

WAUPACA COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Meeting Minutes – May 13th, 2019

Waupaca County Courthouse – Room 1068

Chair Zaug called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm and gave the open meeting statement.

Roll Call: Chair Fred Zaug, Vice-Chair Joe McClone, Supervisors Joyce Boyer, Janet Lehrer, and Peter Bosquez; Citizen Members Jeff Dyer, Maryann Snider, and Ken Van Dyke. Others present: Staff Members Taylor Sorenson, Tom Claussen, and John Francis. Citizen member Nancy Koeppen was unable to attend.

Review and Approve Agenda: Motion by Boyer, seconded by Bosquez to approve the agenda. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion by Boyer, seconded by Van Dyke to approve the April 8th, 2019 minutes. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Public Comment / Correspondence: Zaug opened the meeting for public comment, there was none.

DEN Employee Issues – Discuss Options, Approve Direction: Francis recapped the situation and handed out a sheet showing the proposed wage rates for our contracted workers. He explained that the initial employment company backed out, not wanting to get involved. Manpower Group was contacted and visited the site. They have offered us a contract that has been reviewed by Corporation Counsel and returned to them for changes. Francis recommended we go with this service at this time and try to bring on the employees as County Employees for the 2020 budget cycle. This would allow HR time to properly grade the jobs in the County pay scale and would follow the proper procedure for new positions. There was discussion about which direction the County should go in regards to these positions and pay rates.

Motion by McClone, seconded by Lehrer to contract with Manpower Group for the four DEN positions upon contract approval by Corporation Counsel to complete the 2019 budget year and to recommend these positions be brought on as County Positions for the 2020 budget. Motion carried without a negative vote.

AG Plastic Recycling Program – Discuss Changes to Program and Future Direction:

Zaug stated that he attended a WCSWMA board meeting recently and the changes to the program were a key discussion. He said the consensus was that the other Counties represented at the meeting were not going to pay for the program or handle billing for the program. Most attendees were not happy with the way Revolution Plastics was going about this process of shifting cost.

Van Dyke attended the same meeting and felt that the plastic industry was just trying to look responsible by offering the program and now they are trying to shift the blame/cost to the Counties for not keeping it going into the future. The Counties are left holding the bag.

Sorenson went through the information that was sent out regarding the request from Revolution Plastics and explained what would have to happen to comply with their request. She also talked about how many farms are using the service and how it has impacted their operations. The Department has looked into how much work it would be to collect fees from the individual farms then pass on the funds to Revolution Plastics. She had the contract reviewed by Corporation Counsel and was told that there would need to be significant changes before they could recommend signing it. At the meeting with the representative from Revolution Plastics, they stated that they will not consider changes to the contract, it was either sign it or they take their dumpsters and go home.

Van Dyke stated that we should not play the middle-man or take the blame for this program staying or going. The plastics industry should add the cost of recycling the product to the purchase price, then the ones making the products would be responsible for disposing/recycling of it.

McClone stated that the farmers benefiting from the dumpsters should pay for them and that the County should not be involved in billing for the plastics company.

There was discussion and it was decided that there should be a meeting of the Ad-hoc committee to address the issue. There should be a way to put the plastics industry on the spot for handling the Ag plastics that they produce. Van Dyke is going to work with the committee to set a meeting time to discuss this.

Motion by Van Dyke, seconded by Lehrer to reject the contract with Revolution Plastics as the County should not be paying for or doing the billing for a private company to handle Ag plastics. Motion passed without a negative vote.

PTF Supervisor Update: Claussen reported that the PTF has been very busy lately. In January we shipped about 200 tons to the landfill, in April it was 430 tons and May is ahead of last May so far. He stated that the trucking is working well, they have been pulling three loads a day to the landfill on many days lately. He also stated that the parking lot paving project is still on schedule for this year.

Meetings/Conferences Attended: Zaug and Van Dyke attended the WCSWMA board meeting recently, they discussed the Ag plastics program in the line item above.

Recycling Coordinators Report:

- a. **Education Outreach:** Sorenson reported that she has been very busy with presentations during April due to Earth Day. She also started working with the different Children's Gardens to set up presentations for the summer. She had one burning complaint from Go Green Quarry in Caledonia and sent out a warning letter and contacted the owner by phone.
- b. **Program Updates:** Sorenson reported that the Household Hazardous Waste program as well as the Appliance Round Up started on May 1st and that the Round Up ends on the 14th. Claussen noted that they have been receiving more appliances than usual, indicating that our advertising is working. Sorenson also reported that the DNR sent out a letter stating our grant amount for 2019, it will be \$172,684.19 which is just short .81 cents from what was budgeted for.

Director Report: Francis stated that between the DEN employees and the Ag plastic issue, his report has been covered.

Upcoming Meetings: The next meeting was scheduled for July 8th, 2019 at 3:30 pm at the Courthouse. The Chair will call a June meeting only if needed.

Adjourn: Motion by Boyer, seconded by Bosquez to adjourn. Motion carried without a negative vote.

The meeting adjourned at 4:21 pm

Submitted by,

John D Francis
Parks and Solid Waste Director