SOLID WASTE POLICY BOARD MEETING

June 12, 2013
Solid Waste Department
9:00 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Leon Pfaff, Maureen Freedland, Steve Hogden, Jarrod Holter, Mike Wobbe (Wabasha County), Teresa Walter (Houston County); David Eddy (Buffalo County)

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Dale Hexom, Chuck Spiker

MEMBERS ABSENT: Hank Koch, Nick Nichols, Debbie Henriksen, Orin Wiseman (Solid Waste Department), Larry Hougom, Pennie Pierce (Hilltopper Refuse & Recycling), Gary Harter, Bill Ties (Harter's Quick Clean-Up), Brian Kent (SEH), Mary Ellen Knobloch (Central High School)

OTHERS PRESENT: Larry Hougom, Pennie Pierce (Hilltopper Refuse & Recycling), Gary Harter, Bill Ties (Harter's Quick Clean-Up), Brian Kent (SEH), Mary Ellen Knobloch (Central High School)

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL
Chairman, Leon Pfaff, called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

INTRODUCTIONS
Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

CONSENT AGENDA
• Approval of Minutes (April, 10, 2013)
• Previous Meeting To Do List
• Last Director’s Report

MOTION by Freedland/Wobbe to approve the previous minutes. MOTION passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Comments and questions were welcomed throughout the meeting.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS
Freedland briefly reported on a conference she attended regarding CAPX2020.

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SYSTEM ANNUAL MEETING
There was discussion from those that attended the Annual Meeting. It was agreed that the meeting went well and the speaker was very good. The board was interested in the expense associated with the meeting itself and the Annual Report, which is created by an outside consultant. Koch estimated the total cost was between $8,000 and $10,000, which some felt was excessive. It was requested that Koch try to reduce the cost of this event.

2012 CUSTOMER INCENTIVES
Koch reviewed a document that provided information on various incentive programs including:
Rebates to Municipalities, Businesses and Haulers – The rebates to governments and businesses has declined since 2011 and the hauler rebate has increased significantly. The total rebate paid in 2012 was $470,701.
Waste Diversion – Diverting of shingles, wood, concrete, asphalt and stumps varies year to year. The 5-year savings to customers because of lower prices on diverted materials is approximately $500,000.

Beneficial Use of Waste Materials – Koch explained the various materials that are used in the landfill as daily cover. When approved, this material has a lower tonnage cost to the hauler and reduces the per tonnage fee that the landfill pays to the WDNR and St. Joseph Construction Company. There is a limit established by the WDNR on how much of this material may be used.
Container Lease Program – There was a lot of discussion regarding this program which finances container purchases for haulers and requires that the waste going into the containers be brought to the La Crosse County Disposal System. The pros and cons of this incentive program were discussed including whether this helped with waste security since the Hauler Rebate Agreement already requires that material be brought to our system, are we financing new companies that are just starting and may not make a go of it, how much time is needed to administer this program, does it help provide more competition in the area, does it help outlying areas and whether or not there should be some restrictions in place for the companies that use this program. Koch to discuss with Corporation Counsel whether or not a requirement can be added to the Container Lease Program that the user must also sign the Hauler Rebate Agreement. After debate, it was agreed that this program should be left in the 2014 budget, Koch should continue to evaluate container leases and the topic could be brought back to the group at a later date if needed.

Charitable Contributions – This item will be renamed Community Support and an effort will be made to quantify not just what has been spent, but what material is received or diverted.

Host Agreement – Per the Host Agreement we are required to reimburse the Cities of La Crosse and Onalaska a total of $25,000 per year for beautification or mitigation of landfill affects.

LONGER REBATE PROGRAM
The Cities of La Crosse and Onalaska recently secured seven year contracts for their residential waste pickup. Dale Hexom, had asked whether the Hauler Rebate could be extended for seven years to coincide with that contract. After discussion, it was agreed that we would wait to see if Hexom wanted to re-visit this topic, since he was excused from this meeting.

ELIMINATION OF CONTAINER LEASE AGREEMENTS
Per discussion in the 2012 Customer Incentives section above, it was agreed that container leases would continue as is for now.

REVISED HAULER REBATE LANGUAGE
Koch passed out a document which was reviewed regarding some specific changes that have been requested by Waste Management. They have requested the Rebate Agreement be revised to insure that a rebate is paid on all waste brought in to La Crosse from anywhere, including outside our service area; to insure that waste from outside the region that has never been brought to La Crosse is not required to be brought here and to insure that if state or other law requires waste to be taken to a certain place, the Rebate Agreement does not intend to override that requirement.

MOTION by Freedland/Eddy to recommend approval of the hauler rebate language changes to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee. MOTION passed unanimously.

IMPROVEMENTS TO CITIZEN’S AREA
Koch informed the group that he has included in his proposed budget a .25 FTE to monitor the citizen area bins. This would be one person to work April through October everyday from 10:00 to 2:00. This person would help make sure that people put items into the right bins and monitor the safety of users. The group then walked through the process of a citizen coming in through the scale room and walked out by the bins. Some of the items discussed included taking payment through the scale window, possibility of separating haulers and citizens, expanding or cutting back hours and ways to speed up citizens.

PROJECT UPDATES
Nick Nichols updated the group on the Boy Scout Camporee that was held at the landfill. He also shared some aerial photos of the event.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** – Items suggested for next/future agenda include:
- Update on Sustainability efforts and funding of this position
- Xcel Contract extension
- Anaerobic Digestor

**FUTURE MEETING DATE** – The group discussed scheduling the next meeting. The consensus of the group was to have the next meeting on Wednesday, December 4, 2013.

**MOTION** by Wobbe/Eddy to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION** passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next scheduled meeting, Debbie Henriksen, Recorder