

Legislation Update

Mike Thornton asked if there were any legislative updates. Mike Godfrey stated that he was not aware of any bills that would affect the Scrap Tire Fund.

Adjourn

Mike Thornton made a motion to adjourn, and the motion was seconded by Stephen Cobb. All Commissioners were in favor of the motion, and the motion was carried.

Mike Thornton, Chair _____

Stephen A. Cobb, Secretary _____

Adam Rhodes, Recording Secretary _____

