

**COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M. THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023
CLAY COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTER
3322 15TH AVENUE NORTH
MOORHEAD, MN 56560
IN PERSON & TEAMS**

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

Via Teams: Chuck Hendrickson, Jen Pickett, Michael Earl (MGE)

Members Absent: Jenny Mongeau

Others Present: Todd Bratlien, Corey Bang, Brett Rice, Andrew Feia (Stantec), Paul Fiechtner, Ashley Magelky, Julie Kennedy, Steve Larson

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

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

On motion by Joseph Pederson, seconded by Russ McDougall and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the amended minutes from September 28, 2023.

PFAS testing – Stantec (Andrew Feia)

Normal spring sampling completed in May. Also sampled 2 upgradient wells (SE) and 5 downgradient wells (NW).

Quick results: No PFAS detections above the laboratory reporting limits for the 2 upgradient wells. No detections found in 1 downgradient well. The other 4 downgradient wells had PFAS detections. These results were not unexpected.

These results for now are a “one time snapshot” of current levels. The MPCA is currently working on rules but it will take time. The results are there for information only at this point.

There is work being done to limit PFAS in the manufacturing process in the future.

Kevin Campbell brought up a discussion the Prairie Lakes board had regarding PFAS. There is a facility similar to Perham that ships out their waste and Xcel Energy burns it. It gets to 2200*, coolest is 1700*. With this burning, 96% of the PFAS is removed. The ash still contains some PFAS but the steam going through the stack has most removed.

Joe Pederson brought up the question of PFAS in water treatment plants such as at Pelican Rapids. Campbell stated that many plants have PFAS but some do not. Corey mentioned that this is often due to not having manufacturing in the area.

Landfill Activities – Brett Rice

Spring tree order was placed for 400 trees, mainly for the East border.

Two on-site fuel tanks were purchased, one for highway one for off-road. This will reduce fuel costs (\$.10 per gallon) and reduce number of fuel receipts we need to process. These are at the NW side of the green building.

Next month we hope to have RMS and Butler at the November SWAC meeting to present on their compactors.

We are close to meeting our fines threshold of 6000 tons from Perham (this is used for alternative daily cover). In the next couple days, we will start charging Perham for these loads.

This fall while jetting the leachate lines, we found that the PLCs are at their end of life and would take 6-8 months to receive if we order. Brett has gotten bids for these and will get them ordered to have on hand, as we cannot pump leachate without the PLCs.

Hoping to receive payloaders end of December or early January.

Solid Waste Updates – Corey Bang

Regarding Emerald Ash Borer Management in Clay County, the county is recommending these two main points (*see attachment for entire document, updated to include language regarding burning permits*):

- Clay County residents who live in an incorporated city will contact their city for disposal of Emerald Ash Borer affected wood waste.
- Clay County rural residents will burn Emerald Ash Borer affected wood waste onsite.

Note that for rural residents burning, they need to get a burn permit from the fire department.

Corey attended the Small Cities Meeting in Hawley last week.

There was a waste sort at the RRC on October 19. We had very few volunteers and only got through about half of the waste, so used that amount to calculate.

RRC lawn – had meeting with City of Moorhead, JT Lawn, and Clay County and came to an agreement on the warranty coverage of the lawn. They will wait for spring to spray for the remaining broadleaf. The lawn is coming in well. Next spring, all dead trees will also be replaced.

We are getting close to finalizing the agreement with Becker County regarding load swapping. Becker County was given permission last week to purchase 4 transfer trailers and hire an additional truck driver. Corey has a meeting this afternoon to finalize the agreement with our attorneys. Once this is done, we will go back to the City of Fargo. This will save us money as we'll make less trips to Perham. We are looking to start this around December 1.

We would haul our “dirty” garbage to Fargo, and Becker would haul their “clean” burnable garbage to Perham to burn, and we would just swap those tonnages. This would cut down on miles for both Counties. If Fargo does not agree to this, we will haul a load to Perham, then haul a load of Becker’s trash in their trailer to Perham, which would also save on deadheading. A load to Perham is roughly \$500 each, so if we can save one or two trips a day, that is \$500 or \$1000 in savings per day for Clay County.

The Prairie Lakes Board will have their monthly meeting at the RRC on November 15 at 10am and would like to invite all SWAC members to attend.

Perham Update – Kevin Campbell

Revenues and expenditures are on track with last year. The last shutdown was completed for maintenance. There is a tour coming up with representatives from the House.

Tonnage update – due to plant shutdown, the projected tons of 55,000 is now 54,376, but we expect to make that up before the end of the year. As of September 30, Clay County is at -427 tons. Should be about -200 by end of year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00am

Emerald Ash Borer Management in Clay County Minnesota

Emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis*, is an invasive wood-boring beetle first detected in the U.S. near Detroit, Michigan in 2002. Since that time, EAB has killed millions of ash trees. All ash trees native to Minnesota are considered highly susceptible to EAB. Minnesota has about one billion ash trees in our forests, and ash accounts for about 15 percent of trees in the average community (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 2010).

Clay County residents who live in an incorporated city will contact their city for disposal of Emerald Ash Borer affected wood waste.

Clay County rural residents will burn Emerald Ash Borer affected wood waste onsite.

- **Rural residents should reach out to the local fire department for a burn permit**

MN State Guidelines for Transporting Emerald Ash Borer Affected Tree Waste

EAB Active Period - May 1 through September 30

- Avoid removal of ash branches, trees, stumps
- If removal is necessary due to a hazardous condition then,
 - Chip at least outer 1" of bark/wood on-site and transport to the nearest facility that can quickly process the material Or...
 - Transport at least outer 1" of bark/wood in a vehicle where it is 100% enclosed to the nearest facility that can quickly process the material. Material should remain enclosed until it can be at a minimum chipped.

Material moved during the EAB Active Period may release adults at any time during transportation into a previously un-infested area. By postponing pruning until the fall, you can help reduce the risk of EAB spreading. If the tree is left intact during the EAB Active Period, it can provide habitat for EAB adults to lay eggs. But since the adults won't emerge until the following year, if this tree or branch is cut and properly disposed of during the EAB Dormant Period, any EAB that may exist in the ash material will be destroyed when the wood is destroyed,

EAB Dormant Period - October 1 through April 30

- Conduct pruning, removal of ash as desired.
- Transport at least outer 1" of bark/wood to a facility where it will be processed prior to May 1.