

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES
WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD**

DATE: May 17, 2023

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Solid Waste Administration Office
100 W. County Road Y
Oshkosh, WI

PRESENT: Pat O'Brien, Chairman
Doug Nelson, Vice Chairman
Jim Wise, Secretary
Mike Easker
Jerry Konrad
Kevin Konrad
Howard Miller
Shanah Zastera (9:03 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.)

PRESENT BY ZOOM: Paul Eisen

ALSO PRESENT: John Rabe, Director of Solid Waste
Cassie Stadtmueller, Office Supervisor
Kathy Hutter, Operations Manager
Jessica Hanson, Communications & Program Development

1. Call to Order: P. O'Brien called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the May 17, 2023 agenda, made by D. Nelson and seconded by K. Konrad. Motion carried 7-0. P. Eisen couldn't vote due to County Board Rule 11.6.
3. Public Comments on Agenda Items: None.
4. Communications Shared by Solid Waste Management Board Members: J. Wise informed the Solid Waste Management Board (SWMB) that the County Board recently formed a structure review task force to address the structure of committees, and a per diem task force to review the compensation. J. Wise stated he is on the per diem task force.

P. O'Brien expressed concern and would like to better understand the rationale behind the goals of the structure review task force as it relates to the SWMB.

M. Easker asked if we have looked into what the rest of the State is doing in regards to Committee/Board structures for Solid Waste Departments. J. Rabe stated that this is something we can look into.

P. Eisen stated that he serves on the structure review task force and explained that questionnaires were sent out to Department Heads and County Board Supervisors. P. Eisen further explained that at the May 25, 2023 structure review task force meeting, they will discuss the results of these questionnaires.

M. Easker stated the SWMB is structured similar to a Water Commission that is regulated per State Statute. M. Easker stated that there is a reason the State allows communities not to put these type of revenues into the general government fund because they will be used for general purposes and not what the funds were raised/intended for – funds shouldn't be intermingled.

P. O'Brien stated that he would like to know why the SWMB structure is being reviewed/questioned and what is wrong with the current SWMB structure. P. O'Brien also stated that the questionnaires should have been sent to all Chairpersons for feedback.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

J. Konrad stated that State Statutes allow Counties to establish SWMB's. Solid Waste Management has evolved over time and Winnebago County was a leader in this regard by being one of the first in the state to create a SWMB. J. Konrad also agrees that we need to look into Committee/Board structures for other County Solid Waste Departments.

M. Easker agrees that the SWMB has been a leader in the State for many years. M. Easker stated that in his opinion, if this Solid Waste Department reported to a standing committee instead of the SWMB, the Tri-County (BOW) Solid Waste & Recycling Agreements never would have been formed in 2002.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

5. Approval of Minutes – April 19, 2023, Open Session: Motion to approve the April 19, 2023 Open Session, made by M. Easker and seconded by D. Nelson. Motion carried 8-0. P. Eisen couldn't vote due to County Board Rule 11.6.

Discussion – Responsible Unit of Government (RUG) Annual Recycling Meeting Reports: J. Rabe explained that K. Hutter and J. Hanson will present the following reports to the SWMB: Operations Report, Recycling Program Summary/2022 RUG Financials, and Recycling Education, Communication & Outreach Report. These reports will then be presented at the 2023 RUG Informational Meeting, scheduled on May 18, 2023 from 9-11 a.m. at the Solid Waste Department Administration Office.

K. Hutter presented the Operations Report to the SWMB and topics included: Solid Waste/Recycling Transfer Station Operations, Brown, Outagamie and Winnebago County Partnership Landfill Operations, Tri-County Single Stream Recycling Facility Operations, Other Waste Diversion/Universal Waste Recycling Programs, and Household Hazardous Material Facility.

D. Nelson asked if robotics are replacing sorting employees due to staffing shortages. K. Hutter explained that yes, we are currently running at 50% of sorters and the robotics will help with the shortages.

K. Hutter presented the Recycling Program Summary/2022 RUG Financials to the SWMB (unaudited) and topics included: Recycling Law and RUs, Recycling Agreement, Revenues & Commodity Markets, and 2022 Financials & Surplus Revenue Status.

M. Easker asked why we did not budget for the BOW Commodity Revenues. K. Hutter stated we have never budgeted for that amount but it is something we could do going forward.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

J. Hanson presented the Recycling Education, Communication & Outreach Report to the SWMB. Topics covered were Social Media Updates, Special Projects, and Tri-County Initiatives.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

7. Director's Report on Department Operations: J. Rabe presented the Director's Report on Department Operations to the SWMB as follows:
 - Waste and recycling hauling from the transfer station continues – WisDOT weight limits came off the roads on April 25, 2023 (in place for 6 weeks this year)
 - Battery fire discovered by operator on Saturday May 6, 2023 – likely saved us from a larger after hours transfer station fire; Large fire discovered at Columbia County transfer station on Sunday May 14, 2023 – building is a total loss
 - Landfill Gas (LFG) to Energy operations continue running two engines when LFG is available (approx. 500-600 cfm); running one engine if LFG quality declines/off-peak hours; periodic flare operation continues when necessary
 - WPS Revenue Summary: \$61,332 in April 2023; YTD 2023 total = \$281,233 (\$462,866 YTD in 2022)
 - WPS PPA rates were reduced in April 2023 with no notice whatsoever:
 - On-Peak current = \$0.07454/kWh (was \$0.09601/kWh)
 - Off-Peak current = \$0.04659/kWh (was \$0.05268/kWh)
 - Blended current = \$0.05916/kWh (was \$0.07217/kWh)
 - PPA rate reduction reduced April 2023 revenues by approx. \$14,238

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

8. Future Agenda Items: None at this time.
9. Set Next Meeting Date: The next SWMB meeting date is scheduled for June 7, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

10. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by K. Konrad and seconded by J. Konrad. Motion carried 8-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.. P. Eisen couldn't vote due to County Board Rule 11.6.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cassie Stadtmueller
Office Supervisor

Approved by SWMB – June 7, 2023