

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

DATE: October 2, 2019

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Highway Department
900 W. County Road Y
Oshkosh, WI

PRESENT: Pat O'Brien, Chairman
David Albrecht, Vice Chairman (9:04 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.)
Paul Eisen, Secretary
Jerry Finch
Gerry Konrad
Susan Locke
Doug Nelson

EXCUSED: Mike Easker
Ken Robl

ALSO PRESENT: John Rabe, Director of Solid Waste
Cassie Stadtmueller, Administrative Associate
Kurt Pernsteiner, Operations Manager
Kathy Hutter, Recycling Program Manager
Zach Moureau, Environmental Manager
John Fink, County Executive Assistant
Tom McInnis, Parks Department (9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.)

1. Call to Order: P. O'Brien called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the October 2, 2019 agenda, made by J. Finch and seconded by S. Locke. Motion carried 6-0.
3. Public Comments on Agenda Items: None.
4. Announcements/Communications: J. Rabe informed the Solid Waste Management Board (SWMB) that further discussion about the possible 2020 meeting schedule change will take place in November/December.

J. Rabe informed the SWMB that Brown County (BC) and Outagamie County (OC) are currently permitting their landfill sites with the WI Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). The WDNR requested additional information for the OC Northwest Regional Landfill feasibility

report. J. Rabe further explained that the Brown, Outagamie and Winnebago (BOW) County group has drafted a response letter to the WDNR providing the requested information.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

5. Approval of Minutes – September 18, 2019 Open Session: Motion to approve the September 18, 2019 open session minutes, made by J. Finch and seconded by G. Konrad. Motion carried 7-0.
6. Discussion– Ken Robl Conservation Park Update: T. McInnis presented the Ken Robl Conservation Park (KRCP) Update as follows:
 - The past winter temperatures and wildlife have killed most of the bushes throughout the park; trees are doing fine
 - Local residents primarily use the park; common for bicycles to use trail
 - Parks Department looking into putting directional signs near the Wiowash Trail to increase use of the KRCP
 - There are two wash out areas on the trail that will need to be addressed
 - Plan to cut all grass before winter; will help remove invasive plants and promote growth in spring
 - Experimenting with planting wild flowers within grassy areas throughout the park

P. O'Brien suggested looking into control options for the invasive weeds in the pond making it difficult to fish.

T. McInnis stated the Parks Department has previously used herbicide in other ponds in Winnebago County (WC) and have successfully controlled the weeds. T. McInnis explained that this will not affect the fish in the pond. T. McInnis stated he will look into a cost estimate for the KRCP pond.

J. Rabe presented draft educational signage (total of six signs) for the KRCP to the SWMB. J. Rabe explained signs will be placed throughout the KRCP in spring 2020.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

7. Discussion – Recycling Program Updates: K. Hutter presented the Recycling Program Updates to the SWMB as follows:
Signing Municipalities
 - All 16 Signing Municipalities returned their surplus commodity revenue ballots by late August.
 - Ballot vote result: 97.66% of the population of the Signing Municipalities chose to have Winnebago County maintain \$50,925 of the surplus recycling revenue to avoid a 2018 County recycling deficit.
 - \$36,093 rebated to the Signing Municipalities based on the Municipality's actual tonnage processed and sold for year 2018.
 - Checks were issued in early September.
 - Breakdown of votes & distributed funds:

2019 RECYCLING SURPLUS REVENUE BALLOT FOR DISTRIBUTION OF 2018 FUNDS

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Population</u>	County <u>Maintain</u> <u>\$50,925</u>	<u>Full</u> <u>Refund</u>	<u>2018 SSR</u> <u>Tonnage</u>	<u>% of</u> <u>Refund</u>	<u>\$ Refund</u>
Town of Algoma	6,959	6,959		624.56	5.04%	\$ 1,820.03
Town of Black Wolf	2,425	2,425		265.54	2.14%	\$ 773.81
Town of Clayton	4,062	4,062		461.79	3.73%	\$ 1,345.70
Village of Fox Crossing	18,892	18,892		1,342.01	10.84%	\$ 3,910.74
Town of Neenah	3,537	3,537		369.27	2.98%	\$ 1,076.09
Town of Nekimi	1,416		1,416	126.49	1.02%	\$ 368.60
Town of Omro	2,238	2,238		133.04	1.07%	\$ 387.69
Town of Vinland	1,744	1,744		207.66	1.68%	\$ 605.14
Town of Winchester	1,780	1,780		152.25	1.23%	\$ 443.67
Town of Winneconne	2,405	2,405		258.41	2.09%	\$ 753.03
Town of Wolf River	1,190	1,190		75.54	0.61%	\$ 220.13
Village of Winneconne	2,394		2,394	230.08	1.86%	\$ 670.47
City of Menasha	17,647	17,647		1,385.94	11.19%	\$ 4,038.76
City of Neenah	25,976	25,976		2,227.22	17.98%	\$ 6,490.33
City of Omro	3,561	3,561		258.54	2.09%	\$ 753.41
City of Oshkosh	66,636	66,636		4,267.33	34.45%	\$ 12,435.40
Total	162,862	159,052	3,810	12,385.67	100.00%	\$ 36,093.00
		97.66%	2.34%			
70% of population	114,003					

Tri-County Material Recovery Facility (MRF) Projects

- June 2019 –OC Request for Bid (RFB) released for MRF Pre-sort Cabin Construction.
 - Remodel of pre-sort cabin to include insulated walls, update doors, replace guardrails and miscellaneous finishing work.
 - Pre-sort cabin is located within MRF adjacent to tip-floor and has had ongoing temperature regulation issues during cold weather months. Six Leadpoint employees are stationed in the pre-sort cabin.
 - Three responses received; awarded to Milbach Construction Services for \$421,068.
 - Budgeted in 2019 as Capital Outlay project (\$1.3 million available for multiple projects, BOW Staff prioritize projects to meet the needs of the MRF).
 - Work is expected to be completed in early 2020.
 - Engineering services provided by McMahon.
- June 2019 – OC Request for Proposal (RFP) released for Engineering Services for MRF Equipment Upgrades.
 - Goal was to hire Engineering Services to consult on MRF Equipment upgrade needs and development of associated RFB documents.
 - Three responses received – Foth Infrastructure & Environment (Foth), SCS Engineers, Sloan-Vasquez.

- July 2019 - BOW Staff and OC Purchasing Agent met to discuss responses and award.
- The evaluation committee selected SCS Engineers (Madison, WI) for award. Considerations: SCS's comprehensive plan to research MRF needs, recycled materials markets and fully develop RFB documents (work & equipment), provided most detailed timeframe for tasks and completion dates, assigned experienced Engineers to project and a well-qualified consultant with MRF retrofit experience. Cost was considered but not a final deciding factor.
- September 2019 – OC RFB released for MRF Equipment Replacement.
 - Work & equipment primarily entails upgrade of the Optical Sorter equipment, redesign of Polyethylene terephthalate (PET/#1 plastics) QC Station and Eddy Current (Aluminum).
 - Goals are to replace obsolete equipment, achieve effective PET plastic and aluminum sorting, ensure material/bale quality meets buyer specification and secure higher value for sold material.
 - Bid documents/scope of work was developed by SCS Engineers with input from BOW Staff and OC Purchasing Agent.
 - Mandatory site visit October 4, 2019. Bids due November 5, 2019.
 - Anticipated downtime for work is 4 consecutive days (includes Saturday & Sunday), additional hours available on 3rd shift but plant must be up and running by 1st shift. BOW Staff are developing a contingency plan for material flow in the event of an extended downtime period. Liquidated damages are addressed in the RFB.
 - Project will be funded through Equipment Replacement Fund
- Additional equipment replacement and upgrades to be considered in future years, including improvements to the high-density polyethylene (HDPE/#2 plastics) lines and fiber (cardboard/paper) lines. Funding will require further discussion.

Legislative

- The Joint Legislative Audit Committee requested an audit of the state recycling program.
 - Requested by Co-chairpersons of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, Senator Robert Cowles and Representative Samantha Kerkman.
 - WDNR Staff prepared a brief written testimony and answered questions at the Committee's Public Hearing/Executive Session on September 24, 2019.
 - Scope of the audit is considered broad. Last audit was in 2001. Senator Cowles and Representative Kerkman requested the audit to consider the current recycling market environment, validity of Responsible Unit (RU) grant formula, effectiveness of RUs, state allocated funds to RUs, and costs to administer the program.
 - Additionally, committee members requested the audit include assessment of other states' programs, environmental impact of recycling, comparison of cost to landfill vs. cost to recycle, in-state vs. out-of-state generated waste, waste composition, education, extended producer responsibilities, diversion programs (Construction & Demolition, medications, tires, Household Hazardous Waste, organics), and recycled feedstock markets.
 - Joe Chrisman, State Auditor agreed that all topics mentioned by Committee members fell within the scope of the audit.

- Per Senator Cowles, the overall goal of the audit is to improve administration of the state recycling program.
- WDNR Deputy Secretary Beth Bier, Joe VanRossum, Program Director Waste & Recyclable Materials Management and other WDNR Staff were present on September 24, 2019 to answer committee questions.
- Meleesa Johnson, AROW President offered assistance to WDNR and Legislature as the audit progresses.
- AROW member discussion has already begun. Two basic camps of thought – (1) great opportunity to review effectiveness of program, educate the legislative body on the importance of recycling and make improvements to current laws & funding; (2) prepare for the upcoming battle to keep our recycling programs (pressure from private companies to increase profits/reduce costs by dismantling the state's mandatory recycling laws).

Industry Group Studies

- 2019 Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) Report *Resetting Curbside Recycling Programs in the Wake of China*
 - Purpose: to identify new strategies and policies in recycling programs for local governments to consider. Study focuses on impact of the change in world markets and targeting materials that can be economically and sustainably recycled.
 - Curbside collection statistics:
 - 50% of US population has curbside recycling services; 90% of these are single-stream.
 - 11.6 million tons of recyclables are collected curbside per year; 2.54 million is contaminants (21.9%); total recovered material is 9.06 million tons.
 - Impact of China National Sword
 - Tonnages – greatest change is in mixed paper, with an annual reduction of exports of 2.4 million tons (curbside collection recovers 2.5 million tons mixed paper per year).
 - Revenues – 48% decrease in the blended value of recovered MRF recyclables (from \$99.79/ton in February 2017 to \$52.28/ton in February 2019); a decrease of \$431 million per year in sales revenue.
 - Current cost of curbside recycling:
 - Collection costs – \$403.36/ton or \$6.00/Household/month
 - Processing costs - \$98.00/ton or \$1.46/Household/month
 - Recycling Revenues – (\$40.86)/ton or (\$0.61)/Household/month
 - Net cost \$460.53/ton or \$6.85/Household/month vs. landfilled \$159.11/ton or \$2.37/Household/month
 - Impact of China National Sword cost increase of ~\$0.75/Household/month (~\$9/year)
 - Need to consider benefits when evaluating cost:
 - Popular, well-liked environmental program
 - Landfill airspace savings
 - Greenhouse gas reduction
 - Conserve natural resources

- Pollution reduction
- Job creation
- Considerations currently being taken by collection services:
 - Change frequency of collections from weekly to bi-weekly (cost savings of 50% for collection; no benefit for MRF; less convenient for resident but service continues).
 - Change collections back to dual stream (collection cost increases; cleaner material benefits the MRF; less convenient for resident to sort but service continues)
 - Discontinue collections and offer drop-off only (collection cost decreases; cleaner materials at MRF; little benefit to resident as convenience is lost)
- Other considerations/recommendations that will benefit all parties involved:
 - Education - Minimize contamination through improved education, addressing top contaminants, tagging events, etc.
 - Evaluate the economics of mixed materials - Remove glass from the stream and offer it as a drop-off only recycling service. Glass is a low value commodity, expensive to transport, contaminates fiber bales and is abrasive on MRF equipment. Cost savings to collection (less weight in recycling loads), cost savings to MRF (eliminates 21% of incoming material so lines can be slowed without additional staff), will also increase the blended value of recovered recyclables (up ~\$20/ton).
 - Review MRF Funding - Develop a MRF Funding Strategy where MRFs do not have to depend on recycling commodity revenues to fully cover processing costs. Examples: (1) Base contract price covers full operating cost with revenue sharing to contracting agency. (2) Contracting agency assumes the bulk of the risk and the reward. MRF establishes a reserve fund to be used for capital expenses. (3) Municipal governments share net recycling revenues based on individual collection costs.
- Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI) *2019 Economic Impact Study U.S. Based Industry*
 - In 2018, over 138 million metric tons of waste was processed as recyclable scrap materials in the United States.
 - The scrap recycling industry is directly and indirectly responsible for more than 531,500 jobs and an overall economic impact of nearly \$110 billion in the United States.
 - In Wisconsin, 20,284 jobs are supported by the scrap recycling industry with an economic impact of \$4.58 billion.

Miscellaneous

- WDNR MRF Stakeholder Meeting
 - Monday, October 7, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.-1 p.m., JP Coughlin Center, Oshkosh
 - Agenda to include: Update on Recycling Markets, WI Recycling Regulations/Law, Container Glass Guidance Overview, WDNR Updates (MRF Survey Results), MRF Presentations/Discussion Panel (Representatives from Advanced Disposal Service, John's Disposal, Milwaukee/Waukesha MRF, Tri-County MRF, Waste Management), Educational Resources & Open Discussion.

- Joanne Gorski, Recycling & Resource Recovery Administrator, OC will be representing Tri-County MRF. M. Walter (BC) and K. Hutter plan to attend meeting.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

8. Discussion/Action – Engine #3 Generator Repair/Replacement: Z Moureau presented the Engine #3 Generator Repair/Replacement to the SWMB as follows:
 - Engine 3 shutdown on Friday, September 20th due to a failure of the generator. The generator was removed on Wednesday, September 25th and brought to L&S for evaluation.
 - Evaluation of generator by L&S Electric (L&S) revealed extension damage from the failure. Cost to repair would be greater than replacement and based upon age/rebuild history of generator it would likely fail again.
 - We are waiting for quotes with lead times for a new generator. I have requested quotes from both L&S and Clarke Energy for replacement. 2018 quotes for new generator were ~\$44,000 with expedited shipping from L&S or ~\$78,000 with expedited shipping from Clarke Energy. Difference in price is due to elimination of several parties in the supply chain.
 - Based on 2018, lead times would be approximately 4-5 weeks with expedited shipping.
 - Potential option to purchase a spare generator from a customer of Energy Dynamics. Currently verifying that this unit is identical or acceptable for installation in Engine 3. Cost for the spare is approximately \$15,000. Lead time would only be a few days as the unit is currently in Illinois.
 - Without Engine 3 available, we lose revenue during downtimes with other engines. We have planned decokes occurring on Engines 4 and 5 at the end of October/beginning of November. If we order a new generator now, it should be available during these maintenance tasks.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

Motion to approve the purchase of a new replacement generator for Engine #3 from L&S Electric for ~\$44,000 made by, J. Finch and seconded by G. Konrad. Motion carried 7-0.

9. Future Agenda Items: None at this time.
10. Set Next Meeting Date: The next SWMB meeting date is scheduled for October 16, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. (Highway Department location).

11. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by J. Finch and seconded by G. Konrad. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cassie Stadtmueller
Administrative Associate

Approved by SWMB – October 16, 2019