

COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M. THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023
CLAY COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTER
3322 15TH AVENUE NORTH
MOORHEAD, MN 56560
IN PERSON ONLY

Members Present: Kevin Campbell, Cliff Bang, Wayne Lepper, Jenny Mongeau, Roger Richman, Russell McDougall, Everett Nelson, Russ Colson, Chuck Hendrickson

Members Absent: Joseph Pederson, Heather Nesemeier

Others Present: Corey Bang, Todd Bratlien, Steve Larson, Shannon Thompson, Crystal Rayamajhi, Julie Kennedy, Ashley Magelky

Commissioner Kevin Campbell called the meeting to order at 8:00am and initiated introductions.

On motion by Everett Nelson, seconded Russell McDougall and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the meeting agenda.

On motion by Wayne Lepper, seconded by Jenny Mongeau, and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the minutes from April 27, 2023.

Solid Waste Update – Corey Bang

Skid steer order for RRC, will be here in August.

Becker County and sharing loads – Proposal being put together for City of Fargo, logistics will be worked out if they approve it, which Corey thinks they will. Issue with BMT Trucking not being on board but Becker does not think this will be an issue (BMT is under contract until November). This agreement would save Clay County about half the trips to Perham. Corey wants a trial period to make sure it runs smoothly.

MPCA was on site 5-16 to test 6 wells for PFAS, unfortunately none were upgrade. We are also doing our own testing, and will test 2 upgrade wells. One test in June and one in October.

Tires for payloaders are on. GPS ordered, should install within next 2 weeks.

Cleanup Week – 149 yds garbage, 18 freon appliances, 32 non freon, 16 pieces of furniture, 30 mattresses. 183 unique customers, 22 citizens made multiple trips (none of this includes electronics recycling/HHW). Very steady flow for 3 weeks. Staff handled it well.

We've hired 3 new people for summer, 2 at the RRC and 1 at the landfill. We still have a roster position open in HHW.

Freon appliances are expensive. \$1330 yesterday for one dumpster. Wayne is now certified to remove freon, he still needs to buy the equipment (\$1000-\$1200). He will do freon removal at both locations.

Numbers at the Hawley and Barnesville collections this spring were way down, might do an alternating schedule of every other year (one year in Hawley, the next in Barnesville). It takes a lot of manpower to run these. Many people are bringing items to the RRC. These collections are for electronics and HHW.

There is federal legislation in the works that would help landfills with the costs of PFAS cleanup, should help Clay County.

Perham Update - Kevin Campbell

Deficit that was around 1600 tons is now down to about 800 tons, getting closer to our target of 500 over/under. Part of this was hiring enough truck drivers.

Due to shutdown in April, projected tons is down to 53,155. This will likely reach the projected 54,000

Budget – with revenues over expenditures in 2022, OTC was reimbursed an additional \$200,250. Made principal and interest payments on both bonds. 2023 cash available end of April is \$876,000.

PFAS testing – MPCA responded that if we don't test ourselves, we may be forced to test. Could be up to \$150,000 per facility for these tests. MPCA is likely not funding this.

Discussion re: drug and alcohol policy – with MN moving towards cannabis being legal, we still need to have a policy for those in safety positions. OTC asked to push the D/A policy back to Jan 1 to figure out how things go.

Ash – 7 year lifespan left on the landfill. The board will be meeting at the Pope Douglas Landfill in Huffman MN in June to see how they handle ash.

Legislation and SW – SCORE funding added 3%, about \$3million but that has to be divided among the entire state. Not as much funding as we asked for.

Burner with City of Moorhead

Roger Richman brought up that about 3 years ago SWAC discussed partnering with City of Moorhead to purchase a burner for the site on Highway 75. This was discussed due to increased trees being removed for Emerald Ash Borer. Stipulation was that burning of trees from outside city limits be allowed.

Per Chuck Hendrickson, the burner was purchased a few years ago for the compost site on HW 75. Per Shannon Thompson, the City of Moorhead did end up purchasing with their funds alone.

The concern with this only being purchased by the City of Moorhead is what will happen to trees from outside city limits? Discussion on bringing in CC Soil and Water, City of Moorhead Forestry, and CC Extension to next meeting to discuss.

Glass Discussion and Review

Per Shannon Thompson, since the April meeting, Minnkota has paired with Strategic Materials to take all glass from Clay County.

Per Shannon, there are discussions at City of Moorhead regarding a drop site on the South side of town. Unfortunately dumpsters are often very contaminated in that area.

Resource Recovery Center Site Finishings – Kevin Campbell

Met with Construction Engineers on some finishing items, City of Moorhead requested a sidewalk along the back of the building for safety. Biggest issue is winter conditions. Could be up to \$130k additional needed for these items. We have about \$100k left in funding. The options for the drive-through floor are still being explored, as none are ideal. We may have to dip slightly into the SW reserves on this project.

Richman asked if there is a chance of building the DMV building on this site. Campbell responded that this is being considered on the West side of the property (along with other current buildings in town). There are talks of combining the DMV and licensing sites so would need more space. Licensing would need 1200 sq ft. Also semi licensing requires special accommodations and space, but this could work out well with our facility and roads.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46