

The regular meeting of the Solid Waste Management Planning Committee of the County of Calhoun was held on Monday, February 13, 2006 at 4:30 p.m. at the Calhoun County Road Commission, 13300 Fifteen Mile Road, Marshall, Michigan 49068.

Committee Members Present:	Arnold Arquette	Lewis Cooper
	Mike Myszka	Gene Klisiak
	Ken Kohs	John Bomba
	Walt Obrinske	Steve Essling
	Marilyn Hennon	

Also Present: Bob Overley, Calhoun County Health Department  
Tiffany Seymour, Calhoun County Solid Waste Director  
Mary Jo Crumpton, Calhoun County Community Development

Chairman John Bomba called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

Chairman Bomba led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Motion made by Mike Myszka to accept the meeting agenda as presented.  
Supported by Lewis Cooper. Voice vote: motion carried.**

**Motion made by Mike Myszka to accept the regular meeting minutes of November 14, 2005 as presented. Supported by Gene Klisiak. Voice vote: motion carried.**

#### **ELECTION**

**SWMPC Chair:** Chairman Bomba noted that the SWMPC Chair and Vice Chair elections usually take place at the January meeting; however, due to the cancellation of the January 9, 2006 meeting, elections would be done at this meeting.

Chairman Bomba opened nominations from the floor.

**Motion made by Ken Kohs to nominate John Bomba for SWMPC Chair for 2006.  
Supported by Mike Myszka. John Bomba accepted the nomination. Voice vote: motion carried.**

**Motion made by Gene Klisiak to nominate Ken Kohs for SWMPC Vice Chair for 2006.  
Supported by Steve Essling. Ken Kohs accepted the nomination. Voice vote: motion carried.**

**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FUND**

**Calhoun County Environmental Health Department:** Bob Overlay informed the committee that the dates for the Household Hazardous Waste Collections are as follows:

- Albion City: Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 12 noon at the Calhoun County Public Health Department
- Battle Creek: Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 12 noon at the George W. Toeller Building
- Marshall City: Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10 am – 12 noon at the Calhoun County Building.
- Battle Creek: Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10 am – 12 noon at the George W. Toeller Building

It was noted that the collections are all being held at County sites, centrally located in Albion, Battle Creek and Marshall as they are easier to schedule and staff support is available. The schedule has been sent to all the townships and will continue to be advertised. Tiffany added that the schedule is also posted on the website. Discussion took place on the past practice of holding collections at outlying, satellite sites. Bob noted that collections at these sites were not well attended; therefore, the collections are being focused in a prime, central location to collect the most materials possible.

**Community Compost Center Report:** Included in the agenda packet was the 2005 Community Compost Center Summary from Derek Perry, Deputy Director of Utilities and Infrastructure for the City of Marshall. Discussion on the report was as follows:

- The 2005 Material Estimates in cubic yards was the amount of material that was made.
- Does the population served include both drop off and pick up?
- The contribution from the Solid Waste Committee is not a separate item – is it included under Contributions-Local Units?
- Equipment, under Equipment Maintenance, includes the brush grinder and compost screener.
- How was the depreciation figure derived for the brush grinder? Is this depreciation figure per year?

Tiffany noted that she would follow up with Derek Perry on the above questions.

**2005 Budget Wrap Up:** Tiffany provided committee members with a comparison of the 2005 Budget vs. actual costs by line item. It was noted that from the actual costs that were available for this report, most budget line items were within or under the 2005 budgeted figures. At this time, we are currently under budget by \$12,031.24, given the actual expenditures that have been reported to date. Discussion continued. Committee members commended Tiffany for staying within the 2005 budget.

**Challenge Grant Application/Program:** Tiffany noted that \$10,000 was budgeted for the 2006 Challenge Grants. There has been discussion at past meetings on whether or not the Solid Waste Committee would continue the Challenge Grant program. Chairman Bomba noted that last year, the committee reviewed the program and made a few changes.

Tiffany informed the committee that advertising for the program would need to be done soon and the applications would need to be mailed out. Challenge grant applications would be due in May. She noted that there are two groups who have expressed an interest in the Challenge Grant.

Committee members discussed their role in increasing recycling efforts throughout the county and agreed to continue the Challenge Grant program for 2006. They directed Tiffany to advertise the program and send out the applications.

### **Challenge Grant Updates**

- **Calhoun County Parks and Recreation:** Included in the agenda packet was the completion report from the Calhoun County Parks and Recreation Department for the Challenge Grant they received for the Historic Bridge Park Environmental Beautification. The project consisted of the installation of a message board and two recycling centers to provide information and promote education of the public about dog waste and water quality/health hazards in eating areas, and the benefits of recycling within the park. These improvements, that were completed in the summer of 2005, assisted the Parks Department in educating park uses to be more aware of the impacts of what they do while they are visiting the parks and how important it is for them to contribute in keeping it a great place for families to visit in our community.

The Parks Department feels that this pilot project has been very successful and will look to other opportunities to implement similar facilities at other county park sites.

Tiffany noted that she has not received a final report from Homer Recycling and S.C.R.A.P. Discussion continued.

### **CALHOUN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**Waste Hauler License Fee:** At the last meeting, the Solid Waste Committee directed Tiffany to do research to gather information on licensing requirements, other areas that require licenses and the legal process involved. Included in the agenda packet were examples of Waster Hauler License Applications. Arnold Arquette believes that we need to raise revenue to balance the budget and suggested that charging a waste hauler license fee would accomplish this. Steve Essling commented that he did some research on the ordinance and, under the Hedley Law, you cannot charge any more that what it costs you to put on the program – you cannot create revenue and you cannot charge a surcharge. Lewis Cooper added that we could not create a "rainy day fund". Discussion continued.

Lewis commented that we balanced the budget in 2005 and we can continue this success by other means. Chairman Bomba added that we watch our revenues and expenditures very carefully and continue to try to do our job more efficiently. Mike Myszka believes that it is more important to control costs than charge more fees that trickle down to residents. Steve Essling agreed that we need to stay within our budget.

**Other:** Walt Obrinske commented that more tires and appliances are ending up on the side of the road since we stopped having the Tire and Appliance Collection in Albion. Tiffany responded that all Road

Commission employees now report to Marshall so there are no employees at the Albion and Battle Creek garages. Mike Myszka suggested holding the Tire and Appliance Collections at the same time and location as the Household Hazardous Waste Collections. The parking lots are adequate and it would still served the outlying areas. Lewis Cooper commented that leaving debris along the roadside is a behavior problem that needs to be handled by law enforcement.

Mike Myszka suggested that Tiffany contact the Sheriff's Department to find out how many tickets/fines have been issued for littering and if we could use this information to raise public awareness.

**Next Meeting:** The next regularly scheduled Solid Waste Management Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2006. It was the consensus of the committee to cancel the March 13, 2006 meeting; therefore, the next meeting will be on Monday, May 8, 2006 at 4:30 pm.

#### **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Vacancy: Environmental Interest Representative** – Tiffany informed the committee that she is soliciting nominations to fill the Environmental Interest representative vacancy (Tom Funke). Mike Myszka suggested checking with some local environmental groups such as Pheasants Forever, wildlife groups, etc.

#### **MEMBERS COMMENTS**

Steve Essling informed the committee that the DEQ is discussing adjusting the solid waste policy, which will impact solid waste planning. Also, he mentioned that he saw an advertisement that Goodwill Industries is accepting computers throughout the State. Discussion continued.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2006.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

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Chairman John Bomba

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Mary Jo Crumpton