

## **LOGAN COUNTY JOINT SOLID WASTE AGENCY**

Wednesday, June 17, 2015  
Logan County Safety Complex

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**CALL TO ORDER:** The Logan County Joint Solid Waste Agency board met on Wednesday, June 17, 2014 in the Blue Room of the Logan County Safety Complex. Chairman Jim Struebing called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and asked that the roll be called.

**ROLL CALL:** The following members were in attendance: Andy Anderson – Logan County Board Alternate, Matt Fights – Elkhart, John Utterback – Mount Pulaski, Doris Last – Hartsburg, Ernie Shaw – Elkhart Alternate and Michele Rohlf – Agency Coordinator. The new City of Lincoln representative, Marty Neitzel, was introduced and Pat O'Neill – Logan County Board, came in after the roll was called; a quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES:** Chairman Struebing asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the May minutes; there were none. Mr. Utterback motioned to approve the minutes with Mr. Fights providing the second; all present approved and the motion carried.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Chairman Struebing read through the June bills. Mr. Utterback motioned to approve payment of the bills, seconded by Ms. Last; all present approved and the motion carried.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** Ms. Rohlf explained for the newer members that the Processing/Transportation costs (Line Item #53060) are primarily for transportation of the 30 yard boxes. Ms. Neitzel inquired about any profits received from the recycled materials. Ms. Rohlf replied that recycling is not a money-making operation. Generally, the rebate paid for paper materials offsets the cost of processing the co-mingled materials. However, paper prices are down and with the low oil/petroleum prices, it's now cheaper to make new plastic than to utilize recycled materials. The volume of paper has been decreasing as fewer household subscribe to newspapers, opting to read the news online. This trend not only has reduced the volume of paper being recycled, but also the rebates received. Lincoln has 2 thirty yard bins (Paper and Co-Mingled Plastics/Metal) and Atlanta and Mt. Pulaski each have a 30 yard paper bin. The Agency pays \$221.50 per pull for the co-mingled bin plus a \$23-\$25 fuel surcharge and \$253.50 per pull on the paper bin plus a \$26-\$28 fuel surcharge.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**DRIVER/ROUTE STATUS:** Mr. George Fishburn, Agency driver, returned to work June 8<sup>th</sup>. His rehabilitation progressed more quickly than anticipated and he was able to return sooner than the expected August timeframe. Mr. Todd Godbey passed his air brake and driving test and now has his full CDL license. The Agency now has several substitute drivers available including Mr. Bill Melton and Mr. David Coers who assisted in Mr. Fishburn's absence.

**GLASS/ELECTRONICS RECYCLING:** Both the glass and electronics recycling were held last Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. The collections are held the second Saturday of the month from 9:00 AM to noon; electronics recycling at the Habitat for Humanity warehouse and glass recycling at the Logan County Fairgrounds. The electronics collection is held year round, while the glass recycling is held May through October in addition to the collection at the Logan County Community Health Fair. The Lincoln Woman's Club provides volunteer assistance for the glass recycling and the proceeds (\$0.03/lb) are split with them; 60% (Agency) and 40% (Lincoln Woman's Club). June's glass collection (approximately 5,000 lbs) remains on the trailer waiting to be taken to the glass factory.

**GOVERNMENTAL TIRE COLLECTION:** Ms. Rohlfs is still awaiting approval from the IL-EPA on a Governmental Tire Collection. Ms. Rohlfs spoke with Mr. Bret Aukamp, Logan County Highway Department Superintendent, asking him to notify townships to go ahead and pick up tires in their area so that collection can be held once approval is given. It is anticipated that approval will not be given until a state budget agreement is reached. This collection is for governmental entities only, it's not a public collection.

A question was asked about the spring schedule of Household Hazardous Waste collections. Ms. Rohlfs reports that she spoke with Mr. David Saladino, IL-EPA, and there are no spring HHW collections scheduled anywhere in the State. Two permanent HHW collection sites remain open, but both are north of I-80. A fall HHW schedule will be submitted for approval in July, but again until a state budget agreement is reached it is unlikely that any collections will be scheduled.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**2016 ASSESSMENTS:** Ms. Rohlfs reports that Assessment Notices have been sent to all Agency members. Each municipality is billed on a per capita rate of \$4.00 and the Logan County Board pays for all unincorporated areas of the county. First installments are due by July 31<sup>st</sup> with second installments due by October 31<sup>st</sup>. Middletown has paid in full and first installments have already been received from Emden, New Holland, Atlanta and Elkhart.

**LOGAN COUNTY JOINT SOLID WASTE AGENCY RESOLUTION:** Chairman Struebing and Ms. Rohlfs explained the resolution situation for everyone's consideration. When the Agency was first established in 1997 it was through a 20-year Municipal Agreement; eighteen of those years have passed. Prior to that agreement's expiration in June 2017, one of two things needs to happen; either the Agency moves forward or it is disbanded. The mechanics of the organization have been good; better than the financing aspect. Raising the per capita assessment from the current \$4.00 to \$6.00 is one option up for discussion. A six dollar assessment would allow the Agency to purchase a newer and larger truck; the Agency's current truck is a 1996 17-yard garbage truck and it is undersized for the program. Additional funds from an increase would also allow the Agency to purchase new and larger collection bins to replace the 18-year-old bins currently in use.

It was previously suggested that Chairman Struebing and Ms. Rohlfs schedule a meeting with the Logan County Board Chairman and Lincoln's Mayor and City Administrator to explain the Agency's financial dilemma, since these entities are the agency's largest stakeholders. Ms. Rohlfs will notify all members of any scheduled meeting(s) as Chairman Struebing would welcome other Agency members to attend. Ms. Rohlfs stated that every other year or so, she does a comparison study of our program with the programs of surrounding counties (similar in size and demographics); most of these counties don't offer the services our program does. Additionally, Ms. Rohlfs states a 2014 report from the IL-EPA that estimates within twenty-one years the current landfill space in Illinois will reach its capacity. In the meantime, Agency members should take this information back to their boards for discussion. Mr. O'Neill reminded Agency members about the marijuana growing facility and proposed wind farms coming to the county, which will provide added revenue in the form of taxes.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With tonight's business concluded, Mr. O'Neill made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Fights; all present approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Pettus  
Recording Secretary