



# Monroe County Solid Waste Management

20448 Junco Road • Norwalk, WI 54648 • 608-269-8783 phone • 608-823-7303 fax

## COMMITTEE MINUTES July 10, 2018

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Paul Steele, Vice Chair Keith Giraud. Committee members: Gregg Vinslauski, Nodji Van Wychen, and James Schroeder.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Solid Waste Department: Gail Frie-Manager and Shelly Schulze-Assistant Manager. Riverview Construction: Randy Weinkauf-Owner, and Ayres and Associates: Ryan Shimko P.E.

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chair Steele at the Solid Waste Office, Norwalk, WI.
2. **DISCUSSION/ACTION: APPROVE MEETING MINUTES JUNE 2018.** Steele asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 2018. *Motion by K.Giraud/G.Vinslauski to approve and passed on a unanimous voice vote with 5 ayes.*
3. **DISCUSSION: LANDFILL AND DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS TONNAGE/REVENUE/LOAD/LEACHATE REPORT:**
  - a. Frie went over the monthly sales graph which detailed percentages of increase/decrease in the listed categories through the month of June YTD, and compared this June YTD to previous years.  
We are up 8% YTD in revenue over last YTD, up 2.5% from last year in number of loads and in tonnage 9.32%. Frie attributed the increase to a large asbestos project. Leachate was reported to be down about 42 loads over the previous period YTD due to hauler Gerke calling off the water tank driver to handle other Gerke-related construction projects. Frie is not worried that the landfill is in jeopardy of too much water in the landfill, as we will have ample water stores to ensure start-up of the water treatment facility.
  - b. Frie went over the June 2018 Financial Report, which shows a facility reserve balance of \$514,482.00 and a cash balance of (\$121,689.00) as of June 30. A check was recently cut from the reserve account and the checkbook for \$650,000.00, to cover the down payment on the leachate treatment facility. That payment, coupled with overdue accounts receivables, and missing 2017 rollover revenue caused the checkbook balance to appear to be the lowest balance in nearly ten years. Frie explained that \$217,974.00—which was our rollover amount to the Facilities Reserves--was supposed to be transferred to Facility Reserves in January-- was just now transferred July 9<sup>th</sup>(Rollover funds was sitting in the General Account for the past six months). As of today July 10, Solid Waste has a positive checkbook balance of \$203,527.00.  
Frie pointed out the booked revenue YTD is \$1,042,276.00 of which \$396,251.00 is currently outstanding accounts receivables.  
Clean Sweep balance is (\$6,390.00), Recycling account balance is \$80,665.00, and Ridgeville I account balance is (\$5,193.00).  
Frie explained Ridge I and Ridge II Long Term Care Accounts to the committee, stating Ridge II is fully funded, and Ridge I activity is funded through the current budget.
4. **DISCUSSION/ACTION: BRING CLEAN SWEEP TAX LEVY PROPOSAL TO COUNTY BOARD:** Clean Sweep Grants from the Department of Agriculture have been reduced steadily. The committee agreed to the importance of having two collections per year for households to safely dispose of chemicals in our community. The grant does not cover one collection fully, and the account is (\$6,390) after one event. Several ideas were discussed, including a Ho-Chunk grant that Monroe County has received, Solid Waste Department covering this shortfall, having a user fee assessed, or some kind of Tax Levy, either per household or per capita.  
La Crosse County had a similar situation with their full time hazardous waste collection facility.

The County passed a resolution whereas all 18 municipalities agreed to and approve an intergovernmental Agreement. The agreement was initially \$1.00 per capita (since 2003) and due to growth in popularity of the program and decline in Department of Agriculture grant funding, they decided to raise the \$1.00 to 1.25 for 2017, and then \$1.50 for 2018. Discussion from the committee whether this should be per capita or per taxable household and business. Schulze informed the committee that this is strictly a household and hobby farm collection, and business and large farm businesses must contract on their own with a Hazardous Waste Facility. Schulze also said that covering of this Hazardous waste collection shortfalls from the Solid Waste department funds was not technically this department's responsibility. We have historically applied for the grant on behalf of Monroe County citizens, and organized the events to do the work covering additional expenses through the department budget, but it should be separate from our landfill enterprise fund. We do not want these toxins coming into our landfill and are being proactive in organizing the events.

There was concern by Van Wychen whether we could obtain all the data needed to go forth with this to the full County Board in a short amount of time before budgeting was approved for 2019. Frie agreed to contact the treasurer's office and get the household tax base data from the Treasurer, and Van Wychen suggested having a draft ready of a resolution ready for corporate counsel as soon as possible.

5. **DISCUSSION: 2019 BUDGET IN DETAIL:** Frie went over the budget, line item by line item. On a budget of a proposed \$2,136,500.00 Revenue, and expenses of \$2,125,645.00, an amount of \$10,855.00 to cover additional employee expense due to employee cost: i.e. health insurance, pay increases, etc.

Discussion points were: WDNR Fees-how much it costs us in fees, licenses, permits and taxes to keep the gates open, discussion on the \$500 vehicle expense and the truck which is not currently running. Steele suggested different types of vehicles the landfill could invest in by leasing as does the City of Tomah. Steele also questioned where the building improvements for 2018 were at, windows and carpets. Frie thought there might be some money to replace a few windows. No vote was taken as it was not listed as Discussion/Action.

6. **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

- a. **Recycling Costs:** Frie stated the cost of recycling is rising due to the overseas marketing (China) refusing our plastic recycling. There was discussion on how our agreement with Modern Disposal worked, and it is capped at \$39.00 per ton from our recycling grant. If markets are good, and there is value to the recycling, the per-ton charge drops according from Modern to the Solid Waste Department to pay from the grant. Frie expected 2018 could go negative \$10-\$15,000.00. Some landfills have had no choice but to landfill recyclables.
- b. **Tariffs with China:** Frie discussed the Corn Cob II leachate equipment is being produced in China, and there has been some discussion from Apex about changing the dimensions on the equipment from 12 ft. to 18 ft. to save expense. Also of concern were tariffs that are being assessed. We have a guarantee with Apex, a NTE pricing of \$1.65 million. Frie was hoping it would come in much less than this, but that is not looking like a possibility. The \$650,000.00 down payment on the equipment was paid out June 29<sup>th</sup>, and Van Wychen noted the tariffs were applied to anything after July 6. It was not known if that was ordered or shipped date, but Frie stated it shouldn't be our responsibility, we had a bid price that was set. Mid-America lease will be responsible for making the construction payments to contractors.
- c. **Construction Update:** TEC has been working on the building which will house the leachate treatment equipment. They have pressure washed the building and the concrete this week. They have cut half the floor into 4x4's for removal. As soon as the cement is removed from half the building, plumbing, electrical, construction and concrete contractors should be in over the next month to work.
- d. **Hiring Progress:** Frie had no updates on the assistant solid waste manager's job posting, and whether there were any candidates. He did mention a call came in today from a recycling coordinator from a local municipality, and this person would have to take a \$25,000.00 pay cut to take the job. Frie told this person the position will step up into the manager's position when Frie left. When his pay was discussed, the Recycling Coordinator

said he makes \$5,000.00 more than Frie, currently. Also discussed at length was the requirement needed to be a WDNR certified landfill manager no later than the first testing date following hire. Candidates must have two years landfill experience to take this test. Frie is hoping to get Steven's Point graduates with Waste Water Treatment backgrounds which would be helpful at the landfill with our leachate treatment facility. Our consultant from Ayres Associates, Ryan Shimko PE, said students usually have summer internships with landfills, but not a full two years of experience at landfills. Frie has concerns over this, and has sent WDNR Solid Waste Management Director Joe Van Rossum a letter asking if any other sort of combined experience might be used. He fears that kind of change would take legislation.

e. **Retirement:** Frie mentioned he would be retiring the spring of 2019.

7. **SET NEXT MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at 4:00 pm, at the Solid Waste Dept. 20448 Junco Road, Norwalk, WI, 54648 (Vice Chair Giraud left the meeting at 5:50 pm)
8. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None
9. **ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Steele adjourn the meeting at 5:55 pm.

Recorded by: Shelly Schulze