

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
OF APRIL 20, 2009**

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

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

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

Public present: Jim Allen, Environtech, Inc., Randy Salmich, Cardinal Recycling, Jason Panek, Waste Management, Mark Harlow, Highland Township Road Commissioner, Dan Loerop, NuWay Disposal/Heartland Disposal and Theresa Hammond, NuWay Disposal/Heartland Disposal

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 March 16th, 2009, 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 Dick Steele and seconded by John Galloway 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:

- Twenty six entries made it to the county level. Once all judging is completed, the final tabulations will be made and the overall individual winners and overall team winners will be announced. In addition, pizza parties will be held for overall team winners along with some token gifts. Wal-Mart has generously again provided gift cards for first place winners of \$50.00 and runners up will get a \$10.00 gift card and all others that placed will receive a \$5.00 gift card. Plans will be made to recognize the winners at the May County Board meeting.
- A group that works with Com Ed and Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity known as the "Lights for Learning Program" conducts fundraising with CFL bulbs but more specifically they do CFL education on light bulbs and energy conservation. Their education coordinator did presentations at Braceville Elementary for the entire school and will be at White Oak Elementary for the entire fourth and fifth grade classes on Thursday. The educator flew in from Massachusetts at no charge to the county and very positive feedback has been received that she presented a dynamic program.

- Another paper collection will held on April 22nd, 2009, at White Oak Elementary and the department will once again partner with Cardinal Recycling who will collect the paper and recycle the paper and provide the Gaylord boxes, equipment, and manpower and weigh the paper at no cost to the county. The grade that collects the most paper will receive a pizza party.
- A report of illegal dumping was received that a hot tub had been dumped in pieces at the EWR site and it was discovered that a resident in Carbon Hill had the rest of the hot tub at their residence. A violation letter was sent to the offender and he was instructed on the proper disposal procedure.

Dan Duffy asked if any tire collections would be held this year. Kneller stated that Ellen Robinson from the IEPA notified her that on a smaller scale, the IEPA will assist with a county wide collection only for townships, park districts and municipalities to collect automobile, truck and tractor tires.

New Business

Miller reported that Judy Farmer a resident of Saratoga Towers had approached her about donating a compost bin to the facility at the Environmental Fair in March. The facility has a garden and would like to start a composting program for the residents. By donating the compost bin it would provide an environmentally sound way of disposing of green and brown compostable materials but most of all it provides the gardeners of the Towers a fun and productive way of enhancing their vegetables and flower beds. A motion to donate a compost bin to the Saratoga Towers was made by Dick Steele and seconded by Jackie McKinney. The motion carried.

Old Business

During the public hearing for the Grundy County Solid Waste Management Plan – Fifteen Year Update, it was brought to the attention of the committee that having the possibility of one waste hauler for the unincorporated areas of the county would be beneficial for the roads during the freeze and thaw period in the spring. Dick Joyce addressed the hauler representatives that no one is trying to take away anybody's freedom but it is wasteful to have three or four garbage trucks to service a few homes on one road. Dick Joyce reiterated that this is only an investigative stage at this point and whether they go forward or do not, the committee wants to gather information and seek input from the waste haulers and township officials on their viewpoint of this matter. Mark Harlow, Highland Township Road Commissioner stated that the letters sent out by Waste Management were sent to the right people but the residents were not told where to properly dispose of the garbage in their township. Dan Loerop from NuWay/Heartland stated that in Michigan the townships are putting the whole township out for bid trying to tackle some of these same issues, but they are having a difficult time trying to enforce this. Jason Panek from Waste Management stated that currently they have most of the accounts in the unincorporated areas. Theresa Hammond from NuWay/Heartland said about five years ago in Goose Lake they tried to have one hauler for the area, but it was voted down unanimously because the people want freedom of choice to pick their own waste hauler.

Kneller showed the Environmental Committee members the battery bucket that had been ordered from Battery Solutions. The bucket costs \$74.00 which includes shipping and handling. The bucket will be only for county use at the Administration Building at this time, and a study will be completed on the amount of batteries collected. In the future, if budget allows, then collection sites could be at area libraries in the county.

Adjournment

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

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