

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
OF DECEMBER 23, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 A.M.

Members Present: Dick Joyce, Greg Redford, Dick Steele, and John Galloway

Also present: Frank Halpin, Dan Duffy, Heidi Miller, Lisa Kneller, and Karen Campbell

Public present: Jim Allen, Environtech, Inc.

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

Minutes Approval

A motion was made by Dick Steele and seconded by Greg Redford to approve the November 25th, 2008, minutes. The motion carried

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Claims

The committee reviewed the claims for the Office of Solid Waste Management. A motion was made by Greg Redford and seconded by Dick Steele to approve the claims as submitted. The motion carried.

Additions to Agenda

There were none.

Technician's Report

Lisa Kneller, Solid Waste Technician gave the monthly report on the following:

- The County Preschool recycled Christmas ornament project was an overwhelming success. The children made Christmas ornaments from recyclable materials that were hung on the tree in the County Board meeting room. Step by Step Preschool in Diamond, Methodist Church Preschool in Morris and Dawn of a New Daycare in Mazon along with the teachers were recognized at the December 9th County Board meeting and certificates were mailed to each participating school.
- A total of 9,102 pounds or 4.5 tons of paper was collected at the Coal City Paper Drive on December 10th, 2008 in recognition of America Recycles Day. The winning fifth grade class collected the most paper with 1,788 pounds. A pizza party sponsored by Geo's Pizza and D Construction of Coal City was held for the fifth grade class on December 19th, 2008. Cardinal Recycling provided all the Gaylord boxes for the collection along with the manpower, vehicles and weighing of the paper. Dick Joyce asked if all the schools in the county were recycling on a regular basis paper, plastic and cans. Kneller stated that waste haulers have an extra charge for collecting recyclable materials and some schools do not have the extra funds available to be able to participate in this kind of program. Currently a quarterly newsletter is being sent to the teachers by Kneller providing educational tips and giving options on programs that either the county or state has available on recycling.

- Approximately 104 boxes of toys and 23 bicycles were collected for the Gently Used Toy Drive which concluded on December 12th, 2008. A donation of \$500.00 in wrapped toys was donated from American Food Bank. The items collected were donated to the Rotary International, Eleanor's Trunk and other local charities for needy children.
- Preparation is currently being made to mail the Waste Hauler Licensing application to waste haulers at the end of December. This year, applications will be sent to companies who collect electronics and companies who haul motor oil and animal fats. Chairman Frank Halpin suggested the idea of exploring the options of a county-wide waste hauler. Miller stated that this is currently being drafted into the Solid Waste Update Plan.
- Paperwork is being completed for Exelon Corporation Sponsorship to help offset the costs of purchasing educational teaching aids and partial funding of the Trashformations Contest for 2009. Each year Exelon donates money to local organizations to be used for sponsorship programs.

New Business

Miller briefed the committee that the Solid Waste Update Steering Committee reviewed the Appendix, past minutes and past agendas of the Solid Waste Management Plan – Fifteen Year Update. There was also a discussion to have a public hearing on February 9th, 2009, and possibly some radio broadcasting in January 2009 to discuss the plan. After the public hearing, the Solid Waste Update Committee will recommend forwarding the document to the Environmental Committee for approval. The Environmental Committee will forward the document to the County Board for final approval.

Dick Joyce discussed the meeting time for the Environmental Committee which was previously scheduled for 4:30 p.m. instead of the past time of 8:30 a.m. Some of the members had a conflict with the 4:30 p.m. and the 8:30 a.m. Frank Halpin suggested leaving the meeting at 8:30 a.m. for now and review at a later date if problems arise.

Dick Joyce asked if recycling at large events in the county have been explored. Frank Halpin suggested that the local 4-H groups, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and county school Science/Environmental Clubs could be contacted to explore the idea of collecting cans for profit for their group. It was also discussed to start with a small function in the county first and if successful proceed with other events.

Old Business

There was none.

Adjournment

A motion was made by John Galloway and seconded by Dick Steele to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.