

SOLID WASTE/AIR QUALITY COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes - October 16, 2009

1. CALL TO ORDER

Don Reese called the meeting of the Solid Waste/Air Quality Committee to order at 8:05 a.m. on Friday, October 16, 2009 at Jefferson County Courthouse, 320 S. Main Street – Room 203, Jefferson, WI 53549

2. ROLL CALL (ESTABLISH A QUORUM)

Committee members present at 8:05 a.m. were Don Reese-Chair, Walt Christensen-Vice Chair, and Greg David-Secretary. Carlton Zentner arrived at 8:10 a.m.

Absent: Vic Imrie

Staff members present: Rob Klotz and Sharon Ehrhardt

Guest arrived at 8:45 a.m. - Elisabeth Olson, WDNR-Recycling and Waste Reduction Education and Outreach Coordinator.

3. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW

Rob Klotz stated that the Solid Waste/Air Quality Committee complied with open meetings law requirements.

4. REVIEW THE AGENDA

Don Reese made a motion to address items 10, 13, and 17 first on the agenda and Greg David seconded the motion.

Motion Carried 4-0.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 21, 2009

Walt Christensen made a motion to accept the August 21, 2009 minutes as written and Greg David seconded the motion.

Motion Carried 4-0

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg David talked to Richard Schultz, Street Superintendent-City of Watertown Street Department and Richard told Greg that the \$20,000 for clean sweep was still in the budget. The final budget vote will be November 17, 2009. Richard also said if the \$20,000 stays in the budget he would like to have the first clean sweep of the year.

Carlton Zentner asked that we put on the next agenda a discussion about volunteer retired teachers continuing our education efforts in all the Jefferson County grade schools. He knows we don't have monies to hire a permanent teacher, but perhaps we could use retired teachers. Sharon will put this on the next agenda. Carlton said he would volunteer to get teachers to teach the school children about recycling. Rob said that education is part of our agreement with the landfill.

7. DISCUSS CORRESPONDENCE OR REPORTS FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

Product Stewardship information was handled. AROW has a product stewardship committee. Sharon does call in conference meetings when she has time. The FDA just sent out a notice that if

you don't have a drug take-back program in your community, they advise to flush drugs until wide spread drug take-back programs are available. The better option would be mixing drugs with wet coffee grounds or liquid soap – double bagging and throwing in the trash. Walt said we could bring the county board into the drug process and send a resolution to the county board and then send it to the federal and state legislators. Walt said by doing a resolution you would be accomplishing three things: 1) Giving your county board a pat on the back for the drug take-back program; 2) Notifying state and federal legislators about our concerns on drugs; and 3) Advising people in a press release about how to handle drugs. Don said to put a lot of “where as” in the resolution to explain the correct information about handling and disposing of drugs. Check with Jeff and some of the cities about the harm in sending drugs into a waste treatment plant or private waste system. Sharon will have a resolution draft ready for the November 20, 2009 Solid Waste/Air Quality meeting.

Don Reese left at 8:50 a.m. Vice-Chair, Walt Christensen took over as Committee chair.

8. DISCUSS DISASTER WASTE MANAGEMENT WITH DONNA HAUGOM

Donna called Sharon and asked her if she could be the key person in a major disaster who would know something about debris waste management. Donna would send Sharon to Camp McCoy for two – three days of training. Rob could see a benefit of having a coordinator in an emergency, he didn't know if he wants staff to do it, but someone from the Solid Waste/Air Quality Committee could. Walt asked what would you gain by training, and maybe this is something the towns' association should be handling. We will put this back on the next agenda. Sharon will notify Donna Haugom about the time and place of the meeting. The Committee would also like to ask Donna Haugom to update them about the flood buy-out program and where the waste would go when properties are destroyed.

9. DISCUSS EDUCATION WITH ELISABETH OLSON – DNR

Elisabeth described her job as the recycling and waste reduction education and outreach coordinator for the WDNR. Elisabeth has been appointed to co-chair AROW's education committee.

Elisabeth gave updated information on Wee Recyclers which is recycling education for early childhood. This program was started in 1992 because early childhood education is an effective way to change attitudes about recycling; we are the only state in the nation that has an early childhood recycling program. It is online because that was more cost effective.

The recycling law passed 20 years ago. The 20th anniversary of the passing of the recycling law will be celebrated during earth week, April 19, 2020. WDNR had a round table discussion about the first earth week. Elisabeth is in the process of editing the content of the discussion. The information will be in the February edition of the Natural Resource Magazine along with a poster that says “Who would know that three arrows would change society?” The back will have which materials are banned from landfills, what needs to be recycled and the top ten questions asked about recycling. Elisabeth handed out a flyer they made for the State Towns Association meeting to promote recycling. Elisabeth gave the Committee material from the Green & Healthy School program which takes a sustainability approach. They used to have a grant for the program that gave money, but Elisabeth has changed it to give recycling bins instead because schools don't always have money to buy recycling bins. The goal would be to expand to wire bins for the high school and communities. Elisabeth said she would also like to have recycling bins in all parks too.

As we were talking to Elisabeth we remembered that we wanted to tour the Courthouse to see how well recycling is working. Sharon will put that on the November agenda. We asked Elisabeth about starting our fourth grade education program using retired teachers as volunteers. Elisabeth asked if we had a program. The answer was that no, we did not have developed program. Nancy Davenport developed her own program that she used in schools. Could the DNR buy Nancy Davenport's program from her so everyone could use it? DNR has “Keeping in the Loop” which complies with state education standards and teaching standards (PI34). To go back to the same fourth grade program we had would take a lot of time and work. There all other ways of getting students involved,

like teachers using "Keeping in the Loop" study guides for their classrooms. There is also the Green and Healthy School Program. DNR is having one-day training for the teachers about Green and Healthy Schools. Maybe we could use the AROW education program. Elizabeth will send us some bullet points on school education. Walt asked if maybe we should be bringing someone in from the schools to discuss this education. Elizabeth said she could put together resources that we could distribute to the schools. Maybe have more than one teacher in different areas of Jefferson County. We would need to review the material to be presented and let the teachers present it in their own way. Nancy also had a working agreement with the schools and teachers. Carlton said we need to have the kids receptive to the message, a messenger who has a good rapport with the kids and cooperation of the classroom teacher. All of these elements will be needed when and if we decide to do a classroom presentation.

This will be put back on the agenda. Sharon will list some of the ideas we discussed and maybe will have Elisabeth back at the next meeting. Elisabeth cannot make the November 20th meeting, but will send material. Elisabeth said there are training opportunities for teachers.

Elisabeth thinks this is a good time for recycling and the Governor's Council on Recycling is being revitalized. The thinking about is recycling is changing and therefore educating the public about recycling changes is needed.

Carlton asked Elisabeth if she could get him a summary of recycling history in Dane County. She will report back Carlton.

10. DISCUSS WASTE MANAGEMENT- UPDATE DEER TRACK PARK LANDFILL – REVENUE ESTIMATES 2009/2010

Don Smith sent an email October 15, 2009 stating he would not be able to attend this meeting because he will be out of town. He would like to attend the November 20, 2009 meeting. Don Smith told Don Reese that the estimated contract fees should meet his projections. Rob said in the 2010 budget he submitted is a lower amount than Don S. estimated, so if his estimates are on target we should be in good shape for the budget. Don R. said that Don S. is also working on a project that could bring in more revenues to the landfill. Anything above the estimated projection would be good for the Clean Sweep Program.

11. DISCUSS 2010 SOLID WASTE/AIR QUALITY BUDGET

Dave Ehlinger talked to Rob a week ago-things don't look as bad as first thought. We might be able to do two clean sweeps instead of one and if the \$20,000 stays in Watertown's budget, maybe three. Rob thanked the Committee for being cautious and cutting one clean sweep. Hopefully the economy has bottomed out. If the choice is between two and three events next year, Greg would like to see only two and not bankrupt the program. Rich from Watertown would like to have the first clean sweep of the year.

Word from Sharon Schmeling was she didn't think that we would get any donations from Fort Hospital. We are going to send out the letters and hope some donations will come to the Clean Sweep Program.

Stopped the meeting for a break 10:20 a.m.
Resumed the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

12. DISCUSS CLEAN SWEEP PROGRAM

a) Clean Sweep Grants

Sharon completed the drug grant and the ag & household grants. With the new point system, Sharon doesn't think we will get grants for 2010. Our points are reduced because we received grants in the past. If you are applying for a grant for the first time you receive more points. The program is

trying to get new counties to hold clean sweeps. Jefferson County is the bench mark for other counties for holding successful clean sweep year after year.

b) SB107 Electronic Recycling Bill

The bill should be signed by the Governor later this month. Toral said they have not gotten any opposition from the Governor's office. Walt asked if businesses are included in the bill with residents and schools. Businesses should have been recycling all along, because by law they have to recycle. Apple wanted the schools included so the tonnages from the schools can be counted with the level of collection quotes needed for state collection reports from the manufacturers of electronics. The DNR is very confident that this bill will pass.

Elisabeth informed Carlton that single stream recycling has increased recycling in Wisconsin. Elisabeth said the Committee should take a field trip to Outagamie County Recycling Center to see the new recycling facility. They have less than 5% residue going to the landfill. Not too far from Outagamie County is a car recycler we could also visit Greg David said, because it is amazing how a car is recycled.

Sharon is going to the DNR meeting in Madison to get more information about the future new electronics bill.

c) Clean Sweep Wrap-Up Information

Sharon handed out a sheet with cost totals for this year. Not all the invoices or reports have been received. Hopefully by the next meeting Sharon will have all reports done.

d) Update on Corporate Sponsorship for Clean Sweeps

Sharon handed out the updated sponsorship letter and fact sheet. Sharon also handed out two sheets for sponsorship contributions.

No discussion.

13. DISCUSS PERMANENT DROP OFF SITE AND DISPOSAL CONTAINER FOR DRUGS

Don R. said that JWR Inc., 322 N. Watertown Street, Johnson Creek, WI 53038 agreed to do the drop-off container for drugs and donate it to our program. He said they will need the measurements from Sheriff Paul Milbrath. Don said he would work together with Paul M, and JWR Inc. Sharon has been telling people when they call about drug disposal that we are working on putting a permanent drop-off container in the sheriff's lobby. She also has been telling residents that we had hoped to put it in place by the end of December. After the container is ready for placement we will have to decide if only dry medications can be put into the container or if liquid meds could be put in. Sharon also suggested that we have media and press coverage about the new drop-off site when it is ready.

14. DISCUSS "STORY OF STUFF" DVD FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION

Nancy Davenport sent an email with her opinion on "Story of Stuff" DVD, and Sharon read the email to the Committee. Nancy said it was too fast paced for fourth graders. She suggested junior high would be a better audience. She also wanted to alert the Committee that the DVD had a very liberal bias that might be difficult for some schools/parents to accept. Elisabeth said she had read some comments from parents stating it was against free enterprise and business. Elisabeth and Greg both agree that "Story of Stuff" is a very truthful DVD, but also know people will not always agree with it. Carlton didn't know if a video is the right tool for classroom education on environmental issues, because the classroom or school would need to have a DVD player and have a place for setup. Elisabeth said having a person do a presentation for 45 minutes can be very successful and you can easily keep the classroom's attention for 45 minutes.

Rob asked Sharon if she had time to contact the local cable station about playing the "Story of Stuff". Sharon said no, but that was on her list of things to do.

Elisabeth said Vernon County has a good video called "Lessons from a Landfill". It explains what goes into a landfill, reasons how and why it is constructed. Elisabeth is looking into getting a way to

distribute the DVD and she will try to get us a copy or bring it to a meeting. Rob said that maybe we should purchase the video for review and have someone make a video about Jefferson County. In it, we'd include the landfill, trash haulers, transfer stations and clean sweeps so everyone could get a good overview of what happens to recyclables, hazardous waste and trash in Jefferson County. Also include CRT Processing with electronics and our drug take back program. Let's purchase and maybe in the future make one of our own using the resources of our colleges, high schools or cable companies. This needs to be looked into the future. A good DVD is an approach as a tool with some other materials. A suggestion was for a 45-minute presentation but limiting the amount of video time. Put this on next agenda.

Greg said that the producer of the DVD "Story of Stuff" will be speaking at a conference about bioengineers in Madison on November 13 and 14. The cost for one day is \$35.

15. DISCUSS UPDATED INFORMATION ON AROW/Be SMART ORGANIZATIONS

Sharon informed the Committee that Be SMART was finalizing the merger and transferring of funds to AROW. AROW will become responsible for the website – Recycle More Wisconsin.

16. DISCUSS PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP INSTITUTE SPECIAL TOPIC CALLS-FEE FOR AROW MEMBERS

This will be on next month's agenda for discussion.

17. CONSIDER MERGE OF SOLID WASTE/AIR QUALITY COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES INTO PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

One of the things the Administration and Rules/ICC Committee is looking into is joining the Solid Waste/Air Quality Committee with the Zoning Committee. The Zoning Committee would take over the responsibilities of the Solid Waste/Air Quality Committee. It would be same department with same department head and staff. Rob briefly mentioned it to the Zoning Committee in the ride around last Friday, October 9, 2009. The Committee said they weren't opposed to the idea and it could be worked out if needed. In order for that to happen, the Solid Waste/Air Quality Committee would have to cut the time allowed for meetings. Maybe two additional items could be added to the zoning agenda and zoning issues would take precedence over solid waste issues. Time allowed might be ½ to 1 hour after the zoning issues have concluded. The cost savings would be \$3,300 dollars a year in per diems. The Solid Waste/Air Quality Committee has 12 scheduled meetings a year and 4 scheduled clean sweeps. Walt was concerned if it would allow enough discussion time for the issues that come before the Committee. Carlton was concerned if committees are joined together would there be enough diversity in county government? Would the \$3,300 savings be worth the reduction and elimination of a valuable Committee? Would all the decision-making come from a small group of in the county government? Could the Solid Waste/Air Quality meeting be cut down to a half hour or hour a month? The Zoning Committee could be looking at longer Zoning meetings. The solid waste issues would be discussed in a limited time frame. Sharon was directed to draw up a list of pros and cons and put this on the next meeting agenda. Greg said this should be done in zoning too. Greg said with all the things happening in zoning right now he didn't see how the Zoning Committee could take on extra work. Sharon suggested that maybe we keep the Committee but meet every other month for cost savings. Sharon also reminded the Committee that the original Committee was only three members and when air quality was added to the responsibilities of the Committee, they added two more members. Maybe cutting down the number of Committee members could be a possibility.

Greg David asked to be excused for two minutes at 8:30 a.m. and Greg came back into the meeting at 8:32 a.m.

Rob suggested maybe a reformation of the Committee, perhaps with one or two County Board members and two or three public people. Carlton said the cost of County Board meetings in studies is a very small part of county budget. This is just a savings of per diems. A complete re-education of the members of the Zoning Committee would be needed if the Committees were joined. Carlton asked Don, because he is members of both Committees, if it work. Don answered that it would be hard to do, to educate the Zoning Committee plus handle all the issues Zoning is going to have to

assume. Greg David said it would hurt Solid Waste/Air Quality; who would talk about the clean sweep, recycling, air quality issues that affect our county. Greg said to put additional burden on another Committee isn't fair and Walt was concerned that the worth of the Committee is being dismissed as unimportant. Walt also said it is hard to get people to run for county government and if you put more burdens on a few committees the list of people running for county board will decrease. The Solid Waste issues are not brought before county board, but we need to do so.

18. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLY ACT ON STRATEGIC PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Walt and Greg were concerned that our Committee is not represented at all the Strategic Planning meetings. Greg asked Don if we could have an alternate. Don said he had no problem with that; if he couldn't make a meeting he could call an alternate. Greg goes to all the meetings and Walt can make some of them. Each committee was to have picked their own representative to attend the Strategic Planning Committee and at the time, alternates were not considered.

Carlton Zentner made motion to go to the County Board Chair or the County Board to provide us with an appointed alternate to the Strategic Planning Committee if Don Reese could not make a meeting. Greg David seconded the motion.

Motion Carried 4-0

19. DISCUSS AGENDA ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 20, 2009 COMMITTEE MEETING OR UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

NOVEMBER

- **Discuss the Towns Association Meeting on October 27, 2009**
- **Don Smith, Waste Management – Update on Deer Track Landfill**
- **Permanent Drop Off Site for Drugs**
- **Solid Waste/Air Quality/Recycling/Clean Sweep Education**
- **Merge of Solid Waste/Air Quality – Pros/Cons**
- **Drug Resolution**

18. ADJOURN

Greg David made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and Carlton Zentner seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3-0

Meeting Dates for the following months.

Friday, November 20, 2009 – Solid Waste/Air Quality Meeting – Jefferson County Courthouse

Friday, December 18, 2009 – Solid Waste/Air Quality Meeting – Jefferson County Courthouse

Friday, January 15, 2010 – Solid Waste/Air Quality Meeting – Jefferson County Courthouse

Friday, February 19, 2010 – Solid Waste/Air Quality Meeting – Jefferson County Courthouse

February 24-26, 2010 – AROW/WCSWMA/SWANA Joint Winter Conference at the Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells

These minutes will be reviewed and acted upon at next month's Solid Waste & Air Quality Committee meeting. See those minutes for the record of action.

Secretary of Solid Waste/Air Quality Committee