

LOGAN COUNTY JOINT SOLID WASTE AGENCY

October 21, 2015

Logan County Safety Complex – Blue Room

CALL TO ORDER: The Logan County Joint Solid Waste Agency board met on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 in the Blue Room of the Logan County Safety Complex. Chairman James Struebing called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and asked that the roll be called.

ROLL CALL: Attending tonight's meeting were Andy Anderson – Logan County Alternate, Matt Fights – Elkhart, John Utterback – Mt. Pulaski, Bill Moore – Atlanta, Ivan Rademaker – Emden, Doris Last – Hartsburg, Marty Neitzel – Lincoln and Michele Rohlfs – Agency Coordinator. Ernie Shaw – Elkhart Alternate arrived just as roll call was ending; a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST MINUTES: Since the Agency board did not meet in September, the minutes from the August meeting were presented for approval. Chairman Struebing asked if there were any questions or comments; there were none. Mr. Rademaker motioned to accept the August 2015 minutes and seconded by Mr. Anderson; all present approved and the motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Chairman Struebing read through the bills presented for payment, starting with the September 2015 bills; there were no questions. Mr. Utterback motioned to approve the September 2015 bills with Mr. Fights providing the second; all present approved and the motion carried.

Chairman Struebing then read through the October 2015 bills. Mr. Utterback motioned to approve the bills with Ms. Neitzel providing the second. Chairman Struebing stated he had a question regarding the increased amount for Midwest Fiber. Ms. Rohlfs replied that the bill from Midwest was for both August and September. Ms. Rohlfs also noted that at the last meeting, she reported that Area Disposal had not charged the Environmental Fee of \$4.50/container; however that charge is back on this month. With no additional questions or comments noted, all present approved and the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ROUTE STATUS: Ms. Rohlfs stated that the Agency's truck passed the semi-annual state truck inspection and one light needs to be replaced; this will be done by Mr. George Fishburn, Agency driver. Work has been completed on the rear brakes. In the last couple of weeks, the truck has blown three tubes and it appears there may be a problem with the rim. Neal Tire is trying to find the Agency a used rim.

Ms. Rohlfs reports that Old Route 66 north of McLean is open since bridge repairs have been completed.

GLASS/ELECTRONICS RECYCLING: The last glass collection for the year was held Saturday, October 10th. October's collection was 6,000 pounds bringing the total collected for the year to 32,000 pounds. Ms. Rohlfs noted that a Woman's Club member was injured while removing the plastic rings from bottles; but no stitches were needed.

After unloading the glass from October's collection, Ms. Rohlfs and Mr. Fishburn readied the trailer for winter. This includes unhooking the trailer from the Dodge, cleaning the bed of all debris, raising and blocking the trailer bed so that it doesn't hold rain or snow.

Electronics recycling continues; TVs and computer monitors are not currently being accepted. New amended legislation changing how recycling quotas are calculated has been signed, but electronics processors are cautious regarding its implementation. After the first of the year, monitors and TVs should again be accepted for recycling; however at this time, there are no local in county options.

ASSESSMENT UPDATE: All FY 16 assessments have been received and deposited.

CONFIDENTIAL ON-SITE PAPER SHREDDING: Paper shredding was also held Saturday, October 10th with 8,250 pounds of shred collected; this brings the total collected for the two shredding events this year to 14,630 pounds. The Agency thanks the State Bank of Lincoln, who underwrites the cost of these collections.

NEW BUSINESS

FUTURE FUNDING OPTIONS/ASSESSMENT PROJECTIONS: Chairman Struebing concludes that an adjustment to the assessment rate is needed to handle updating the Agency's equipment including a collection truck as well as replacing recycling bins. The Agency hasn't spent a lot of money in the last 20 years on equipment. In August, when Chairman Struebing and Ms. Rohlf's met with former Lincoln Mayor Scott Cooper, County Board Chairman Dave Hepler, City Administrator Clay Johnson, and Finance Committee Chairman Chuck Ruben, the consensus was that the assessment rate should be raised gradually. Ms. Rohlf's put together a chart showing how a 50 cent per year assessment rate increase over the next four years would impact revenue. Chairman Struebing reports the Logan County Board may be able to assist with financing the truck purchase with the Agency paying back the loan over several years as the assessment increase is received. There was much discussion on raising the assessment rate, the amount it should be raised, how many years the rate would increase and the benefits of purchasing a new truck versus a used one. A question was asked as to how the assessment rate increase is achieved. Chairman Struebing stated that each municipality would individually vote on the increase and it would require a majority of the Agency Board members to approve the increase. The Agency plans to search for a used collection truck as the cost of a new truck is probably beyond the Agency's reach even with a rate increase. Ideally, the next collection truck would be a garbage truck with a 20 to 25-yard bed; the current truck has a 17-yard bed. The Agency will need to make a decision soon on whether to pursue an assessment rate increase so that if it is approved, members can incorporate the increase into their upcoming budgets. Ms. Rohlf's stated she would check with Matt Colter at Area Disposal to see if they have any trucks that may be for sale. She will also look into grants, check on prices for new and used trucks and speak with Chuck Rubin regarding the County's willingness to assist with financing. When checking prices, Ms. Rohlf's was told to ask for a State bid; she was also advised to check with the banks on a 10 or 15-year loan.

Also, the current Municipal Agreement among members will expire in June 2017, so sometime before then the agreement will need to be renewed if the Agency is to continue.

APPROVAL OF 2016 BUDGET: The 2016 Budget was presented for approval. It was noted that the cost for Processing & Transport had increased. Ms. Rohlf's explained that our current contract with Area Disposal allows for up to a 5% increase in addition to an added fuel surcharge. The budget has already been presented to the County Board Finance Committee, as the Agency's budget doesn't change much overall from year to year. Mr. Anderson motioned to accept the 2016 Budget, which was seconded by Mr. Utterback; all present approved and the motion carried.

UNANNOUNCED NEW BUSINESS: Chairman Struebing reported that he had been contacted by a Middletown resident requesting additional signage on the bins to combat contamination issues. Ms. Rohlf's will post recycling guidelines on both bins.

ADJOURNMENT: With this evening's business concluded, Mr. Rademaker motioned to adjourn with Ms. Last providing the second; all present approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Pettus
Recording Secretary