

**COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
8:00 A.M. THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023  
CLAY COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTER  
3322 15<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE NORTH  
MOORHEAD, MN 56560  
IN PERSON & TEAMS**

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

**Via Teams:** Heather Nesemeier, Jenny Mongeau

**Members Absent:** Russ Colson

**Others Present:** Corey Bang, Brett Rice, Randy Nelson, Andrew Feia (Stantec), Christina Lammers (Stantec), Todd Bratlien, Justin Sorum, Steve Larson, Julie Kennedy, Crystal Rayamajhi, Ashley Magelky

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

On request from Joe Pederson, added to the agenda an item for Corey to talk about his presentation for the Rollag Seniors.

**On motion by Everett Nelson, seconded Roger Richman and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the amended meeting agenda.**

Heather Nesemeier made a request to amend the June 22, 2023 minutes. On page 3, she requested that “Further discussion is tabled until the next SWAC meeting.” be amended to update the word “tabled” as there was no motion and vote. Verbiage is updated to “No further discussion until next meeting.”

**On motion by Russ McDougall, seconded by Roger Richman and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the amended minutes from June 22, 2023.**

**Emerald Ash Boarer - Randy Nelson with Clay County Extension**

Emerald Ash Boarer was found this spring by Moorhead High School as well as in Dilworth, these are the two primary locations in Clay County that have EAB.

Recommendations for citizens that want to keep their ash trees and are within 15 miles of a known infestation you should look at insecticide/treatments.

Per MN Dept of Ag, roughly the western half of Clay County is under quarantine, meaning ash can't be moved out of that area. The issue is creating a dump site for ash within the zone and then disposing of it. EAB are active from May to October, so best not to move in that time frame.

For disposal, it could be chipped but needs to be less than 1 inch measured in 2 directions. Making a dump site may be more feasible for residents.

Treatment can be injected into the trunk or as a drench poured at the base of the tree. Could be applied to leaves but this can be an issue in residential areas as you cannot control where the spray goes. All options will affect the EAB when they are eating the leaves. Treatments are roughly \$10 per inch diameter of the trunk measured 4.5 ft off the ground.

Heather Nesemeier asked if we have been in communication with BNSF regarding EAB on their land. The county has not talked with BNSF. We can work with Randy to connect with BNSF about concerns on EAB.

### **Stantec Annual Update – Christina Lammers**

2023 Spring Water Quality Monitoring in Review at the landfill

Pace Analytical did regular groundwater testing plus special PFAS testing. SampleTech also did PFAS testing on behalf of the MPCA. The tests will then be compared.

With groundwater, the MPCA uses two values: Health Based Values and Intervention Levels (1/4 of the HBV, these are like a warning).

Environmental Monitoring System (EMS): There are 10 wells in the upper aquifer that are regular compliance wells, monitored twice a year. There are 14 wells in the lower aquifer monitored once per year. There are also detection wells monitored every other year (odd years).

Sampling of residential wells – we are required to sample 3 but do an additional 8 if we get resident permission. We got 8 total samples this year.

#### **Results:**

- no change in flow of water (still flowing to WNW)
- No significant change in groundwater flow direction
- Vinyl Chloride IL exceeded in W-2
  - VOC ethyl ether was detected in W-2 & W-301B
- Arsenic (5)/Cadmium (2)/Manganese (11)/Nitrates (1) IL exceedances in compliance wells
- Manganese (9) HBV exceedances in compliance wells
- Residential wells showed no VOCs
- Detection wells: no Class 2D surface water VOC criteria exceeded
- Arsenic (2)/Cadmium (1)/Lead (1) IL exceedance
- Lead (1) HBV exceedance

PFAS sampling – you need to make sure all equipment used in the sampling is PFAS free. We have not heard back the PFAS results yet from Barr or Pace Analytical

Recommendations:

- Continue with the EMS
  - Closely monitor W-2 for vinyl chloride impacts
  - Monitor IL/HBV exceedances
- Evaluate PFAS results when received
- Evaluate access of monitoring wells along Western & Northern Boundaries
- No other corrective actions are necessary at this time. Clay Co Landfill has conducted several corrective actions to date (i.e., relocating waste, hydrogeologic investigations, active gas collection system, etc.)

**Landfill Activities – Brett Rice**

Russ Colson brought professors out to the landfill for a tour.

About 200 trees have been planted at the landfill this year, dead ones cut down.

Pump maintenance is being done by JetWay next week.

Joe Pederson asked about the status of the trees in front of the Ekre residence. Brett stated that we are hand weeding and watering.

**Solid Waste Update – Corey Bang**

The board approved shotblasting and Aqua Pell sealing for the slippery RRC floor. The Aqua Pell sealant is a 5-10 year sealant as opposed to the 1 year sealant we were going to apply. This will be done hopefully in September.

RRC lawn will be hydroseeded next week.

Loader was approved and ordered, should be here around end of year and count in 2024 budget.

Perham load deficient – we went backwards last month, lost 17 tons due to Perham being behind in burning.

Freon removal – in last month we started removing freon in house. Equipment was \$3200. It would have cost us \$2485 for Fuchs to remove last month's freon, plus we get revenue from the metal, so we should break even quickly.

Demo loads at the landfill – we've started rejecting demo loads, Corey called the haulers to discuss going to the demo landfill.

New demo landfill rules from the MPCA may be coming out. Corey thinks this may cause demo landfills to close in the next 2-5 years. Demo landfills would need to be lined and covered daily, they would be offered an incentive to close early. This would mean Clay County needs to figure out a plan for demo in the future.

Working on a video that shows where your garbage goes from door to landfill or Perham, one of our Information Tech employees will ride along with garbage drivers.

Joe Pederson mentioned that Corey made a presentation about the new RRC at the Rollag Seniors monthly meeting and wanted to let the committee know how much he appreciated the quality of the presentation and that it may be valuable to other groups in the county.

### **Seeding at the RRC – Kevin Campell**

In regards to alternative seeding in the about 1 acre of land at RRC – Since the last SWAC meeting, Joe Olson (Facilities Director), Corey, and Soil and Water have become concerned about the condition of the proposed area in regards to large weeds. There was a request to the county board to spray the weeds and go back to original seed. There is concerns about the agriculture neighbors and the detox facility, as well as the proposed DMV. There were concerns about the area being maintainable and how it looks.

There are B3 requirements for the new facility, one being the alternative seeding. The county board approved moving the alternative seed area to near the pond on the SE corner of the property, with the original area going back to regular seeding.

There will also be another site in south Moorhead by the old Crestwood area with the rest of the alternative seed.

Heather Nesemeier stated that the City of Moorhead was going to help pay for the cost of the Bee Lawn seed. Corey stated that the county will not be using Bee Lawn seed so the county will be paying for the alternate seed. The site at Crestwood is fully paid by the county.

### **Perham Update – Kevin Campbell**

At end of June, our deficit of deliveries is down to 844tons. Today we are closer to 700.

Finances are running well, we are about \$67,000 better right now than this time last year in terms of cash.

Insurance went up, contractors services were budgeted for \$300k and are already at \$361k.

2024 budget - biggest issues are increased insurance. 2.5% Cost of Living Adjustment. Campbell mentioned that this COLA should be an average of the 5 counties, so it was adjusted to 3.15%

4% tipping fee increase will be needed, this will cost Clay County around \$13,600 annually.

**The meeting adjourned at 9:10.**