

LOGAN COUNTY JOINT SOLID WASTE AGENCY

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Logan County Safety Complex – Blue Room

CALL TO ORDER: The Logan County Joint Solid Waste Agency board met on Wednesday, November 20, 2013 in the Blue Room of the Logan County Safety Complex. Chairman Jim Struebing called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM and the following members were present: Pat O'Neill – Logan County, Andy Anderson – Logan County Alternate, Peggy Lee – Elkhart, Bill Moore – Atlanta, Ivan Rademaker – Emden, Mandy Cordray – Hartsburg Alternate and Agency Coordinator, Michele Rohlfs; a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MINUTES: Chairman Struebing asked if there were any additions or corrections to the October minutes; none were noted. Mr. Ivan Rademaker motioned to approve the October minutes, seconded by Ms. Peggy Lee; all present approved.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Chairman Struebing read through the November bills to be paid. Mr. Ivan Rademaker motioned to pay the bills, seconded by Ms. Mandy Cordray; all present approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Ms. Rohlfs brought in a Lincoln Courier to show board members the print ad for electronics recycling that ran in both the Courier and the Logan County Shopper; the ad will run again in January. The ads were paid with funds from the 2013 IL-EPA Electronics Recycling Grant.

OLD BUSINESS

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING/2013 IL-EPA ELECTRONICS RECYCLING GRANT: Ms. Rohlfs displayed the two-sided banner advertising Electronics Recycling purchased from Visual Ink Productions with IL-EPA Electronics Recycling grant money. The banner will be hung at Habitat for Humanity the week prior to the electronics collection. All but \$70 of the \$2,000 grant has been expended and Ms. Rohlfs reports that the remaining funds will be used to purchase copy paper for flyers. Ms. Peggy Lee suggested the \$70 be used to purchase ads on Facebook, which could reach a larger audience.

ASSESSMENT RATE INCREASE: Ms. Rohlfs spoke to Kenny Johnson, Middletown Village President, who stated that the village board approved the assessment rate increase; he will sign the 2014 LCJWA Funding Proposal and return it to Ms. Rohlfs. Signed and approved proposals in favor of the rate increase have now been received from all municipalities with the exception of Broadwell. Chairman Struebing stated that the assessment rate increase will need to be voted on in January so all members can be informed of the new rate prior to their budget preparations.

DRIVER STATUS UPDATE: Mr. George Fishburn, the principal route driver for the Agency, has an appointment with the Veteran's Administration on December 2nd to pursue obtaining hearing aids so that he can pass his driving test; Mr. Ronnie Robertson will continue to drive in the interim. Ms. Rohlf's will be assisting on the route with Mr. Robertson on November 26th and December 2nd as Mr. Fishburn has medical appointments scheduled. Ms. Rohlf's returns to the orthopedic doctor on December 5th and anticipates that she be scheduled for knee surgery. Mr. Andy Anderson asked if Mr. Fishburn was losing income while he is unable to drive for the agency; Ms. Rohlf's replied no as he is assisting on the route in her place so his income has been maintained.

UNANNOUNCED OLD BUSINESS: Chairman Struebing stated that the Agency's new budget has not been voted on yet; this will need to be done in January. Board members will be mailed a copy of the budget presented to Logan County.

NEW BUSINESS

FY 14 ASSESSMENT COLLECTIONS: All assessments have been collected and deposited.

GOVERNMENTAL TIRE COLLECTION REPORT: Ms. Rohlf's received the official IL-EPA report on this summer's Governmental Tire Collection; approximately 4.95 ton of tires were collected which is equivalent to 450 passenger tires. Ms. Cordray asked if there would be other public tire collections; Ms. Rohlf's replied no; the IL-EPA discontinued public tire collections several years ago. Ms. Rohlf's noted Neal Tire will take tires from the public, but they do charge a fee for the service.

2014 IL-EPA ELECTRONICS RECYCLING GRANT APPLICATION: Ms. Rohlf's reports that the IL-EPA will again be offering \$2,000 grants in 2014 to promote electronics recycling and she has completed an application. Funds will be used to continue internet and print advertising. Ms. Rohlf's notes she also looked into billboard advertising, but those costs exceeded \$2,000.

UNANNOUNCED NEW BUSINESS: Recently, NPR reporter Kelly McEvers wrote an article on the deterioration of small towns using her hometown of Lincoln as an example. Following the release of the article, in a previously scheduled Boomtown Round Table meeting, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, many local residents came out to discuss how to revitalize our community; how to make it prosper and to discuss what the town can do to bring people back and improve the quality of life. One of the ideas discussed was the revival of curbside recycling.

In response, Ms. Rohlf's contacted Matt Coulter, Area Disposal, to discuss the status of curbside recycling in Lincoln, past, present and future. When curbside recycling went to a fee-based program in July of 2010, approximately 350 households dropped the service. These households did not stop recycling; they simply began taking their recyclables to the agency's drop-off bins. The increased volume, particularly in co-mingled materials, has resulted in increased costs for the agency due to need to pull bins more frequently.

Mr. Coulter stated that the difference between waste disposal and recycling comes down to disposal costs. When Area went to the fee-based program, their cost to recycle the material (transportation, staff and processing) was double what it would have cost to landfill the materials. Since 2008, commodity prices have been in decline. Until there are sustained markets for recycled materials, this trend will continue.

Mr. Andy Anderson asked Ms. Rohlfis if there were any communities similar in size to ours that our assessment rate could be compared to. Ms. Rohlfis stated that she had done a comparison three to four years ago and would be willing to again provide that information to the board.

ADJOURNMENT: At this time, Chairman Struebing asked for a motion to adjourn; Mr. Pat O'Neill made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ivan Rademaker. All present approved and the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM. Members were reminded that there will be no December meeting.

The next meeting of the Logan County Joint Solid Waste Agency will be Wednesday, January 15, 2014 in the Blue Room of the Logan County Safety Complex.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Pettus
Recording Secretary