

The regular meeting of the Solid Waste Management Planning Committee of the County of Calhoun was held on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 4:30 p.m. at the Calhoun County Road Commission, 13300 Fifteen Mile Road, Marshall, Michigan 49068.

Committee Members Present: Lewis Cooper John LaForge
 Steve Essling Mike Myszka
 Marilyn Hennon Walt Obrinske
 Gene Klisiak Cheryl Vosburg

Committee Members Absent: Arnold Arquette Ken Kohs
 John Bomba Terris Todd

Also Present: Bob Overley, Calhoun County Health Department
 Mary Jo Crumpton, Calhoun County Road Commission
 Coy Scheetz, Waste Management
 Brandy Cherney, Best Way Disposal
 Dan Batts, Best Way Disposal
 Darby Prater, Battle Creek Enquirer
 Greg Purcell, Calhoun County
 General Public

Chairman Marilyn Hennon called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m. and led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Mike Myszka and supported by Walt Obrinske to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Voice vote: motion carried.

Motion made by Mike Myszka and supported by Gene Klisiak to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 14, 2008 as presented. Voice vote: motion carried.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FUND

Calhoun County Environmental Health Department: Bob Overley reported that the 2008 HHW Collection locations, dates and times, was provided at the last meeting and has been mailed to townships, villages and cities. Discussion took place on educating the public on the impact of household hazardous waste on groundwater. Committee members commented that there have been some articles published and news reports regarding pharmaceuticals in the groundwater. Marilyn Hennon suggested that in an effort to educate the public, an article be published in our local newspapers and asked Bob Overley to work with Tiffany on this.

Household Hazardous Waste Summary: A summary of household hazardous waste collected from 1996-2007 was included in the packet and detailed the amount of waste collected, as well as the cost for each collection per year.

Solid Waste Strategic Plan: Marilyn Hennon informed everyone that the County would like a recommendation from the SWMPC on the plan. Steve Essling referenced the minutes from the Workgroup conference call that took place as follow up to the public hearing and clarified that other organizations, not just waste haulers, commented on page 19, "Franchised Solid Waste and Curbside Recycling Collection Services" at the public hearing. He provided a list of submittals by non-waste haulers who commented on this portion of the plan. Steve also provided a copy of a letter from the City of Battle Creek opposing franchising solid waste services, limiting land-filling options to in-county facilities and the development of a county recycling processing center. Mike Myszka clarified that the public comments, public hearing minutes, etc., were included with the Strategic Plan. Based on the amount of public outcry regarding franchising, he would recommend that #4., under Program Recommendations, Long-term recommendations on page 26 either be reworded to reflect the research implications or dropped altogether. Long-term program recommendation #6 on page 26 allows for new program evaluation if the committee wished to revisit this in the future. Marilyn Hennon commented that while

there are pros and cons to this option, it is not the intention to provide flow control under a franchise agreement. Discussion continued.

Motion made by Mike Myszka to eliminate long-term program recommendation #4, on page 26 of the Calhoun County Solid Waste Strategic Plan, March 2008. Supported by Steve Essling. Voice vote: motion carried.

Motion made by Mike Myszka to recommend to the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approval of the Calhoun County Solid Waste Strategic Plan with the change as noted above. Supported by Cheryl Vosburg. Voice vote: motion carried.

Community Compost Center Report: Included in the agenda packet was information on the Compost Center including a brief history, usage, amounts collected, budget, comparison to what other counties are doing, what is currently available in Calhoun County for yard waste disposal, and a draft fee schedule. Also included was a Compost Center Summary from 2005, provided by the City of Marshall and their 2008/09 proposed budget.

Chairman Hennon passed on a comment made by committee member Arnold Arquette, who was not in attendance. Mr. Arquette believes that the cost of the wood chipper at the Compost Center is too high and he has asked Tiffany Eichorst to check on the cost of renting a wood chipper.

Lewis Cooper commented that the committee needs more current information on the Compost Center in order to make decisions. Cheryl Vosburg responded that the 2005 summary is the most current available, due to staff transition at that time. She added that she has been meeting with Tiffany Eichorst and Tim Eggleston, City of Marshall, regarding the Compost Center. The committee agreed that a business plan including financial audit reports, year-end summaries, equipment costs, and labor hours and wages paid is needed. Discussion continued.

Dan Batts, Best Way Disposal, added that legislation goes into effect on 3-26-08 regarding Compost Centers and will require reporting of materials coming in and going out of the Center. Steve Essling noted that he has some information on this legislation that he will email to committee members. The committee directed Tiffany to contact other compost centers regarding the new legislation.

Albion Recycling Location: Marilyn Hennon stated that at the last meeting, the committee discussed eliminating the County Recycling Center in Sheridan Township, since residents have recycling available to them at no cost just a few miles away in the City of Albion. This would save approximately \$20,000 per year. Both Tiffany and Marilyn have spoken with Sheridan Township Supervisor, Ken Lauer, who suggested that the amount of recyclables collected be monitored to ensure that there are enough bins at the City location to accommodate the increase so that recyclables do not end up dumped on our roadsides. Committee members agreed that eliminating the Albion recycling location would be a savings, but noted that the bins at the alternative recycling center in the City of Albion would need to be emptied more frequently. Discussion continued.

Committee members asked for more information on the company that is providing this service on the City of Albion property including an annual report, materials being collected, and amounts being collected. It was also emphasized that the City of Albion be notified, signage be installed directing residents to the City of Albion site and advertising take place prior to closing the Sheridan Township recycling center.

Motion made by Mike Myszka to table action to close the Albion Recycling Center in Sheridan Township until the May meeting when further information is provided by the Jackson company that is providing the recycling service. Supported by Steve Essling.

Steve Essling suggested that a proposal be submitted to the committee from either the City of Albion or the service provider out of Jackson that states the purpose of the service. Marilyn Hennon clarified that the City of Albion does not pay for this service - they provide the property for the recycling bins. It was noted that the service is provided free of charge; therefore, there has been no guarantee that the current recycling company will continue.

A concern was raised regarding the elimination of a service that has been provided to residents in the past, but it was noted that recycling services are available within a few miles of the Sheridan Township site. Also, committee members agreed that if the Sheridan Township site were closed, it could always be reopened if needed.

Motion withdrawn.

Motion made by Mike Myszka to close the Albion Recycling Center in Sheridan Township effective 4-30-08, provided there is adequate communication provided to residents directing them to the City of Albion site and information is received from the recycling company providing the service in the City of Albion as specified in the above discussion. Supported by John LaForge. Voice vote: motion carried.

Financial Update: Included in the agenda packet was information on the budget and solid waste revenue and volume. Discussion took place on the timeline for budget discussion and approval. Lewis Cooper suggested forming a three-person subcommittee for budget review. Lewis Cooper, Steve Essling, and Mike Myszka volunteered. Tiffany was directed to contact the subcommittee members for meeting dates.

Spring Tire, Appliance and Television Collection: The flyer listing the dates and times for this collection was included in the agenda packet. Marilyn Hennon stated that as a committee, it is our responsibility to ensure that this information is provided to county residents.

Other: Marilyn Hennon passed on a comment from Arnold Arquette regarding Challenge Grants. He is recommending that Convis Township apply for a challenge grant. Cheryl Vosburg inquired if the committee would fund a challenge grant if there were not a provision for this in the budget. Committee members responded that requests for funding would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE VACANCY

An application from Brandy Cherney, Best Way Disposal, for the Solid Waste Industry representative vacancy was included in the agenda packet. Ms. Cherney introduced herself and stated that she has been employed with Best Way Disposal for five years and has experience with setting up transfer stations and recycling programs. She is a resident of Calhoun County.

Motion made by Steve Essling to recommend for approval by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners the appointment of Brandy Cherney, Best Way Disposal, to the SWMPC representing the Solid Waste Industry. Supported by Walt Obrinske. Voice vote: motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May12, 2008 at 4:30 p.m.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Chairman Marilyn Hennon

Mary Jo Crumpton