

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
OF JUNE 14, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P.M.

Members Present: Dick Joyce, Millie Dyer, Greg Redford and Jackie McKinney

Committee Members Absent: Jeremy Ly

County Board Members Present: None

Staff Present: Susan Bates, Assistant State's Attorney, Heidi Miller, Lisa Kneller and Karen Campbell

Public present: Jim Allen, Environtech, Inc.

Location: Grundy County Administration Center, 1320 Union Street, Morris, IL

**I. Meeting Called To Order**

Dick Joyce called the meeting to order.

**II. Roll Call**

Four members were present from the committee, and the above listed staff.

**III. Minutes Approval**

A motion was made by Jackie McKinney and seconded by Millie Dyer to approve the May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010, minutes. The motion carried.

**IV. Public Comment**

Dick Joyce asked if there was any public comment and there was none.

**V. Claims**

Joyce asked for a motion to approve the claims. Redford motioned, McKinney seconded. Motion passed.

**VI. Additions to Agenda**

Joyce asked if there was anything to add. There was nothing.

**VII. Technician Report**

Kneller reported that the office has been adding some new books and DVD's to expand the current library of informational materials to be used in the classrooms. In addition, Kneller is working on a green press release for the newspaper on how to recycle at the parks, ball fields, and to answer some of these questions as to why that doesn't happen and how people can support recycling away from home. Campbell had made contacts of the IT persons at the county-wide schools and Kneller will e-mail the teacher newsletter to them and use them as the vehicle for distribution of the newsletter within the schools. Included in the fall newsletter will be information about Walk to School, America Recycles Day, pictures and information about the wind farms that are being constructed in the county.

Kneller briefed the committee on the upcoming E-Waste Event that will be held on June 18<sup>th</sup> and June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at Environtech Landfill. Since we are doing a two day collection this year the office has been trying to get the word out to the residents and businesses in the county. Kneller has been on the local radio station and Christina Chapman from the Morris Daily Herald has interviewed her for an upcoming newspaper article, used the Grundy County Chamber of Commerce with an E-Blast, the GEDC newsletter and 750 flyers were distributed at the first Cruise Night, along with a mass mailing.

Kneller reported on recent enforcement issues that she has been working on. The property at 1265 Susan Circle has been cleaned up; the property at 5710 Whitetie Road has also been cleaned up with encouragement to the property owners to move the burn pile to somewhere else on their property; the property at 3340 Center Street in Braceville Township, the owner has no voice mail and Kneller has been unable to make any contact with the property owner; the office had been contacted by the Conservation Foundation regarding the property at Minooka & Tabler Roads regarding dumping in the Aux Sable Creek. Miller, Kneller and Joan Soltwisch, the Aux Sable Watershed Coordinator worked on the initial troubleshooting. Kneller and Soltwisch contacted Sara Wydell from the IEPA. Kneller, Soltwisch and Wydell inspected the property where the white film was found and it is suspected that a property owner is allegedly dumping horse manure into the Aux Sable thus contributing to the issue. Wydell would be lead contact and will further examine.

### **VIII. New Business**

Miller reported on the budget proposed for this year and stated that, approximately a little over \$4,000.00 will be left that can be used on general fund items. Since the office receives 30% of the tipping fees from the City of Morris, the city treasurer, John Enger, estimated that the amount received would be between \$30,000.00 and \$33,000.00 which would be half as much as the previous year. All the line items were left, but reduced down and all the services and events that were provided should still be provided for. Miller distributed a table listing what items will be reduced. Miller stated that a summer intern will be working for the department on grant research and grant writing. Joyce called for a motion on the tentative budget. Redford motioned to forward the tentative budget to the Finance Committee with a positive recommendation and McKinney seconded. Motion passed.

Susan Bates, Assistant State's Attorney said they got copies of the permits and she was a little concerned because it was a RCRA Permit. Bates had a conversation with an attorney from the IEPA and received a copy of a quit claim deed from Lyondell for what is commonly known as the river property about a five or six acre site to a group called LePetomane XXIII, Inc. that is a Lyondell Environmental Trust. Bates said there were a number of sites around the country where it appeared that the company may just walk away from. The federal EPA and federal Attorney General's got involved and Lyondell was forced to address these sites. What was proposed was that they would put together this trust that would handle the different sites that they have including the site in Grundy County. The IEPA agreed to the trust and they are the ones who will largely control the actions that are committed on this actual site. Bates said the big issue is the gypsum pile there and after speaking with the IEPA the actual gypsum pile has been covered so it is really a maintenance issue. LePetomane have \$1.1 billion dollars to complete any closure and to maintain that site into the future. It has to be maintained for a minimum of 30 years because there are monitoring wells and if they have 10 good years and if there is a problem then the monitoring time frame will not necessarily end at the 30 years and may go for a longer period of time. Bates said because there is a draft permit that has been issued and the comment period for that is through midnight July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Bates recommended that Kneller put together a comment from the county expressing our concern that nothing else went there and monitoring is continued as need be and that no additional environmental hazards be permitted on the site.

Joyce asked if the gypsum pile needs to be moved. Bates said her understanding is that the gypsum pile just stays there. Joyce called for a motion to approve the sending of a response letter from the County to the IEPA regarding the RCRA permit. Dyer made a motion to approve a letter to the IEPA and Redford seconded. Motion passed.

#### **IX. Old Business**

Kneller reported that the office is currently using Battery Solutions which has a charge of \$79.00 per bucket which normally holds between 35 – 37 lbs. To expand the bucket program to the public within the Administration Building only allows us to purchase buckets in bulk. The cost is \$1,875.00 for 25 buckets (a \$100.00 savings over ordering buckets individually). Batteries Plus currently sells batteries to the Grundy County Environmental Health for their mosquito abatement program and they will recycle batteries at no charge for Environmental Health as they are an established account. The company is willing to provide collection containers to our department for public collection at no charge, since they are already collecting from the Environmental Health. Kneller is currently working on drafting an agreement that locks Batteries Plus into collecting at NO COST until the proposed date of December 2011.

Joyce asked if we are going to put buckets in the libraries or just keep the collection at the Administration Building. Kneller said for now it would only be at the Administration Building for public and internal collection. An agreement will be drafted and brought to committee at the next meeting. Miller suggested contacting the Sheriff's Department and EMA to see if they also have batteries from their radios.

#### **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 adjournment. Redford motioned, and Dyer seconded. Motion passed.