



# Monroe County Solid Waste Management

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

## **MINUTES of the December, 14 2015 Meeting of the Monroe County Solid Waste Management Committee**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Carol Las, Paul Steele, Dan Olson and Mike Luethe.  
Absent: James Rasmussen

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Gail Frie-Monroe County Solid Waste Manager, Shelly Schulze-Assistant Solid Waste Manager, Randy Weinkauf-River View Construction, Terry Taylor-Landfill Operator, River View Construction, Kirk Arity-Tomah Public Works Director, and Jerry Martell-Modern Disposal Systems.

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

### **2. PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mike Luethe wanted to have November 24<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes amended to have his name removed as he was not present.

### **3. MINUTES OF 10/19/2015 and 11/24/2015 MEETING**

A motion was made by Steele to approve the minutes of the October 19 and November 24<sup>th</sup> meetings, with the one change listed above. The motion was seconded by Las. All ayes, motion carried. 4-0

### **4. BUDGET REPORT**

The December budget report was reviewed with the Committee members. The Department's cash balance at the end of November was \$251,659.00. The Facility Reserve balance is \$172,089.00.

### **5. DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS**

- Leachate: Line items transfers and adjustments were done to accounts due to higher leachate removal expenses. Several accounts will appear over budget report does not show these adjustments to the accounts as of yet.
- Waste Tonnage Report: Dan and Paul had questions as the dollar amounts under Freight/other. Shelly explained these charges were not freight, rather fees listed as other because they were for recycling such as appliances, bulbs, tires or 'other' items brought in on a load of garbage that are not tied into the landfilled tonnage.

### **6. LANDFILL OPERATIONS**

- Frozen Loads: Discussion on handling of frozen loads. Landfill Operator was not able to assist with a frozen load one day, which resulted in the MDS driver having to leave the site with a full box. Questions regarding contract requirements were discussed. Gail would look at our operations contract to determine responsibilities, and get back to Randy Weinkauf of Riverview Construction. Jerry Martell questioned why operations were changing after fifteen years. In the past he felt there were no issues when Gerke was operator in getting the boxes scraped and now it seems we have issues getting boxes scraped with Riverview.
  1. The Riverview Operator Terry Taylor mentioned that the drivers usually attempt to scrape the box themselves and this particular driver never made an attempt to get the load to move himself and just told Terry he needed the load scraped.
  2. Martell further mentioned that no revenue is made for the County when a box leaves the site full.

3. Riverview Operator suggested the driver drop the box so that he can scrape it out when he is able to get to it. He is not always able to drop what he is doing to service the driver with the scraper. Martell stated the box needs to be returned many times back to the business asap. Riverview Operator also suggested leaving extra empty roll off boxes for this reason on site. Jerry Martell said they are busy and do not have enough boxes to do this.
  4. Condition of scraper is fair, Gail Frie stated it has been repaired and is not very structurally sound in its current state and should be rebuilt.
  5. Riverview operator Terry Taylor mentioned the expense of leaving a loader running all day in the subzero weather not being cost effective to scrape a few boxes.
  6. Riverview Owner Randy Weinkauf stated we need to work together in a calm fashion to resolve this issue.
  7. Gail will discuss contract specifications regarding scraping boxes with Ayres Consultant Erik Lietz and report back to Weinkauf with interpretation and agreed with Weinkauf that we are all in this to retain garbage at the landfill.
- Agriculture Plastic: Motion/Action. No recycling markets are taking in ag plastic loads, so a policy change is needed to start charging for ag plastics at the MSW tonnage rate the first of the year. The Solid Waste web site has been updated to explain this change, and the customers who have come in with loads the last three months have been informed. We have seen a marked increase of ag plastics since Gail attended the Towns Association meeting to inform all of the change. Some towns currently have ag plastic boxes at their drop off sites. Towns will direct those larger customers to our drop site. The County has a separate site with containers for dropping off ag plastic, which is an additional expense to dump these boxes on site. Our intent is to keep these farm operations out of the landfill active site as this many times comes in by horse and buggy. This creates a safety hazard.

Our Clean Sweep flyer for April also states the new Ag pricing. Motion by Luethe and seconded by Steele to charge for ag plastics. Motion carried 4:0

- Recycling Program: Kirk Arity, Tomah's Director of Public works, has decided to take on curbside recycling in the City of Tomah, currently handled by MDS. Conversation between Jerry Martell and Kirk Arity regarding the issues with the transition from MDS to Tomah personnel ensued. Martell stated while recycling prices are in the tank, many neighboring municipalities are paying for their recyclables or are getting cut off whereas his operation has maintained a good relationship with his vendors due to the quality of product he delivers. He voiced concern on the logistics of delivery from Tomah to his recycling center and mentioned it might not be economically feasible to keep the Tomah MDS location open with the loss of revenue this change will create. Gail mentioned the recycling grant is designed for households with and apartments with four or less units, and all other is commercial and not part of the grant. Discussion regarding business customers vs. citizen recycling was discussed and it was decided Arity and Martell would continue the conversation after today's meeting at the Solid Waste office.

It can be anticipated that Recycling grants will continue downward. La Crosse County lost another \$60,000 from their Hazardous Waste grant, according to Deputy Director Randy Nedrelo.

- Vehicle: Motion/Action: The landfill has been without a vehicle since it was totaled in a deer-car accident years ago. Gail and Shelly have been using their own vehicles to go back and forth to the landfill and pump sites several times per day. They have not charged mileage to Monroe County on personnel vehicle use within the site, but do when going off site on County business. Gail purchased a 1989 used 4x4 pick up and has been testing it out. He is confident the truck is in great shape for landfill use, and would like the County to purchase it from him for \$1,500.00.

Dan Olson stated he would not like to see this older vehicle taken off-site. Gail stated the County still has municipal plates and it would be very little cost to put this vehicle on the insurance. Motion to purchase the vehicle from Gail Frie at a cost of \$1500.00 and insure it. Three votes in favor, Olson against. Motion carried.

**7. MANAGERS REPORT**

Gail presented four jars of leachate samples to the committee from the on-site leachate filtering demonstration done by Apex Company. Apex brought three of nine filters available. The samples shown were raw leachate, and three varying levels of filtered leachate. The highest level #9 was cleaner than Wisconsin drinking water standards. We plan to submit a proposal to the WDNR to allow for land-spreading of the filtered leachate at the #6 filtered level. The #6 filtered leachate is far cleaner than the WDNR Land Spreading Standards.

**8. NEXT MEETING DATE:**

January 18, 2016 at 8:30 am at the Monroe County Solid Waste Department, 20448 Junco Road, Norwalk, WI

**9. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Motion by Luethe and second by Las at 9:50 am