



**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2024**

A. Call to Order

Vice Chair Doug Nelson called the meeting to order at 09:01 AM.

*Members Present: Mike Easker, Paul Eisen, Jerry Konrad, Howard Miller, Doug Nelson, Shanah Zastera
Members Excused: Kevin Konrad, Jim Wise*

Also Present at the Meeting:

Mike Elder, Director of Facilities

Mary Anne Mueller, Corporation Counsel

Kathy Hutter, Operations Manager

Ethan Hollenberger, Executive Assistant

Cassie Stadtmueller, Office Supervisor

B. Public Comments within the Jurisdiction of the Board

None.

C. Communications Shared by Board Members

1. Solid Waste Department History Highlights

P. Eisen distributed and presented his "Abbreviated History" of the Solid Waste Management Board (SWMB) that he compiled from past meeting minutes. P. Eisen explained that he surveyed Winnebago County meeting minutes from 1973-2006 and surveyed the SWMB meeting minutes and documents he accumulated from the time he served on the SWMB from 2006-present. P. Eisen explained that he plans to write a complete history of the SWMB from his perspective, describing the players and evolution of the current business model.

M. Mueller explained that she has been reviewing the relationship between Winnebago County and the SWMB. M. Mueller distributed copies of Wisconsin State Statutes 59.70 and 59.17 to the SWMB. M. Mueller discussed these statutes and how they pertain to the SWMB. M. Mueller also referenced 77 Opinions of the Attorney General 98, 98 (1988) and the Sanitary Landfill Ordinance Chapter 15.04(4).

M. Mueller explained that the County Executive controls the administration of the Solid Waste Department and the SWMB sets the policy.

D. Nelson asked what the difference between administration and policy is. M. Mueller explained that policy determines which way the SWMB would want to go in terms of how they want to spend their money and administration is day-to-day affairs. M. Elder further explained that policy is setting the direction and goals of the Solid Waste Department and the Solid Waste Staff takes those goals and executes what needs to be completed to achieve the goals set by the SWMB.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

M. Easker asked that M. Mueller and Administrative Staff provide clear written guidelines on what the SWMB can make decisions on going forward compared to how the SWMB previously operated.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

D. Nelson stated that he attended the tour of the Tri-County Recycling Facility on March 20, 2024. K. Hutter explained that several SWMB members, representatives from Town of Neenah, Town of Vinland, and various media outlets attended the tour. K. Hutter further explained that there was a presentation from the Administrator of the recycling facility and a representative from the company we purchased the robots from and attendees went on a tour of the recycling facility.

D. Approval of Minutes

1. Action Item: January 17, 2024, and February 21, 2024, Meeting Minutes
Motion by Howard Miller, seconded by Paul Eisen to Approve January 17, 2024, and February 21, 2024, Meeting Minutes. Passed. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. J. Konrad couldn't vote due to County Board Rule 11.6.

E. Director's Report

1. Landfill Gas Engine Replacement Status
M. Elder informed the SWMB that there were plans to replace engine 3 in 2025. M. Elder explained that engine 3 is our oldest engine and needs to be replaced and engine 4 had a catastrophic failure in February 2024 and is out of commission. M. Elder explained that to repair engine 4 it would cost \$920,000 compared to a new engine that would cost \$990,000. M. Elder further explained that Solid Waste Staff needs to look at the future of landfill gas collection to determine if purchasing two new engines is a worthwhile investment for the department.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

2. Director Position Fill Status
M. Elder informed the SWMB that interviews for the Solid Waste Director position have taken place and Human Resources is currently negotiating with a qualified candidate.
3. 2023 Household Hazardous Materials and Diversion Program
K. Hutter presented the 2023 Household Hazardous Material and Diversion Program report to the SWMB.

P. Eisen asked why the UW-O Biodigester shut down. K. Hutter explained that she is unsure of the reason. K. Hutter further explained that she has reached out several times to get further information and on her most recent attempt, the phone lines were disconnected. P. Eisen stated this is a possible investment opportunity for the SWMB.

4. 2023 Solid Waste & Recycling Preliminary Tonnages
K. Hutter presented the 2023 Solid Waste & Recycling Preliminary Tonnage report to the SWMB.

M. Easker asked how it is determined which landfill the waste is directed to. K. Hutter explained it is determined based on discussion with the BOW partners.

5. BOW Intergovernmental Recycling Agreement Status
K. Hutter presented the BOW Intergovernmental Recycling Agreement Status to the SWMB as follows:

- *Original Agreement dated November 13, 2001*
- *Extension adopted March 31, 2008; new termination date December 31, 2024 with up to three successive 15-year periods if not terminated to the provisions of the agreement.*

- *Dissolution renamed to "Opting Out" – Any county may opt out of the agreement as of December 31, 2019 or the 10th calendar year of any renewal term if any one governing body decides by 2/3 vote to opt out of the agreement. Opting out county must make other counties whole for capital equipment and assurance of service obligations.*

K. Hutter explained to the SWMB that discussion will begin with the BOW partners to discuss any provisions to the current agreement. K. Hutter explained that the agreement will automatically renew as-is on December 31, 2024, if no changes are made.

6. Special Event: Boat Shrink Wrap Recycling

K. Hutter informed the SWMB that K. Reyer, Education & Outreach Specialist, is working with Becher Plastics (Becher) to coordinate a one-time special event for recycling boat wrap on June 1, 2024. K. Hutter explained that producers of the material will have to prepare and transport it directly to Becher on the day of the event. K. Hutter explained that this will be a no cost/no revenue campaign for our department. K. Reyer is communicating with boat storage yards and marinas to coordinate drop-off recycling at Becher, rather than landfilling the material, which helps save landfill airspace and prevents potential windblown litter from landfill collection/working sites. K. Hutter further explained that all of the plastic film they recycle stays in the US and the boat stretch wrap will be made into farm irrigation tubing, plastic sheeting, plastic wrap, plastic shelves and Milwaukee tool cases and tool boxes.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

F. Items for Next Agenda

Suggestions from committee members for items to be addressed on a future agenda

P. Eisen would like to discuss taking ownership of the Huber property.

G. Next Meeting Date

The next SWMB meeting date is scheduled tentatively for May 1, 2024, at 9:00 AM.

H. Adjourn

Motion by M. Easker, seconded by Howard Miller to Adjourn at 11:07 AM. Passed. Yes 4, No 1, Abstained 0. P. Eisen Nay. J. Konrad couldn't vote due to County Board Rule 11.6.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Cassie Stadtmueller
Office Supervisor*

Approved by the SWMB 05.15.24