



GRUNDY COUNTY BOARD – ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE DECEMBER 19, 2011

I. Meeting called to order

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 P.M.

II. Roll call

In attendance: Dick Joyce, Chris Balkema, David Welter, Dick Steele and

Chairman Severson

Members Absent: Tom Poole

Staff in attendance: Shawn Hamilton, Heidi Miller, Lisa Kneller, Karen

Campbell, and Susan Bates

Public: Tim Oudman, Republic Services, Jim Allen, Environtech, Inc., George Mueller, (Arthur Hornsby, Frank Barber and Jean McKinney

arrived at approximately 3:09 p.m.)

III. Approval of Minutes

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

Joyce thanked Steele for conducting the November meeting as Chairman in his absence last month.

- IV. Public Comment Joyce asked for any public comment there was none.
- V. Claims –

Joyce said there were no claims to approve for the meeting this month.

VI. Additions to agenda

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 briefing the committee.

Education:

Kneller reported that the recycled ornaments that the preschools had made were on display on the Christmas tree in the foyer of the Administration building and were returned back to the schools today so the children can enjoy them at home.

Informational letters will be sent to the schools on February 17th, 2012, to give the children plenty of time to work on the Trashformations projects. This will give them a month and a half to complete their projects.

Some of the businesses have expressed interest in sponsoring an event by using employee involvement or business involvement. Aux Sable Liquids has suggested doing a junior high essay contest and Kneller would like to incorporate some of the other industries in the area and open it up to alternative forms of energy and the winner of that contest in said category would tour that plant.

Earth Day information will be provided to the schools and contacts are being scheduled for "Lights for Learning" education in the schools. Chicago Aerosol has given a point of contact for speakers to go to the schools to talk about aerosol sprays. After the first of the year a survey will be taken of the active science teachers to schedule appointments and presentations for the upcoming year.

Events:

Kneller reported that Gently Used Toy Drive was extended a week since the donations were down from last year and about 78 boxes were picked up by Rotary International on December 19th, 2011 to be distributed to shelters and churches for the needy. Donations were also provided to the Grundy County Mental Health for a few of their clients and United Methodist Church.

Approximately 235 tires were collected on December 2nd, 2011 for the County Agency Tire Collection Event from various townships and the Grundy County Highway Department.

Upcoming Events:

Beginning December 26th, through January 16th, 2012, non-working Christmas lights will be collected at Cardinal Recycling. Residents can also be reimbursed at 15 cents per pound for lights at Cardinal Recycling. Joyce suggested that next year starting this collection earlier before Christmas.

Preparations are being made to conduct another one day Blood Drive with Heartland sometime during the week of February 13th, 2012. Miller said they could have the mobile unit in the back of the Administration Building or in the County Board room. Heartland would provide mats on the carpeting in case of any blood spills.

Vintage Tech Recyclers has requested scheduling the E-Waste Collection dates for next year. Currently, the dates that are anticipated to hold the collections are June 15th and June 16th, 2012 and another collection on October 20th, 2012. Severson asked about the ban on electronics going into the landfill after January 2012. Kneller answered

questions about the proper disposal of electronics and items that can't go into the landfill. Oudman said he would give Kneller a stack of flyers that Republic has distributed to its customers that has references of the IEPA website and different places where the residents can properly dispose of their electronic items.

Joyce said since the guests attending came in after they had already gone through "Public Comment" on the agenda, the committee would give them the opportunity to speak. He reminded them that they have been here before and asked them to limit their time.

Arthur Hornsby distributed a packet of information and in the documents he hoped to bring to their attention the seriousness of landfills. He stated that he has no faith in the IEPA and had complaints of the smell coming out of the landfill. He stated that in the Host Agreement that because of the change in the Solid Waste Plan that the County Board has an obligation and responsibility to make sure that the Host Agreement is as ironclad as possible.

Jean McKinney voiced her concerns regarding no faith in the IEPA and the results of her well testing.

Frank Barber talked about the McKinney well test and he spoke about not having an answer of where the contamination of the well came from. He said that everything that came back in the well testing results is also in the landfill and thinks that the landfill is leaking.

Joyce said as far as he knows is that the City of Morris is still working on the Host Agreement and unsure if there will be some changes. Joyce stated that when you site a landfill there are certain criteria that will be discussed extensively at that time.

Mueller stated that he, Oudman, and Allen were happy to answer any questions the committee may have but it is not their intent to debate these issues at committee meetings because hopefully the public will get an opportunity to address everyone of their questions in a scientific and structured manner at a siting hearing where everyone is entitled to participate and has full rights to ask questions, present evidence and they look forward to that opportunity. Mueller further stated that this is not the time to hash it out informally however if any of the committee members have any questions they would be happy to answer them.

VIII. New Business

Joyce discussed the Environmental Calendar for the upcoming year and two dates in January and February fall on a holiday so those dates were moved to a Tuesday. A discussion was held and it was determined to keep the meeting dates and time the same with the exception of the two dates in January and February which will change due to the holiday.

Miller said the Vintage Tech Agreement was approved in 2010, however, recently there was a business merger between Vintage Tech and Kuusakoski Oy, and some changes have been made to the agreement. The changes were discussed and explained with the committee. Vintage Tech would become the exclusive electronic recycler for Grundy County for three years according to this contract. The County will start receiving

revenues of 2 cents per pound from the electronics collected and this is new to the agreement. Joyce asked for a positive recommendation of the resolution and agreement to be forwarded to the County Board for approval. Steele motioned and Balkema seconded. Motion passed.

IX. Old Business

Kneller met with Bob Osgood from Exelon and discussed how Exelon could help to financially support ERCO in the upcoming year. They are willing to help support some of the needs such as an Earth Flag Program, working together in the classroom and public outreach and with the Trashformations contest. They also have a Gabbi Green program for presentations on renewable energy and a Young Nuclear Professionals that have an outreach program that could be utilized in the schools.

Kneller thanked Republic for the \$3,792.00 for the Battery Bucket Program and provided the amount of batteries that have been collected since the inception of the program.

Miller reported that ERCO will have a resolution at next month's County Board meeting for the American Food Bank thanking them for their sponsorship of the Gently Used Toy Drive.

Welter asked if the Board is waiting until the City of Morris passes the Host Agreement and thought that it should be discussed thoroughly through committee. Bates said we should wait to see if the City of Morris makes a lot of changes. Joyce said when we get the agreement from the City of Morris we will need to look at the changes to see if we agree with them and also have Larry Clark review the changes.

X. Executive Session

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

XI. Adjournment

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