



Monroe County Solid Waste Management

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MINUTES of the September 14, 2015 Meeting of the Monroe County Solid Waste Management Committee

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carol Las, James Rasmussen, Mike Luethe, Dan Olson and Paul Steele. Steele arrived 8:50 a.m. and Olson left 10:15 a.m.

OTHERS PRESENT: Gail Frie-Monroe County Solid Waste Manager, Shelly Schulze-Assistant Solid Waste Manager, Terry Taylor-Landfill Operator, Randy Weinkauf-RiverView Construction and Kirk Arity-Tomah Public Works Director. Also present as signed in: Ken Rutlin, Scott Statz, Gina Keenan-DNR, Barb Meltesen, Rick Radcliffe, Andrew Kaftan, Wade Blackdeer and Jerry Martell-MDS.

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

1. PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Everyone introduced themselves.

2. MINUTES OF 7/20/2015 MEETING

A motion was made by Luethe to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2015 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Olson. All ayes, motion carried. 4-0

3. BUDGET REPORT

The August budget report was reviewed with the Committee members. The Department's cash balance at the end of August was \$287,247.00. The Facility Reserve Balance is \$171,981.00. August was a good month with deposits of in excess of \$200,000.00 and expenses near \$65,000.00.

4. DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS

a) Waste Volume Reports/Landfill tonnages. 2015 tons year to date are up near 10% part of which is due to special projects. Tonnages are nearing 2012 and 2013 levels.

5. LANDFILL OPERATIONS

a) General activities: The Leachate report graph show that leachate hauling is considerably down. Leachate levels are still a problem and Frie reported that Gerke is going to start hauling on Saturdays to get caught up.

b) Discussion/Action, Byron/Wyeville Landfill Relocation Project: Attorney Rick Radcliffe gave a history of the project and why it was important to have Monroe County involved in this because the township/village do not have the professional knowledge of WDNR code or Solid Waste expertise. County Corporation Counsel, Andy Kaftan followed saying he considered it a very worthwhile project and he has worked to ease the concerns about potential liability. Gina Keenan of the DNR stated the DNR had a limited liability program that could protect Monroe County from any liability in the Investigation Phase. The Investigation Phase is necessary to determine the volume of buried waste and the total cost of the Relocation Project. Frie also stated that from a DNR meeting in La Crosse he understood that if the waste remained undisturbed and in its original resting place, that no liability is incurred. Frie further explained that

the decision before the Committee was only to approve a resolution to take to the full County Board requesting permission to work as the facilitator of this project. The Town of Byron and the Village of Wyeville will have the final decision to go forward or not, with this project. Barb Meltesen expressed concern that this project was in the Sparta paper, and that the citizens of the Town of Byron were not kept informed on this pending Monroe County action. Wade Blackdeer expressed concern if something hazardous would be found who would be responsible for the disposal. Frie said this would all be covered in a contingency plan and agreements that would need to be signed by all parties before the Investigation Phase commenced.

- c) Landfill Relocation Project Resolution: Discussion/Action. Motion by Olson, second by Rasmussen to approve the resolution and send it to this Month's County Board Meeting. Motion carried, 5-0.
- d) Westfalia Leachate Separator: Discussion/Action. One of the largest issues at the landfill is what to do with leachate. Frie has been working with GEA/Westfalia to arrange a demonstration of centrifuge equipment here at the Monroe County Landfill that could separate solids from liquid to be disposed of on site to reduce the number of gallons shipped to the Sparta Waste Water Treatment plant daily. He is working on negotiating terms of the demonstration/lease equipment so that it is more favorable to Monroe County. This Westfalia machinery can process 2,000,000 gallons per year. Currently, our only option with disposing of leachate is to deliver it by tanker to the Sparta WWTP, and some onsite recirculation. Sparta has now limited us to three loads per day by tanker truck. Elroy and Tomah WWTP's will no longer accept our leachate. Frie reported that he had negotiated the lease agreement expense down to about \$6,000.00 which he thought was an acceptable amount. To run the test, we need 3 phase power, and he felt we could do so by the flare, our only three phase source. Motion by Luethe, second by Steele to approve up to \$6,000.00 for this demonstration project. The motion failed, 2-3, with Las, Rasmussen and Olson opposing.
- Olson countered we should only pay \$1,000.00 for this expense and Frie should locate other landfills that would be interested in funding the remaining costs. Frie mentioned hosting this demonstration would be beneficial to us as well as other landfills, many of whom face the same issue as Monroe County in dealing with removal of leachate. Frie suggested perhaps Monroe County should pay at least half of this expense since we are facilitating/hosting, and he would attempt to solicit the other half from other interested landfills. Schulze posed to the board 'what alternatives do we have, if in the future, Sparta WWTP cuts us off completely?' Frie mentioned hauling to Minneapolis seemed to be our only other choice. No further action was taken. Olson left the meeting at 10:15 am.

6. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

- a. October 3, 2015 Hazardous Collection – The flyer has been mailed to a large, solid waste mailing list and to board members by email.
- b. Discussion on proposed "Fire Loads" and need for Policy. Three area landfills have caught on fire recently, and we would like to be proactive by setting policy for delivery of fire loads to the landfill.
- c. Discussion on proposed 'Clean Shingle' Policy: to clarify what a 'clean' shingle load means. Jerry Martell stated he informs his customers when they do not follow procedure.

- d. This policy will go to all permitted construction haulers who may not understand what constitutes a clean load. Clean shingle loads are discounted, paperless loads used for daily cover.
- e. Discussion on Proposed "WDNR Banned from Landfill Items' Policy
- f. Discussion for October Action: 2016 Hauler Permit/Safety Rules
 - 1. Revisions to Hauler Permit
 - 2. Addendums to Hauler Permit (Fire load/clean shingles/banned items, etc.)

The above updated policies were mailed to the Committee and were briefly discussed to be studied and then acted on in the October meeting. Updating of old rules to meet current standards.

7. PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Jerry Martell reported that the recycling markets were lower than ever and that he didn't see any upward trends in the near or even long term future. He said that with low oil prices, virgin materials are cheaper to use in manufacturing than recycled materials. Some of the low prices were PET Plastic at 10 cents per pound down from 14 cents, steel cans at \$100./ton down from \$175./ton and Cardboard at \$80./ton down from \$150./ton.
- b. Frie mentioned that because of this current market situation he had a letter ready to go out to the recycling participating municipalities that no funds would be available in 2015 and with Recycling Grants being cut again in 2016 the same would be true. He said we would be forced to use landfill revenue to cover recycling shortfalls.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Solid Waste Committee Meeting will be held on October 19, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. at the Solid Waste Office at 20448, Junco Road, Norwalk, WI.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Rasmussen – second by Steele to adjourn, Motion carried. 4-0 The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

GF:sms