

**Grundy County
Environmental & Resource
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**GRUNDY COUNTY BOARD – ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
APRIL 18, 2011**

I. Meeting called to order

Meeting was called to order promptly at 9:30 A.M.

II. Roll call

In attendance: Chairman Joyce, Chris Balkema, Dick Steele, Tom Poole, David Welter, and Chairman Severson arrived at 9:36 a.m.

Members Absent: None

Staff in attendance: Dan Duffy, Lisa Kneller, Karen Campbell, and Susan Bates

Public: Jim Allen (Environtech Landfill)

III. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Joyce asked the committee for a motion to approve the March 14th, 2011 meeting minutes. Welter motioned, Steele seconded. Motion passed.

IV. Public Comment - None

V. Claims –

Chairman Joyce asked the committee to review the claims and to motion them. Poole motioned, Welter seconded. Motion passed. Balkema questioned when the County purchases things out of state if we are required to pay the state tax and Bates replied that the County is tax exempt.

VI. Additions to agenda

Chairman Joyce asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Kneller stated that there were no additions to the agenda.

VII. Technician's Report

Kneller summarized her technician report by stating that the first Wind Farm Tour was

conducted on March 24th, 2011, with 67 students from South Wilmington Elementary School attending. Horizon provided a really nice power point presentation and a tour of the actual wind farm for the students. In observance of Earth Week/Earth Day the following presentations were done for schools, scout troops and civic organizations, Coal City Elementary School, Morris Girl Scout Troop, Coal City Intermediate School, Aux Sable Elementary and Braceville Elementary School. Christina Chapman from the Morris Daily Herald will take pictures of the presentation at Aux Sable Elementary School and do an Earth Day article about the office. Upcoming E-Waste Events were also incorporated into the recent Grundy County Newsletter.

Approximately 60 students participated in this year's Government Day.

Only two schools participated this year in the Trashformations Contest and those schools were Coal City Elementary School and Braceville Elementary School. Walmart will support the event by providing prizes of gift cards for the students and a pizza party sponsored by ERCO will be given to the group winners with Geo's of Coal City offering a special reduction for the pizzas.

A compost bin sale is being planned for outside of the Grundy County Administration Building along with a battery collection and distribution of Green Guides.

Plans are being finalized for Operation Bicycle with the SE Chicago Rotary to pick up approximately 20 bicycles that have been unclaimed from the Grundy County Sheriff's Department. The bicycles will be donated by the Rotary to underprivileged children who wouldn't have the opportunity to purchase a bicycle. Another E-Waste Collection will be held at Environtech Landfill on Friday, June 17th, 2011 for businesses and Saturday, June 18th, 2011, for residents.

The County Road Posting ended on April 4th, 2011, with press releases and reverse 911 calls to notify the residents that the regular schedule for trash will resume. Kneller stated that very few complaints were received. Severson said that he felt that there had been a problem with Saratoga Township with the dumpsters overflowing and the hauler not being prompt in emptying the dumpsters.

Joyce asked if the video's that had previously been purchased by the department if they were being loaned out to the schools. Kneller said this week she is partnering with Soil & Water Conservation for presentations at Braceville Elementary School and plan to show to the older children "The Story of Stuff" video. Kneller said that preparations are being made for the new members to participate in a landfill tour at Environtech in May and if the members are interested in touring the Homewood/Heartland Recycling Center that could also be arranged.

Duffy expressed thanks to Jim Allen and Republic Services for being the sponsor this year for providing t-shirts to the children that participated in Government Day.

VIII. New Business

Chairman Joyce asked if there was any new business. There was none.

IX. Old Business

At last month's Environmental Committee the members had asked that Kneller and Campbell research other Counties and Townships that had only one waste hauler.

Kneller provided a letter summarizing the pro's and con's from the research material that had been obtained. McHenry County has franchised one waste hauler to service what is comparable to Goose Lake because they have multiple communities in McHenry County that is similar to Goose Lake. They actually franchised haulers specifically for this type of area. Bates had looked into the legal issues and the township wide collection must actually go for a referendum and there is actually a case that they can't sign on to a county one without going for a referendum because that is basically back dooring a county wide collection without going for a referendum. Bates said that if you wanted to do it in all unincorporated areas then all the townships would have to be in agreement.

Kneller is going to reach out to Akzo Nobel for sponsorship funding and also checking into Prologis Group and BMW USA for funding opportunities. Campbell had found a Captain Planet Grant and Kneller will seek funding and thought that if funds could be obtained it would fund the "Recycling Loop Diorama".

Duffy asked if there were going to be anymore tire collections. Kneller said we would have to find sponsorship and it is quite costly. Severson said that he has had residents asking him if the County is going to have hearings on the landfill expansion and he said from what he understands that on December 31st 2013, the landfill will be done. Allen said the landfill is scheduled to remain open until 2014. Severson said the only vote the county had was to allow the landfill in their Solid Waste Plan to expand on their 80-85 acres and the City of Morris would hold the hearings to allow for an expansion. Joyce said we basically allowed Morris to make the decision if they want an expansion.

Kneller demonstrated the "Recycling Loop Diorama" to the committee members.

X. Executive Session

Chairman Joyce asked if there was any reason to have an executive session. There was not.

XI. Adjournment

Chairman Joyce asked for a motion to adjourn. Welter motioned, Steele seconded. Motion passed.