

SOLID WASTE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Julie Maurer
Program Coordinator

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MEETING LOCATION

Chambers
301 Main Street
Adrian, MI 49221

Minutes: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

Members in Attendance:

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| ✓ David Stimpson (Co Comm) 12/25 | ✓ Kasee Johnson (Health Field) 12/26 |
| ✓ John Tuckerman (At Large) 12/25 | A Dave Pixley (Outlying Community) 12/24 |
| ✓ Greg Elliott (City of Adrian) 12/25 | ✓ Jim Palmer (Twp. Official) 12/24 |
| ✓ Jim May (Solid Waste Industry) 12/26 | ✓ Brooke Bollwahn (Environmental Group) 12/24 |
| ✓ Dan Swallow (City of Tecumseh) 12/26 | |

Also Present: Julie Maurer, Monica Hunt, Shannon Elliott

Vice-Chair David Stimpson opened the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

I. Minutes: Dec. 19, 2023

Motion by J. Palmer, seconded by J. Tuckerman., to approve the December minutes. Motion carried.

II. Reports: Financial Reports, Waste Hauler Tonnage Logs, Countywide Recycling

J. Maurer noted that the only major change in the financial reports is that her salary and benefits have been added. She also noted that the reason December is higher in DOS costs than November is because only four pickups were done in Nov. vs. 7 in Dec. This is because there were two pickups in early Dec.

On the waste hauler report, J. Maurer reported that Lenawee County produced less trash in 2023 than in 2022. The previous year showed a significant increase, but 2023 is back to similar numbers as 2021 and 2020.

The County is still waiting on numbers from one hauler, but 2023 recycling numbers are going to be very similar to 2022.

III. Program Coordinator's Report

- **Community Education**

- o J. Maurer reports that the January theme is "resolve to recycle" and that the most popular post has been about winter recycling tips. The February theme will be "recycling heroes."
- o Blog posts have gone up weekly and also sent to the local media. Information has run in several local newspapers, and J. Maurer has been interviewed for television and radio on recycling tips.

- **Waste Hauler's Licenses**

- o Eight renewed, down from last year's 10. One non-renewal was Omni-Source, but they are not required by law to renew. The other one was Bin There, Dump That – they didn't give any reports all year. Will follow up soon with non-compliance letter.
- o J. Maurer Will send letter about the license to other dumpster companies in the county to give them the opportunity to comply.
- o D. Stimpson recommended we send a list of the licensed waste haulers to the municipalities because they are more likely to notice non-compliant haulers.

IV. RFPs for Recycling Processing and Hauling – Discussion and vote on recommendation to send to Board of Commissioners

J. Maurer shared that three companies submitted bids for hauling and/or processing for materials at our DOS – LRS, Granger, and Stevens. LRS was the most inexpensive with their hauling/processing option costing \$318 per load to haul and \$65 per ton to process. They will take the materials to a transfer station in Jackson, MI, and then to their MRF near Chicago. Granger is our current processor, and their option was an increase over last year, and also include a fuel surcharge. Stevens came in the highest at \$550 per load, and whatever the Ann Arbor Recycling Center is charging to process, plus an additional 20 percent.

Motion by J. Palmer to make the recommendation that the Board of Commissioners accept the Stevens Disposal bid, J. Tuckerman seconded for sake of discussion.

Mr. Palmer expressed concerns about LRS no longer being local now that Modern Waste merged with them. He suggested going with Stevens because even if it costs more, they would make up for it in excellent service.

D. Stimpson called for a motion on tabling Mr. Palmer's motion so they could discuss conflict of interest. Motion by G. Elliott, seconded by D. Swallow. Motion carried.

Jim May recused himself from the discussion on the DOS bids because he works for Stevens.

J. Tuckerman made a motion to accept J. May's recusal. G. Elliot seconded. Motion carried.

J. Tuckerman motioned to return to discussion on the tabled motion to choose Stevens bid. G. Elliot seconded. Motion carried.

D. Stimpson thanked Mr. Palmer for his support for using a service provider who would handle the waste locally. However, the cost difference would be too much to justify going with Stevens.

The motion to recommend the Stevens bid failed seven to one, with J. Palmer voting in favor of the Stevens bid.

G. Elliot motioned to recommend the LRS bid that included hauling and processing to the Board of Commissioners for approval, K. Johnson seconded. Motion carried 7-1, with J. Palmer voting against.

V. Material's Management Planning Update

J. Maurer shared a presentation on the first task of the materials management planning process that EGLE kicked off Jan. 8. The board of commissioners needs to vote on whether the county will be the CAA, or County Approval Agency, when it comes to authority over the new materials management plan. Other options for the CAA would be the municipalities working together to write it, Region 2, or to give it back to the state. In all these options other than the BOC being CAA, Lenawee County would have a lack of control over the laws and not receive funding.

J. Palmer noted that when he worked on a committee with Region 2, Jackson received most of the resources over Lenawee, and said that he recommends against having R2 be the CAA.

J. Palmer motioned that the committee recommend to the Board of Commissioners that they to accept the responsibilities as the County Approval Agency for the Materials Management Planning Process for Lenawee County. D. Swallow seconded. Motion carried.

D. Stimpson will present this to the BOC as part of his committee report at the next meeting.

VI. Other Business

February meeting will be canceled as this special meeting was close enough to it and all pressing matters will be handled. The chairman can call a special meeting in February if need, otherwise the committee will reconvene March 6 at 10 a.m.

VII. Public Comment

No public comment.

VIII. Adjournment

G. Elliott motioned to adjourn; J. Tuckerman seconded.

Vice-Chair D. Stimpson closed the meeting at 10:56 a.m.