

WAUPACA COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD
Meeting Minutes – 14 November 2022
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 Sue Golding, Scott Purchatzke, and John Miller. Citizen Members Lois Bressette and Jeff Dyer were present while Citizen Members Maryann Snider and Ken Van Dyke attended remotely. Staff members Taylor Sorenson, Joe Barden, and John Francis were also present.

Review and Approve Agenda: Motion by Golding, seconded by Van Dyke to approve the agenda. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion by Miller, seconded by Van Dyke to approve the 10 October 2022 minutes. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Public Comment/Correspondence: Zaug opened the meeting for public comment/correspondence, there was no one present. Sorenson reported that she received a letter from a Ron Wedell – resident of the Town of Farmington that was concerned about the Waupaca Regional Recycling & Composting Center (WRRCC) closing due to the change to curbside pickup for the Town. Sorenson responded to him via letter that at this time there were no plans of closing the center and if he had any further questions he could contact the chair of the WRRCC Commission, Mary Trice, for more information on how decisions are made about the center.

2023 PTF brochure review: Sorenson handed out copies of the draft 2023 brochure and discussed changes including going to an orange color, adding mattresses and box springs as a separate charge, price changes as discussed at the previous meeting, adding cooking oil and deer carcasses, and removing spill debris. There was discussion about how and where the brochures are distributed. Sorenson reported that about 3,000 brochures are printed each year and very few are left over. She asked everyone to let her know if they notice any errors and items that need changing before they go to print.

Transfer expansion for 2023 – discussion: Francis handed out a couple drawings – one an overview of the PTF buildings layout and the other a sketch showing the proposed new building addition with the ramp and loading area. He gave a brief background on how this proposed project came to be and how it was moved from 2024 to 2023 to try to use some of the ARPA funding for development. He then outlined some of the concerns he was having with the project. They are listed below:

- The cost of the building will likely exceed the budgeted sum due to the recent price increases of concrete and materials.
- The internal ramp design will likely be somewhat awkward to operate equipment on.
- The whole purpose of the addition is to serve as a backup plan should the loader fail. This would be a very expensive fix to the problem. He stated that a new loader costs around \$200,000 and that the budget for this building is \$500,000. We could have a new loader sitting around for less than this fix.
- It is expected that the new loader will have less mechanical issues as it is a more simple and robust design and that if issues should arise there is supposed to be very good service and parts support. This means that the likelihood of a long period of being out of service should be very low.

There was discussion about these issues and the possibility of future operational changes rendering the addition and ramp obsolete. There was talk about what changes might happen if a different company gets the hauling bid in 2023. Francis suggested that the project be cancelled.

Motion by Golding, seconded by Purchatzke to cancel the PTF tipping floor expansion project. Motion carried without a negative vote.

2022 budget to actual update: Francis handed out copies of the budget report through the end of October. He pointed out several key numbers and talked about how the tipping fees relate to the expenses, like contracted services, where the landfill and hauling fees are paid out of. Sorenson discussed the status of the recycling budget – looking good for this year, but there are some troubling trends related to items like cardboard and paper. There was some discussion and Francis invited anyone with questions about specifics to contact him directly.

Board member and staff report(s): conference, seminar, convention, and/or webinar reports: Zaug opened the floor to any reports, there two reports.

- Zaug reported that he attended the WCSWMA directors meeting in October and reported on some of the changes on the board. He also talked about the three \$2,000 scholarships available to students in the waste management field, asking folks to pass the information on to anyone who might qualify.
- Sorenson attended the DNR annual MRF stakeholders meeting via Zoom recently. She talked about how paper cups may become a recyclable material soon. Cardboard markets are down due to the super-slow economy and how all MRF's are operating with extremely short staff. There was some discussion about recycling Styrofoam.
- Golding attended the Town of Farmington meeting where they discussed curbside garbage and recycling collection. She said it appeared about 50/50 as far as support for the measure by those attending. The Town Board voted to go forward with curbside collection.

Recycling Coordinator's Report:

- a. Education Outreach:** Sorenson stated that she appeared on Chairman Koeppen's radio show in October where she spoke about ways to reduce waste through Halloween and the rest of the Halloween season. She's also been working with Harter's and the T. of Farmington to get them curbside recycling information included with the informational packets Harter's will include with their cart delivery.
- b. Program Updates:** Sorenson reported that the PTF received a dumpster to collect used cooking oil for no fee from residents and small businesses from a company in Appleton, Blue Honey Biofuels. They use the material to create diesel bio fuel. Sorenson also reported that the Village of Fremont had requested a drug take back box, using grant funds we were able to order one and it was delivered last week Friday. Lastly, the tire recycler out of Milwaukee, MKE Tires and Wheels, has been working out nicely for our last couple of tire pickups.

PTF Supervisor Update: Barden reported that due to the lack of cardboard shipments, they have begun stacking bales in the storage shed normally used for electronics and other materials. The PTF office remodel is essentially complete, stop by and check it out. He also reported that the household hazardous waste program has wrapped up for the year and the final truckload of materials have been taken to Brown County for disposal.

Director Report: Francis reported that the County budget has passed and spoke a little about the new pay scale for employees.

Upcoming Meetings: The next regularly scheduled meeting will be 12 December 2022 at 3:30 pm at the Waupaca County Courthouse – room 1068.

Adjourn: Motion by Miller, seconded by Golding to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 4:21 pm

Submitted by,

John D Francis
Solid Waste Director

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