

MINUTES of the June 13, 2012 Meeting of the Monroe County Solid Waste Management Committee

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carol Las, Dan Olson, James Rasmussen, Christopher King and Mike Lueth

OTHERS PRESENT: Gail Frie-Monroe County Solid Waste Manager, Sue Van Geertruy-Solid Waste Clerical Assistant, Erik Lietz-Ayres Associates, Richard Yarrington-Former Solid Waste Committee Member, Fred Wegner-Resident and Jerry Martell (8:50)-Modern Disposal.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 8:35 a.m. by Committee Chair Las at the Solid Waste Administration Building, 20448 Junco Road, Town of Ridgeville.

1. PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Fred asked that this item be moved to the end of the agenda. No one on the committee objected.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Motion by Chris King to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2012 meeting, seconded by Dan Olson. All ayes, motion carried. 5-0

3. CURRENT BILLS, INTER DEPARTMENT TRANSFERS & VOUCHERS

Current bills are summarized as follows:

2012 Site II Cell 3	\$ 5,610.83
2012 Ridge II Operations	\$ 248,729.17
2012 Recycling	\$ 301.62
2012 Ridge I Closure / LTC	\$ 5,267.22
2012 HHW Clean Sweep	\$ 4,758.48
2012 Sand Creek	\$
2012 Credit Card Charges	\$ 819.50
2012 Interdepartmental Transfers	\$ 459.78

Questions on the host fee, DNR charges, Ayres Associates and room charges for Carol were asked and answered.

Motion by Dan Olson to approve the expenses as presented totaling \$ 265,946.60, seconded by James Rasmussen. All ayes, motion carried. 5-0

4. DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS

a) Financial & Waste Volume Reports- The financial report looks good. We received our recycling grant and it was actually up a little from last year. Carol asked if we have to account for any of those monies and Gail said it must be used only for recycling. Gail pointed out that the Site I LTC (Long Term Care) account has 300k while the Site II account has 1.9m. We have not used any money from the Site I account for the past two years. Dan asked where this money is and Gail explained that the DNR holds the funds and the interest stays with the account. All costs for Site I are covered out of our operating budget but if it would need some work we may have to use some of the LTC funds. Dan also asked about the Facilities Reserve Fund and Gail explained what that fund is. Dan asked if those monies could be used for Site I and Gail said we could use it anywhere there is a need. Tonnage report is on track with last year. Our asbestos is down but overall tonnage looks good.

b) Report on LaCrosse County Landfill MSW Shredder Demonstration- Gail was going to take some Ag plastic to this demonstration but it has been postponed due to an accident with the shredder loading.

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- c) Discussion, Truck Scale Issues- Tina notified us we are over budget in our scale maintenance account so a line item transfer will have to be done next month. Gail spent some time watching trucks get on and off the scale and the iron butt plate was hanging up against the scale preventing it from zeroing out. Schroeder Construction (who installed the scale) came and looked at it and can repair it but they have not been here yet.
- d) Discussion & Possible Action, Out of County Waste- No new requests at this time.
- e) Discussion & Action, Recommendation to Finance for the Use of Ho-Chunk Money- Carol asked that this item be placed on the agenda. These monies are based on acreage in the county that is in tribal trust. The Ho-Chunk Nation wants the money to be used for something useful and needed. The last two years the money has gone to the IT Department. Carol thought some other department may have a use for the money and feels each committee should discuss it before any decision about how it is spent is made. It is nice for the Supervisors to be able to weigh in on the decision. She also added it does not have to be designated until the end of the year. Gail feels this department should not consider it as we are an Enterprise Fund. Because it is not considered tax levy money Gail said we could use it but he does not recommend it. Carol said this is just food for thought.

5. LANDFILL OPERATIONS

- a) General Activities / Leachate Report- It is pretty dry. Only three loads last month compared to 57 loads during the same time last year. We could actually recirculate more than we have. Cost comparisons between last year and this year were discussed.
- b) Discussion & Action, Ridgeville I Remediation- Gail handed out copies of maps that show the area that was repaired a few years ago. There were standing ponds and all the rain was going into the garbage. The contamination was noticed in 1996 or 1997. Gail feels it has been there since the beginning of the landfill but was never sampled. It is Gail's opinion of the DNR rules that remediation takes years. In the past Mother Nature took care of contamination. This issue went unattended for so long, while we are improving, it will probably take years for it to go away. The existing headwells are worthless as you can only get a gallon out of them and can only be used for sampling. Gail explained the trench work that was done and the excavation of the new wells. These dog leg wells were just pumped and 300 gallons for each well was removed. We have received a letter from the DNR asking for a Remediation Action Options Report and a Remediation Plan. There are seven points listed we are supposed to follow. After these seven things are done, and if they don't work, they will require us to put plastic on. Gail told Erik to set up a meeting with the DNR to put the plastic on now over the contaminated area. It will cost about the same as the seven points but it would be done. The meeting is set up for Tuesday June 26th here at the landfill. Gail said that with the pumping it could possibly be dry in July. The 300 gallons per well should be good news for the DNR. We can add the three wells to the pumping schedule. Carol asked when the last time was that the DNR was physically here to look at this. Erik and Gail both said that is unknown as the DNR sometimes comes after hours. Dan asked about the Mother Nature comment and what Gail meant. Gail explained it used to be said dilution is the solution to the problem and that these things were handled by nature. We don't let that happen now as we don't want the contamination to go into the groundwater and travel beyond the landfill. If the DNR keeps pushing Gail wants to go for the final fix. If we can tie it in with cell construction we can save some costs. Dan asked why plastic and Gail responded to avoid the seven points from the DNR. Jerry said the DNR will make us do the plastic eventually anyway so why not just get it done. Dan asked why the DNR doesn't just say that then but Gail and Jerry both stated

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that's not the way they work. Gail and Erik both know that other landfills have leftover rolls of plastic around from other projects. Gail could contact them and maybe get a better deal on the cost. Mike asked how the plastic is installed and Gail explained the process.

Chris King left the meeting at 9:27 a.m.

- c) Discussion & Action, Monitoring Well Road Repairs-Behind Site I a road was put in to get to the monitoring wells. It has one angle cut and then it goes straight down and is very steep and eroded. Lately to do the monitoring Ayres goes around the back way on the road and gets permission to go through a neighbor's field. He had some trouble getting the lady to answer the door so the last time Gail went with him and they finally got her to open the door. Since then, because she is so concerned about strangers coming to the door, Gail thinks we could fix that road to use for the monitoring. It needs to be graded and graveled. Gail is asking for permission to fix the road. Mike suggested using breaker rock instead of gravel and Gail said some gravel is need on the curve. Dan asked if Ayres charges by the hour and Erik answered yes that's why it is hard for the guy to do it. Going through the neighbors land requires him to walk and cross two creeks. It takes him about three hours when it should take less than one. Richard asked who owned the adjoining land. Dan asked if we could rent a bulldozer from Highway. Dan said if Gail can do the work it would save money on operator fees. He will bring this up to Jack at the Highway meeting. Carol said all departments should work together.
- d) Discussion & Action, Landfill Gas Project History and Future Options- Gail passed out copies of the concept paper from 2008. He explained about the minimum gas amounts and the grants and loans from USDA and how all that had been pulled by the feds and it is all loans now. The landfill gas worked at low amounts because of the grants and ART tariff. After researching trucking landfill gas Gail determined that our landfill gas does not have enough BTU's to make trucking cost effective. It needs to be used on site or in a pipeline. Also biogas is being converted to synthetic diesel fuel. It used to cost 32m to for start up but is down to about 2m now. Transportation fuel has grants and subsidies. Gail found some maps on the internet about blighted areas and our landfill is on that map probably because of the contamination. Erik referred to these areas as brownfields. Gail doesn't think a government entity would qualify for the grants but a private could. West Virginia is the first state for an MSW gasifier to be approved. That was for a private company. Dan said we could find someone willing to do this and they could pay us for the gas. Gail could research putting out an RFP to make our gas available for a fee. We could rent or sell it for 20 years and have it revert back to us then. There could be a 50k minimum bid guarantee with a performance bond. We need to show progress to keep the Alliant ART tariff. Gail would like to research this and talk with a group in Sparta. Gail has been reminded that the gas project is on hold but Dan feels no one could object to talking to a private group. Carol said this is the kind of thing in Gail's job description. Dan feels with no money invested no one can object. Jerry stated that the committee has been down this road before and been torpedoed by the County Board. Dan said that was because it involved county money. Jerry said it was Solid Waste money. Dan doesn't want to use that money either. Gail said we could put it out there with no expense. Mike does not want to give it away. Carol wants this on record that this committee approved Gail researching this. **Motion to approve Gail researching private sector possibilities for use of landfill gas for a paid royalty fee using no budget obligation or risk to Solid Waste Department or Monroe County made by Dan Olson, seconded by James Rasmussen. All ayes, Motion carried. 4-0-1 (King absent)**

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- e) Discussion, Neighboring Land Purchase- Corporation Counsel has had the appraisal since the end of April. The Administrator will let us know when to proceed. Gail is concerned about the time and need. Carol asked Gail to follow up on this to see if any progress has been made.
- f) Discussion, Banned Materials from Landfills- Gail passed out a flyer updated with all items banned from landfills.

6. RECYCLING PROGRAM

- a) Transfer Facility Operation- While everything is running smoothly Jerry expressed concern about his trailer standing here for months waiting to get filled. He simply can't afford to have the trailer tied up for that long. We could use our own boxes and adapt the compactor to fit so Jerry could take the trailer. Before all the recycling came here but it was a nightmare. Now we have three to four loads a year. Dan asked if all townships use this and could a user fee be tacked on. He also asked what our cost is. Jerry explained how the system is set up. The Solid Waste Committee looked at the project during the Landfill Tour.
- b) Discussion, Recycling Grant Received- Previously discussed under 4a.
- b) Discussion, Ag Plastic Recycling- Gail is working with a company from California that wants to build a facility in Monroe County. There is a webinar on the 25th. If Organic Valley becomes a partner with them Gail will be out of this. They would be making sidewalk blocks out of the plastic.

7. MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) Department Updates- There was discussion about what would happen if the landfill were to close. Gail said local county landfills work to keep costs down and if the trash had to be transferred costs would go up considerably. Mike said we would be at the mercy of whatever company took it over. Gail shared that he has been named as a non-voting member for the LaCrosse County Operations Contract Selection Team. Our Gerke contract is up next year so this information and knowledge will be very helpful. Dan asked if anyone was aware of charging individual consumers for trash. Each municipality has their own system of charging or not. We don't dictate how they handle within their community. Dan also asked when municipalities charge for trash does the recycling tonnage go up and that is a definite yes. Dan asked why the DNR does not support this but no one knows. There was discussion about recycling and Jerry shared that Monroe County's recyclables are very clean and our recycling tonnages remain strong.

8. LANDFILL TOUR

The Committee and guests toured the landfill, recycling compactor, demo site, flare, gas wells and leachate collection and recirculation systems.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Solid Waste Committee will be Wednesday, July 18, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. at the Solid Waste Administration Building, 20448 Junco Road, Town of Ridgeville, Monroe County Wisconsin.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion by James Rasmussen seconded by Mike Luethe to adjourn at 10:27 a.m. All ayes, motion carried. 4-0-1 (King absent)