

WAUPACA COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD
Meeting Minutes – November 8th, 2021
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, Supervisors Susan Golding, Joyce Boyer, and Janet Lehrer, and citizen members Nancy Koeppen, Jeff Dyer, and Maryann Snider were present while Vice Chair Joe McClone and citizen member Ken Van Dyke attended remotely. Others present: Staff members Taylor Sorenson, Tom Claussen, Joe Barden and John Francis.

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

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion by Lehrer, seconded by Golding to approve the October 11, 2021 minutes. Motion carried without a negative vote.

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

GFL/Graichen hauling contract – discussion on possible changes: Francis stated that he, Claussen, and Barden had met at the PTF with two people from GFL to discuss various changes to the site and the possibility of increasing the volume of material that GFL brings to the site. He said there were many options thrown around during the meeting and the GFL representatives suggested that they might be interested in taking over the operation of the tipping floor if they could re-negotiate the hauling contract we have with Graichen and extend it so they would have a 5-year period to cover their capital costs. Francis stated that after talking with Corporation Counsel it might be possible but the details of such a proposal would have to be evaluated before a definite answer could be given. Francis then contacted GFL and relayed that if they were to submit a proposal, he would run it past Corporation Counsel and bring it to the Solid Waste Board for consideration.

Claussen talked about some of the changes GFL was proposing and how they might be a benefit to the County. There is the opportunity to speed up the lines at the PTF, reduce cost for disposal if a different landfill is used, and with the addition of more residential waste, the material leaving the PTF would be heavier and make more consistent load weights. There was discussion about how this could work and other places like Portage County that contract out the operation of the tipping floor and hauling. There were many questions on how things would work. Francis stated that he would report back to the Solid Waste Board with the details of any proposal they may receive. There was discussion about the possibility of having a December meeting if there is a proposal to discuss. Chair Zaug stated that we should plan on having a meeting unless told otherwise.

PTF Reorganization update: Francis stated that the HR sub-committee approved the changes talked about for the PTF in moving Barden into Claussen's position when he retires and creating a new grade 6 position to take on many of Barden's current responsibilities. Francis said this would have some cost saving benefits and eliminate a level of supervision at the PTF that he feels is not needed with such a small staff. Barden was then invited to introduce himself to the Board.

PTF – Volume based tipping fee structure: Francis gave a brief background on what the structure is and that only one account has realized any benefits from it. There was discussion about how the structure was started and that it was likely intended to increase the volume of materials coming to the PTF to meet quotas the County was expected to meet while it was in an agreement with the tri-county landfill partnership. Those agreements are no longer in place and we get no discount at the tri-county landfill. Francis recommended that the Board remove this pricing structure for 2022 as we no longer need to increase volumes and there is no quota to meet or price break at the landfill. There was discussion about how the program worked, how the rates were set and what the impact was on operations. Most were concerned that all customers were treated equitably and that there not be special discounts that favor anyone.

Motion made by Golding, seconded by Lehrer to remove the volume based pricing schedule starting January 1, 2022. Motion passed without a negative vote.

2022 PTF brochure review: Sorenson handed out draft copies of the 2022 brochure and explained the changes that were made including prices (approved at October Board meeting), color, and some wording. There was some discussion about how the brochures are distributed. Lehrer suggested that they be sent to the nutrition sites as well. Francis requested that people look them over and if there is something that doesn't make sense or should be changed let them know as soon as possible.

2022 Wisconsin Integrated Resource Management Conference (WIRMC) – Discussion and future action: Sorenson reported that the conference is scheduled for February 23-25th at the Hyatt Regency in Green Bay. Zaug stated that he plans to go but he will be driving each day. Sorenson stated that she plans on staying there since the venue location is far enough away that the County will allow those who attend to get a hotel room. Sorenson stated that the cost of the full conference is \$375 and that we have enough money in our budget to send 4 or 5 people total. There was some discussion on different aspects of the conference and Sorenson said would need to know by the January meeting at the latest in order to register anyone who is interested.

Board member and staff report(s): conference, seminar, convention, and/or webinar reports: Zaug reported that he attended via Zoom a board meeting for WCSWMA on October 25. There were two PFAS legislative pieces talked about at the meeting, one pushed by the DNR and one by manufacturers. We'll have to wait to see which one wins out. He also talked about scholarships available to students pursuing a degree in the environmental or waste management field. If anyone knows of someone eligible, they should contact Sorenson to get more specifics.

Recycling Coordinator's Report:

- a. **Education Outreach:** Sorenson stated that she did a presentation to the Waupaca Learning Center 4th graders and it went very well. She has also been working with the Crystal Café in Iola after we received a complaint that they were not separating their recyclables from their garbage.
- b. **Program Updates:** Sorenson reported that she submitted the wildfire prevention grant in conjunction with the DNR and described how those funds would be used on radio ads if approved. She stated that she has started work on the prescription drug take back grant report and will begin to work on our HHW grant report once all of the material has been turned in to Brown County for disposal. Sorenson also noted how well recycling markets are still doing.

PTF Supervisor Update: Claussen reported that the household hazardous waste program is done for the year and that there were 120 users in 2021. He stated that there were two semi-loads of tires brought in recently and that our tire storage area is very full right now. They are working with Liberty Tire to try to get another couple of loads picked up as soon as possible. He reported that they shipped out glass recently to prepare for winter and that steel scrap is doing well again this year. He then thanked the Board for the opportunity to run the PTF for the last several years and discussed some of his retirement plans. His last day is slated for January 3, 2022. The Board thanked him for his hard work.

Director Report: Francis handed out and discussed the budget to actual report through the end of September. There was some discussion about where the department was at financially and how various cost increases have impacted the bottom line. There was also discussion about how the recycling budget affected the solid waste budget and changes made for the 2022 budget.

Upcoming Meetings: The next regularly scheduled meeting will be 13 December 2021 at 3:30 pm at the Courthouse.
Adjourn: Motion by Lehrer, seconded by McClone to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 pm

Submitted by,

John D Francis
Solid Waste Director