

**COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024
CLAY COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTER
3322 15TH AVENUE NORTH
MOORHEAD, MN 56560
IN PERSON & TEAMS**

Members Present: Kevin Campbell, Cliff Bang, Chuck Hendrickson

Members on Teams: Russ Colson, Heather Nesemeier, Jenny Mongeau, Roger Richman, Everett Nelson, Joe Pederson

Members Absent: Russ McDougall, Wayne Lepper

Others Present: Corey Bang, Ella Holiman, Ashley Magelky, Todd Bratlien

Others via Teams: Darren Brooke, Mara DeRung, Paul Fiechtner, Mike Earl

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

Corey Bang made an update to the agenda, removing the PLMSWA Website demo as the website is not loading. We plan to have this item on the December agenda.

On motion by Chuck Hendrickson, seconded by Roger Richman and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the Committee approved the amended meeting agenda.

On motion by Cliff Bang, seconded by Joe Pederson and unanimously carried by roll call vote, the Committee approved the minutes from November 21, 2024.

PLMSWA Website – Corey Bang

The public facing Prairie Lakes Municipal Solid Waste website is available at <https://plmswa.com>. There is also an employee side that we are not able to access. The website is pretty easy to navigate. Any news or updates will be posted on the website.

Solid Waste/Landfill Update – Corey Bang

Staffing update – Derek Unger started as the landfill clerk on December 2; Mara DeRung is the new Recycling Outreach Educator and started on Dec. 9 (she is covering the scalehouse today as Neesha is out, which is part of her job duties); Wade Johnson starts tomorrow as a part time truck driver and may be interested in full time if we have a position open in the future; and Dustin Lehmann (son of Karen and Kurt from Perham) is the new landfill operator and starts Monday. Once these new employees are trained, we will be fully staffed.

On 12-9, Corey attended the SW Directors meeting (which is monthly). The Perham facility was discussed, as well as the MPCA demo regulations. This group has been pushing to extend the closure grace period and the MPCA may give additional time for closures due to how long the process is.

On 12-13, the RRC hosted the regional assessors meeting. Corey gave a brief presentation about our facility. They were impressed with both our facility and per parcel fees as they are low compared to other counties.

On 12-17, the board approved demo pricing increases and letters went out to haulers and townships yesterday along with signs posted at the RRC and landfill. The prices go into effect on January 1, 2025. The Pelican Rapids leachate contract for 2025 was also approved by the board. The price went up from \$49 to \$52 per 1000 gallons, but this is still \$20 cheaper than hauling to Fargo. We will continue to haul some to Fargo to keep this contract active.

On 12-17, the board discussed potential uses for the land around the demo landfill. There is a request to turn it into a dirtbike track. This request was tabled as the sheriff's dept. has been using the land for trainings. We are trying work out a compromise to share usage of the land or find an alternate site for a dirtbike track.

The new doors at the RRC are being installed. Door 24 is installed but does not have an opener. The openers we ordered are on backorder, so it has to be manually opened.

There is a scale issue currently at the RRC where they are not communicating with our accounting software. Ashley is working with the scale company and software company to get this resolved. We have a work around where we type in the weights.

Corey has been asked to join the MN Climate Council. The first meeting is January 21. The group is involved in the zero waste by 2050 goal.

Perham Update – Kevin Campbell

18:55

Clay County's deficit as of Dec. 15 is 45 tons. Corey thinks we are positive as of this week.

Operating cash will be at around -\$415,000 compared to this time last year. This is after we make the Internal Service Fund payment of \$250,00 and the \$175,000 payment to OTC for back loans. Part of the reason for this is steam sales are down about \$440,000, but our need to purchase gas is down about \$300,000. Part of the contractors' services included in the operation expenses was \$260,000 which was taken from the budget instead of the Internal Service Fund, so we are sitting quite well.

We received a report from Braun Intertech regarding the proper mixture of ash to build base roads. The conclusion is about 17% should come from ash. The ash is mixed together with reclaimed asphalt and aggregate. At 20% ash, the base would be harder but there is then concerns about cracking. The plan is summer 2025 for 2 roads in Becker County to use the ash as a test. OTC was able to buy the additional land by the ash landfill. A cost agreement will come up likely in January.

This year we did work on one of the burners for around \$400,000. Brian has asked if we can do the same thing to the second burner. He is thinking it would be under \$400k. The project may happen this April and would have a 2-4 week shut-down.

We received a \$9000 dividend from MCIT. We have workman's comp and employee liability through MCIT, not our building insurance.

Two commissioners retired on the board, Lee Rogness from OTC and John Okeson from Becker County. Phil Hanson from Becker County will take over John's spot, we are not sure who will be the OTC representative.

Meeting adjourned.