

For Immediate Release
August 20th, 2024

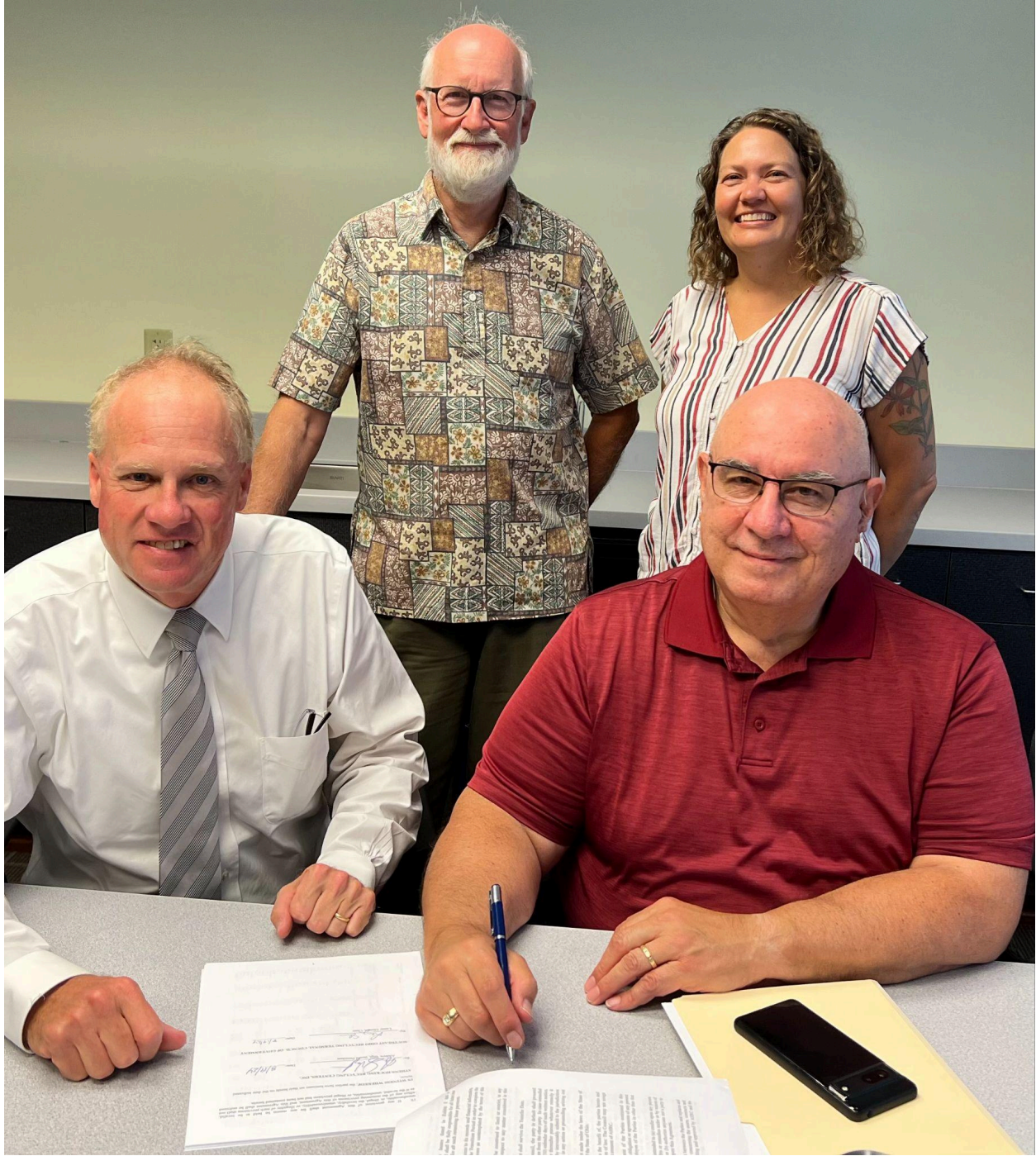
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Recycling Center Transferring Operations to SORT

On September 21, 2024 Athens Hocking Recycling Centers will transfer all operations, owned assets, and employees to Southeast Ohio Recycling Terminal Council of Governments. Current members of SORT are the Athens Hocking Solid Waste District, Amesville, Nelsonville, and Logan. Athens city membership is pending. Area cities started discussions about forming SORT over a year ago in response to the potential for significant regional job loss if the recycling center located near The Plains closed due to area cities no longer utilizing the local sorting facility for recycling and compost services to use a large national hauling company for collection and a recycling sorting facility in Columbus. The recycling center employed 48 residents from Athens and Hocking counties in 2023 and currently has 34 employees after downsizing when the Athens city contract ended in January of this year.

SORT will continue to provide curbside recycling, compost, and waste hauling services for all residential AHRC customers as well as commercial cardboard, recycling, and waste hauling in Athens and Hocking counties. The income generated from these services will be used to fund SORT's core purpose to build sustainable communities by providing recycling, compost, and trash collection; processing recycling and compost; while also providing the membership with related services; planning and educational resources for, and related to waste management; landfill diversion; sustainability plans; creating a more circular economy; to create a cleaner, safer, and better place to live in the southeast Ohio area. Those wishing to sign up for services can contact SORT at 740-594-5312.

Picture below shows the signing of the transfer agreement after the SORT board meeting on Monday August 19th, 2024. In the back are SORT Vice Chair and Amesville Mayor Gary Goosman, SORT Secretary/Treasurer and Athens Hocking Recycling Center Executive Director Crissa Cummings. In front are Athens Hocking Recycling Center Board Chair Andy Vogt, SORT chair and Athens County commissioner Lenny Eliason.



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