SOLID WASTE
POLICY BOARD MEETING

March 14th, 2018
Solid Waste Department
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Leon Pfaff (La Crosse County), Maureen Freedland (La Crosse County), David Eddy (Buffalo County), Steve Hogden (Trempealeau County), Jarrod Holter (City of Onalaska), Teresa Walter (Houston County), Mike Wobbe (Wabasha County), Patrick Barlow (La Crosse County), Lewis Kuhlman (City of La Crosse)

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve O’Malley, Sharon Davidson, Jadd Stilwell, Nick Nichols, Linda Bettin (La Crosse County), Rick Frank (Houston County), Brian Kent (SEH), Brian Korth (St. Joseph’s Construction), Larry Hougum (Hilltopper), Brandon Knudtson (Hilltopper), Gary Harter (Harter’s)

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL
Chairman, Leon Pfaff, called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

INTRODUCTIONS
Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

CONSENT AGENDA
- Approval of Minutes (June 7th, 2017)

MOTION by Patrick Barlow to approve the June 7th, 2017 Committee Minutes as corrected. SECOND by David Eddy. MOTION passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE
Steve O’Malley presented a PowerPoint detailing the current La Crosse County Solid Waste Department structure and the new La Crosse County Solid Waste Department structure. The old structure had fourteen full time employees and two seasonal employees. The new structure has thirteen full time employees (less one management position) and a reduction in seasonal employees. La Crosse County is currently posting a position for a Solid Waste Director.

PUBLIC COMMENT
David Eddy (Buffalo County), a committee member, is retiring. The committee thanked Mr. Eddy for his years of service.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS
None
ANNUAL STAKEHOLDERS MEETING
For one more year (2018), The Solid Waste Department will continue to have the Annual Stakeholders Meeting in the tent next to the shop. After the Solid Waste Department has finalized the remodeling of the office building during 2018, it will be determined where the Annual meeting will be held in the future.

SITE ENTRANCE AND CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

- **Replacement of Private Wells**

Installation of the Walz and Sjolander wells have been successfully completed. Both new wells have been tested, connected internally, old wells have been abandoned and site restoration has been completed. An expedited plan modification was submitted to the WDNR to align water testing requirements with settlement agreements. Final letters of acceptance have been sent. Original estimated costs for these two wells was $180,000. At the end of 2017, the actual final cost for the replacement of these wells, was $107,790.31. All costs associated with the installation, oversight, documentation and testing for these wells is being paid for by funds previously established by La Crosse County and not associated with revenues from existing stakeholders. The new wells will be tested annually by the Solid Waste Department.

- **Landfill Site Entrance – Phase I (New Frontage Road, Two New Entrances into Site, Relocation of Citizens Area, New Scales and Scale Building, Container Storage Pad, Surface Water Management System)**

Work associated with the new frontage road and two new site entrances has been completed. Initial testing of the new scales and scale building infrastructure began on November 6th, with full operations taking place starting on November 8th. Minor issues were encountered with gate controls, PC communications and other operating systems but with support from Facilities and IT, these items were corrected quickly and the transition went well. Departmental staff did an excellent job managing traffic and informing the public. Informational handouts were prepared to notify customers of traffic patterns.

- **Landfill Site Entrance – Phase II – (Removal and Sale of Old Scale, Removal of Impermeable Surfaces, Finalize Drainage around Office, Re-model Office (30 Years), Selection of New Scale Software Operating System)**

Remodeling of the current office building and parking area will occur in 2018. The office building has a sagging roof and siding issues. These modifications will be the final stages of the entrance construction which will significantly improve traffic flow, operational efficiency and safety for everyone using the facility. The previous (steel deck) landfill scale was put out for bid, via an RFP, and will be removed in April. With support from Purchasing and IT an RFP for a new scale software package is being prepared and initial schedules target an October 2018 installation. The current scale software cannot handle the total users that utilize the site at this time.

- **Landfill Construction - 2017**

Final construction items have been completed on Phase VIIB cell construction/Phase VIII bedrock removal project. Placement of the protective fluff lift layer into the new Phase VIIB cell is complete and future phasing (placement) will be focused on access and transitioning to Phase VIII in 2018. 150,000 cubic yards of excess fill material was provided to City of La Crosse for development of Industrial park space.
• **Landfill Construction - 2018**

Plans were developed and bids opened on February 1st. Approval was received for the 2018 Landfill construction which includes construction of Phase VIII Mod 2 cell construction (5.2 acre cell), C-3A closure (4.2 acre Cap/4 vertical wells) and east side grading. Phase VIII Mod 2 is the last cell associated with the 51.6 acre permitted site.

Completion of this cell will give the County 18.3 years of usable airspace based off of the last five years of density and volume numbers. C-3A closure will reduce our remaining closure requirements to 27.8 acres.

**STAKEHOLDER CONTRACT EXTENSION UPDATE**

Suggestions made by stakeholders have resulted in some changes to the proposed Amendment previously circulated to the stakeholders. Language has been included that now allows the carry-over of the landfill rebate past 2023 when applied to services at the Household Hazardous facility. This was approved by the Public Works & Infrastructure Committee. Letters and Agreements will be sent out shortly to all stakeholders.

**IMPACT OF THE JULY 19TH AND JULY 20TH, 2017 STORM**

On July 19th and July 20th of 2017, the landfill property was hit by a significant rainfall event. Record surface water flows were observed throughout the facility. Significant impacts occurred to the leachate collection system as a result of that event. A precipitate or deposit was present in the leachate lines, which because of the increased flows from the storm event, became loosened and resulted in clogging of the force main system. Extensive work was required to clean out that system which took over two months to accomplish. During those clean out activities it was determined that some pipes have settled and that additional clean outs are needed for the leachate system to perform in an effective manner. These improvements have been incorporated into the 2018 cell design and will be constructed in 2018.

The precipitate that formed in the force main also formed in the sewer line outside of the landfill owned by the City of La Crosse. As a result of that, a notice of non-compliance was sent to the Solid Waste Department and initial corrective actions have been completed. We are continuing to work with the City to develop a long term plan to minimize impacts to the system.

Minimal erosion damage to the landfill property occurred along a walking trail which resulted in gravel being deposited in a wetlands area. Contact was made with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the area was successfully cleaned up with no violations in September. Plans are being prepared to formulate long term corrective measures for the water flow in this area and they will be completed in the summer of 2018.

• **Miscellaneous Items - HHM**

The Household Hazardous Waste Facility continues to provide a successful, valuable service to customers in our local, and extended area. This was the 7th consecutive year with over 9,000 users and the 6th year with 600,000 pounds of waste. HHM was able to provide over 71,000 pounds of usable items to the community through the Reuse Room.

On September 21st, 2017 the La Crosse County Board approved a proposed contract extension for the eighteen Municipalities in La Crosse County. A sustainable funding plan has been developed with all communities embracing the proposed plan. All eighteen Municipalities have approved and signed the contract extension. The new contract will be in place from 2018 through 2027.
• Miscellaneous Items – Xcel 2017 Key Points

Xcel provided a summary of the 2016 Annual Report to the La Crosse County Board. During that presentation, Xcel mentioned that in 2017, a minor exceedance of hydrochloric acid occurred during stack testing. Retesting indicated that the problem has been successfully resolved. The nature of the problem was associated with feeding lime from the lime storage silo to the air pollution control devices. Annual cleanout and inspection of the lime storage facility will now be conducted as a preventive measure to insure such exceedances do not happen in the future.

Approximately 1% (1,965 tons) of additional waste was received at Xcel above contract requirements at the end of 2017. Prices for recovery of the ferrous and nonferrous materials continued to increase in 2017 resulting in a 14.5% increase over 2016. BTU values of the waste material remain at a depressed level, 1% lower than 2016, and 2% lower than 2015 respectively.

FINANCIAL STATUS UPDATE
Sharon Davidson from Finance presented the 2017 unaudited and 2016 audited Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position. Operating Revenues, Operating Expenses, Non-operating Revenues (Expenses), Assets, Deferred Outflows of Resources, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Net Position were discussed. Overall, Solid Waste Department is in a very good financial state moving forward.

STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION PRICE INCREASE PLAN
The Solid Waste Department has no plan to increase prices for 2018. Discussion ensued. The Stakeholders will have a meeting the Fall of 2018 to discuss price increases for 2019 and 2020. Review of long term capital and major expense projections for the next ten years will be provided.

RECYCLING – HOW ARE WE AS A REGION?
Nick Nichols, Sustainability Coordinator presented a Power Point presentation on recycling.

- The La Crosse County Diversion Rate for Xcel Tons for 2017 was 32,731 Tons (59%) total diverted.
- The La Crosse County Diversion Rate for Landfill Tons for 2017 was 9,510 Tons (9.72%) total diverted and 9,024 Tons Beneficial Reuse.
- The La Crosse County Diversion Rate for HHM Tons for 2017 was 240 Tons (76.5%) Tons diverted.
- The La Crosse County Diversion Rate for the Total System was 51,506 Tons. A total of 31,622 (24%) Tons of this was Converted to Energy.
- The Xcel Energy Ferrous Tons Diverted for 2017 was 1,059 Tons and Non-Ferrous Tons Diverted was 299 Tons.
- Gas to Energy for 2017 was 59,393 MMBTU's and Total Revenue $207,874.
- Diversion of Mattresses for 2017 was 48 Tons.
- A total of 107,000 lbs. Recycled Ag Bags in La Crosse County for 2017.
- The % of Increase of Recycled Tonnage from Municipalities before being landfilled from 2005 to 2016 increased from 2,797 Tons in 2005 to 7,639 Tons in 2016.
- Tonnage Comparisons for 2016 shows City of La Crosse at 130.48 lbs. Per Capita compared to City of Sheboygan at 131.83 lbs. Per Capita, City of Oshkosh at 132.52 lbs. Per Capita, City of Janesville at 176.02 lbs. Per Capita, City of Wauwatosa at 219.83 lbs. Per Capita and City of West Allis at 98.82 lbs. Per Capita.
FUTURE MEETING DATE AND AGENDA TOPICS
Wednesday, August 1st, 2018
Mattress Recycling
Gas to Energy
Green Tier Recycling (City of La Crosse)

MOTION by Maureen Freedland to adjourn the meeting. SECOND by Lewis Kuhlman. MOTION passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:13 pm.

Approved, August 1, 2018, Linda Bettin, Recorder.