

**WAUPACA COUNTY  
RECYCLING IMPLEMENTAION COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES**

17 September, 2020  
Manawa Municipal Building

Chair Behnke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Chair Douglas Behnke (T. Bear Creek), Sue Golding (County Solid Waste), Jeff Oppor (T. Helvetia), Marcella Wentworth (T. Union), Les Prochnow (T. Lebanon), Gerald Roen (T. Royalton), Jim Biddison (T. Weyauwega), Mary Trice (T. Waupaca), Marlyn Ebert (T. Royalton), and Alice Brown (C. Manawa).

Present via Zoom: Robert Braun (T. Dupont), Vance Knuth (T. Caledonia), Mark Sprangers (T. Iola), Julie Stumbris (C. Clintonville), Mark Jensen (T. Farmington), Ken Van Dyke (County Solid Waste), Paula Pagel (T. Caledonia).

Also present: Taylor Sorenson, Tom Claussen and John Francis.

Behnke gave the open meeting statement. Quorum was declared.

Motion by Trice, seconded by Prochnow to approve the agenda. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Motion by Ebert, seconded by Wentworth to approve the September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 minutes. Motion carried without a negative vote.

**Election of Chair:**

- Motion was made by Prochnow, seconded by Van Dyke to nominate Douglas Behnke for Chair. Motion carried without a negative vote.
- Motion was made by Trice, seconded by Biddison to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot electing Behnke as Chair. Motion carried without a negative vote.

**Election of Vice-Chair:**

- Motion was made by Prochnow, seconded by Biddison to nominate Gerald Roen for Vice-Chair. Motion carried without a negative vote.
- Motion was made by Prochnow, seconded by Trice to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot electing Roen as Vice-Chair. Motion carried with one dissenting vote by Roen.

**Wisconsin Recycling Law Review:**

- Sorenson handed out the DNR list of materials banned from landfills and explained that all these materials must be reused, recycled, or composted. She also handed out a sheet showing who is involved with the Recycling Program and what role each plays.

**2019/2020 Program Year Results:**

- Sorenson handed out information on the amounts of materials recycled and the expenses for the program in 2019. She explained how this information is used in applying for grant funding for the program. There was discussion about the Outagamie County landfill and how long it will remain open. Sorenson explained that the increase in tonnage from 2018 to 2019 was mostly due to the large storm in July of 2019, which significantly increased the yard waste tonnage in 2019. There was also discussion about the price of some commodities including aluminum cans and plastics.

**2021 Recycling Program Budget:**

- Francis gave a brief explanation of the changes for the 2021 budget.

2020 Estimated Municipal Assessment:

- Sorenson reported on the assessment that will be sent out to municipalities by October 1<sup>st</sup>. The amount for 2020 is projected to be \$91,734.
- Sorenson explained that the cost of assessment is due to current recycling markets along with the decreased grant funding from the state. Despite the fact that cardboard and mixed paper prices have somewhat increased plastic prices have significantly decreased. She went over the revenue decreases and why they're taking place:
  - #1 plastics went from \$230/ton in 2019 to \$140/ton in 2020.
  - #2 plastics went from \$220-400/ton in 2019 to \$80/ton in 2020.
  - This is due in part to low oil prices and low demand for recycled plastic.
  - It is getting hard to move the plastic now, with pickups being delayed due to lack of demand.
  - COVID-19 has also had a large impact on recycling markets just as it has with the rest of the economy.
- There was a discussion on the fund balance (currently \$56,510.11) and how it should be used. There was talk about using \$15,000, \$10,000 or \$5,000 to offset the assessment for 2020. Sorenson had spreadsheets prepared so the group could see the impact of each scenario. There was discussion on how the fund balance came to be, what the per capita cost was last year and if the new census numbers would be used when the invoices are sent (yes).

Motion by Prochnow, seconded by Roen to use \$10,000 of the fund balance to reduce the 2020 assessment. Motion carried with one negative vote from Stumbris.

Member Municipality Updates:

- Sorenson talked about the future of the Waupaca Recycling Center as the City of Waupaca and the Town of Farmington are talking about going to curbside pickup of recyclables in 2022.
- There was discussion about the bag-tag programs in the County and what the charge for each was.
- There was discussion about the Town of Bear Creek's recycling contract expiring at the end of the year and what the town is planning to do.

Upcoming Meetings:

- The next meeting was scheduled for September 16, 2021.

Motion by Roen, seconded by Biddison to adjourn. Motion carried without a negative vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by,

John D. Francis  
Solid Waste Director