

COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M. THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 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

Members Absent: Joseph Pederson, Heather Nesemeier, Chuck Hendrickson

Others Present: Corey Bang, Brett Rice, Todd Bratlien, Steve Larson, Paul Fiechtner, Shannon Thompson, Julie Kennedy, Ashley Magelky

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

Corey Bang noted that Randy with Clay County Extension could not make this meeting, will replace this agenda item with a discussion on recycling in Sabin.

On motion by Roger Richman, seconded Russell McDougall and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the amended meeting agenda.

On motion by Everett Nelson, seconded by Cliff Bang and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the minutes from May 25, 2023.

Sabin Recycling – Shannon Thompson

Sabin is moving to curbside recycling, they have asked to close their drop site and use those funds to help offset to cost to city residents of the new curbside. Drop sites are meant for all county residents, not just those of that city. Shannon thinks that Sabin plans to close the drop site regardless of our answer; if that is the case, we could work with a Township in that area to replace that drop site. Corey stated that if it's not open to all county residents, we don't want to support (fund) it. The question was asked if running the drop site is costing Sabin. Shannon stated that Sabin only requests to amount of money we give them, no more, but they could just not be submitting for their costs above our funding. Jenny mentioned it may be time to have an honest conversation on what the current costs are of running the drop sites.

Everett Nelson motioned that Sabin's request to use drop site funding for curbside (and close drop site) be denied. Richman seconded the motion, and it unanimously carried.

Loader Discussion – Corey Bang

We are needing a new loader for the landfill. Replacement is a year overdue. We do have the funding in the Internal Service Account to pay for it, but will leave us a little short for next year's Bomag discussion.

Brett Rice has 3 proposals, all from good loaders from good companies. The numbers are after trade-in and include maintenance and warranties for life of machine. This helps secure future pricing and reduce downtime.

See below spreadsheet comparing the 3 proposals.

	CAT (Butler)	KOMATSU (General Equipment)	JOHN DEERE (RDO)
TOTAL PRICE	\$ 374,363.47	\$ 339,000.00	\$ 341,013.48
Landfill package	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cons	No steering wheel	Not within Clay County	Least punctual salesman
	Need different forks		
	Not within Clay County		
	Most expensive		
Pros	24/7 service (can service after landfill hours)	Dozer is Komatsu	Service tech lives near Hawley
	Cadillac	Steering wheel (same controllers)	Highway Dept has Deere maintainers
	Fuel economy	Good history with the company	Steering wheel (same controllers)
	True waste handler	Compatible with forks	Have a Deere now and been good
	More comfortable cab	Best, most punctual salesman	DPF good for life
	Highway Dept and City of Moorhead has CAT	Biggest bucket (5.5yd)	Fork compatibility
		Salesman from other companies spoke great things about General	Good history with company

Kevin Campbell stated that it would be good to have the same brand of loader as the dozer for servicing (dozer is Komatsu). Also that as a government entity, we need to look at the lowest priced bid unless there is a compelling reason not to.

Corey Bang mentioned he is hesitant to go with the CAT as it doesn't have a steering wheel and it gets very rough at the landfill.

Loader would not arrive until 2024.

Roger Richman motioned that SWAC recommends to the board that we purchase the Komatsu, Cliff Bang seconded the motion. Unanimously carried.

Landfill Activities – Brett Rice

There are 2 new employees at the landfill: 1) high schooler that is helping with mowing, picking up bags, anything else needed for 20 hours a week, 2) MSUM student is doing well testing and gas level system. Both are great assets.

Spraying for noxious weeds. Also talking with Soil and Water Conservation about leafy spurge beetles, which would be free of charge. Brett is mainly looking at the beetles for the SE corner where we have a lot of trees that would be killed by spraying. The beetles would help thin out the leafy spurge but not eliminate it. We are spraying the majority of the property.

Everything else is business as usual at the landfill.

Solid Waste Update – Corey Bang

Continuing discussion with Becker County on load sharing, nothing will happen until December or January.

Tire pricing – Liberty has raised their prices so we are now losing money on tires. They charge us \$4.90 per tire plus an environmental fee. Corey suggests raising our rates from \$4 to \$6 per tire for car/small SUV. It would be hard to train staff on the differences in tire sizes so he wants to go with the one rate.

Demo pricing (private loads) – demo landfill raised price to \$13 per yard, we are currently at \$11 per yard. Corey wants to raise our rates to \$15 per yard to cover our costs.

We would want to raise the tire and demo rates ASAP.

Commercial demo issues – haulers are bringing to us instead of going to the landfill. One bag can make an entire demo load contaminated which would be rejected at the demo landfill. We are taking loads at our landfill that are true demo loads. Corey wants to raise these rates as well to deter demo loads coming to us. We could also start refusing loads. We can't waste landfill space on demolition materials.

Jenny Mongeau motioned to recommend to the board that tire rates increase to \$6 and private demo rates increase to \$15 per yard, Everett Nelson seconded the motion. Unanimously carried.

Everett Nelson suggests charging double for commercial loads that are all demo.

Campbell is wondering how to put teeth into enforcing demo loads not coming to our landfill. No further discussion until next meeting.

Floor in RRC drive-thru – Construction Engineers did a test with a sealer in their shop, seemed like it may be a fix for our slippery floors. Quote for \$33,837 would cover everything, but is only good for another 15 days. About \$70k cheaper than our other options but we are still low on funding but this is a safety issue (especially in the winter). Construction Engineers think it is a workable solution, but not tested long term. Everett Nelson asked if there is any warranty?

Kevin Campbell suggested we ask more questions of Construction Engineers on the flooring. Campbell and Mongeau plan to communicate the hesitation of the SWAC committee to the board at their next meeting and will not act without some answers from Construction Engineers.

Perham Update – Kevin Campbell

Next week they are heading to Hoffman to look at their ash plant.

Budget meeting – Kevin did not want tipping fee increases for next year, but the Internal Service Fund will be depleted in 5 years (will average \$474,000 per year for next 5 years in equipment, etc, putting \$250k into the fund each year). Campbell recommends half of the million in the

regular account be moved to the Internal Service Fund. Current proposal for tipping increases would cost Clay County around \$12k per year.

Jenny Mongeau mentioned that there will be an opening on the Wild Rice WaterShed Board. If anyone has a connection or would like to be personally involved, reach out to Steve Larson. The meetings are in Ada.

Kevin Campbell mentioned that the legislation that was passed regarding SCORE funding will bring in an additional \$34,000 to Clay County. This is still about \$150,000 short of what we wanted but is a start.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57