

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES
WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD**

DATE: March 16, 2011

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Sunnyview Landfill
100 W. County Road Y
Oshkosh, WI

PRESENT: Pat O'Brien, Chairman
Ken Robl, Vice Chairman
Paul Eisen, Secretary
Mike Easker
Jerry Finch
Doug Nelson
Pat Brennand (9:00 a.m. – 10:06 a.m.)

EXCUSED: David Albrecht
Gerald Konrad

ALSO PRESENT: John Rabe, Director of Solid Waste
Adrienna Kumbier, Solid Waste Secretary
Kurt Pernsteiner, Financial Analyst
Jim Morris, Landfill Manager
John Fink, County Executive Assistant
Jennifer Semrau, Recycling Specialist (9:00 a.m. – 10:07 a.m.)

1. Call to Order: P. O'Brien called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the March 16, 2011 agenda, made by K. Robl and seconded by J. Finch. Motion carried 7-0.
3. Public Comments on Agenda Items: P. Eisen informed the Solid Waste Management Board (SWMB) that P. Brennand, M. Easker, J. Finch and G. Konrad were reappointed to the SWMB at the March 15, 2011 County Board meeting, and congratulated the reappointees.
4. Announcements/Communications: None.
5. Approval of Minutes – March 2, 2011 Open Session: Motion to approve the March 2, 2011 open session minutes, made by J. Finch and seconded by K. Robl. Motion carried 7-0.
6. Discussion – Proposed Governor's Budget (AB-40/SB-27) and Impacts to Recycling Programs: J. Semrau updated the SWMB on what has transpired with the Governor's proposed budget since the March 2, 2011 SWMB meeting as follows:

- Eliminates the mandate for local units of governments (Responsible Units) to maintain effective recycling programs.
- Eliminates grant funding programs to Responsible Units of Government for both the “Basic Grant” and the “Recycling Efficiency Incentive” grant program.
- The landfill bans remain in effect but “incineration” and “burn with energy recovery” are struck in Section 287.07, Wisconsin Administration Code.
- Changes the language in Section 287.07, Wisconsin Administration Code from “No person may dispose of in a solid waste facility...” to “No individual may place in a container the contents of which will be disposed of in a solid waste facility...” Person is defined statutorily to mean everybody: businesses, government, etc. Whereas changing it to individual could mean that businesses, governments, etc. could not be held responsible, but only individual employees or citizens. It also changes the language from “dispose in a solid waste facility” to “place in a container the contents of which...” This implies the point of enforcement shifts from the landfill to dumpster or curbside container.
- The Recycling tip fee surcharge remains at \$7.00/ton (charged on each ton of trash disposed of in the landfill, except certain high volume industrial by-products).
- The Recycling and Renewable Energy Fund is eliminated and \$4.00/ton of the recycling tip-fee is deposited into the newly created Economic Development Fund and \$3.00/ton is deposited into the Environmental fund.
- The bill continues funding for the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection’s Clean Sweep Grant programs at \$750,000/year.
- 2010 recycling grants to Winnebago County (WC) Responsible Units (RUs) totaled \$932,057.28.

J. Rabe informed the SWMB that the six (6) non-signing municipalities in WC received ~\$31,000 in recycling grants in 2010.

What is the recycling community doing?

- Associated Recyclers of WI (AROW), Solid Waste Association of North America-Badger Chapter (SWANA), WI Counties Solid Waste Management Association (WCSWMA) and Council on Recycling (COR) issued a white paper entitled “Recycling Means Business: The Critical Between Wisconsin’s Economic Growth and Recycling.” This paper was distributed to all State Senators and Representatives on March 4, 2011, as well as the WDNR recycling DVD entitled “Too Valuable To Waste” on the value of recycling to State Senators.
- The four (4) organizations above also agreed upon a unified position on the budget proposal in a Sign-on Letter. The position seeks reinstatement of the mandatory recycling program, reinstatement of the grants at level of current biennium, emphasizes the economic impact of recycling and offers the Governor/Legislators the technical expertise and experience the four organizations can provide. The Sign-On Letter is being distributed to recycling stakeholders, including local governments, MRFs, haulers, trade associations, non-profits, businesses, etc. with request for ‘sign-on’ by close of business

on March 17, 2011. The letter will then be finalized and distributed widely, including state and national media outlets and all State Legislators/Governor.

- WDNR has corresponded with all the responsible units with its summary and interpretation of the budget bill.
- AROW is drafting two letters, one for youth and one for adult citizens, on the recycling impacts of the budget bill that interested parties can customize and send to their legislators.
- AROW is also investigating an online 'petition' that interested parties can sign-on to.
- AROW has been using Facebook to go viral, posting information, articles, etc.
- Staff has a draft resolution for the SWMB's consideration and can chose to endorse the statewide organization Sign-on letter.
- WC will also send an information letter, call to action and resolution (if approved) to all of our communities.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

P. Eisen asked if WC's municipalities could impose a fee on residents tax bills to make up for the elimination of the recycling grants. P. Eisen referenced an article from the Appleton Post Crescent where it mentioned that Outagamie County (the RU) may increase their residents trash/recycling pick-up fee by \$20-\$30 per year. Staff did not know what WC municipalities were planning if the recycling grants were eliminated.

M. Easker stated that it comes down to cost. It is cheaper to recycle than landfill the material from a municipality's standpoint. Regardless, the municipality will be picking up the residential trash and therefore why would they not pick-up the recycling as well. M. Easker stated that he felt the City of Neenah will continue to pick-up recyclables no matter what the outcome is of the Governor's Budget. P. Brennand stated that he believes the municipalities that recently purchased carts for trash and recycling will continue to operate status quo. J. Semrau reminded the SWMB that solid waste is not mandated.

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

Other Related Updates:

- Some division on this matter has already occurred within the Republican Party. State Representative Robin Vos (R-Rochester), Co-Chair of the Joint Finance Committee and State Representative John Nygren (R-Marinette), member of the Joint Finance Committee have publicly stated they do not support Walker's proposal to eliminate the recycling mandate and all recycling financial assistance. Vos has indicated recycling subsidies may need to be less however.
- Issue has been getting local, state and national attention. The Oshkosh Northwestern and Post Crescent have ran articles; Journal Sentinel, Wisconsin Public Radio, Milwaukee Public

Radio have done stories and nationally publications such as Waste and Recycling News and Resource Recycling have reported this story.

7. Discussion/Action – Consider Authorization of Resolution Opposing Elimination of Municipal Recycling Requirements and Opposing Elimination of Recycling Grant Programs: J. Semrau handed out copies of the resolution to the SWMB. Motion to authorize the resolution opposing elimination of municipal recycling requirements and opposing elimination of recycling grant programs made by P. Brennand and seconded by K. Robl. Motioned carried 7-0.
8. Discussion/Action – Consider Support of AROW/SWANA/WCSWMA/WCOR Sign-On Letter Regarding the Proposed Governor’s Budget (AB-40/SB-27) and Impacts to Recycling Programs: J. Semrau handed out copies of the Sign-On letter to the SWMB. Motion to authorize support of AROW/SWANA/WCSWMA/WCOR Sign-On letter regarding the proposed Governor’s budget (AB-40/SB-27) and impacts to recycling programs made by J. Finch and seconded by P. Brennand. Motion carried 7-0.
9. Discussion – Landfill Gas Project Updates: J. Morris updated the SWMB on Landfill Gas projects as follows:
 - Approximately 2,430 scfm of landfill gas is being collected from the Sunnyview Landfill and approximately 120 scfm of landfill gas is being collected from the Snell Road Landfill.
 - All five (5) engine/generators remain online, but some continue to run at slightly reduced loads due to various issues.
 - Sunnyview Landfill flare continues to be used to burn excess landfill gas.
 - Landfill gas quality continues to be good – approximately 55% methane with < 1% oxygen.
 - Power generation revenues continue to be strong – averaging approximately \$250,000/month thus far in 2011 (J. Morris reminded the SWMB that back when he started in 2002, the total power generation revenues were approximately \$500,000/year).
 - SWMB staff working with Foth personnel and televising/jetting contractor to evaluate and repair various condensate issues in landfill gas header/dripleg pipes.
 - SWMB contractors began testing/evaluation of waste heat recovery system equipment at the Law Enforcement Center. Facilities personnel also working with HVAC consultant to design absorption chiller system and SWMB will incorporate into the revised waste heat recovery system design (Foth & Inland).

Discussion ensued amongst the SWMB.

10. Future Agenda Items: None.

11. Set Next Meeting Date: The next meeting date will be April 6, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

12. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by J. Finch and seconded by D. Nelson. Motion carried 6-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adrienna Kumbier
Solid Waste Secretary

Approved by SWMB – April 6, 2011