

ADAMS COUNTY LANDFILL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2007, 7:00 P.M.
STRONGS PRAIRIE TOWN HALL

Members Present: Dennis Erickson, St. Pr. Town Chair
Bernie Bays, Preston Township Representative
Myrna Diemert, Solid Waste Director
Nancy Wical, Town Supervisor/Citizen Member

Others Present: Florence Johnson, PW Committee Member
Dave Renner, PW Committee Member
Bob Dixon
Larry Babcock
Everett Johnson

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL & APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairperson, Dennis Erickson at 7:00 P.M.. All Committee members present. There were no additions or changes to the agenda. *Motion by Bays, second by Erickson, to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.*

MINUTES: Ms. Diemert presented the minutes of the May 21, 2007 Advisory Committee Meeting. *Motion by Bays, second by Wical, to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2007 Advisory Committee Meeting as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.*

UPDATE ON OPERATIONS/SITE REPORT: Ms. Diemert then reported on the following items for the period May 2007 through December 2007:

RECYCLING: Recycling markets remained fairly stable with some fluctuation in the cardboard markets. Materials were shipped regularly through the year including the stockpiled cardboard. Scrap metals, tires, appliances, fluorescent bulbs, glass aggregate, batteries, and waste oil/antifreeze are being also shipped regularly. Recycling volumes are still exceeding required amounts and the reject materials are still very low.

REVENUES & TIPPAGE: Garbage tippage for 2007 is higher than last year by approximately 15.78% (2,206 tons/\$88,257). Of this, the “free” tippage to Strongs Prairie has increased from 962.54 tons in 2006 to 1218.32 tons in 2007 (26.57% increase).

Since last year we had 347 new over-the-scale customers using our landfill. This translates to \$20,820 in annual revenues if all were paying customers and only use the landfill one time per month and pay the minimum of \$5 per visit.

The business/residential dumpster service is still going very well and we are getting new customers each month, especially with Waste Management pulling out of the County in October. Since last year we've added 341 new customers (\$146,972). This service currently brings in approximately \$425,000 annually. Each month new customers add additional revenue to the Department with very little added expense as the trucks are already driving on the roads. We did, however, have to purchase several small and compactor units to service these new customers.

The Town of Jackson, Village of Friendship, and City of Adams contracted curbside pickup is going very well, although the City of Adams will probably be bidding out services in the near future. The Town of Adams requested a proposal and will be putting it on their town referendum in the spring for services in 2009.

Since the beginning of the year there were 1028 (down from 2449 last year) large roll-off containers leased out to residential & business customers. Revenues seen from this service was \$64,082.75 (down from \$148,212 last year). We also pulled 220 containers from Terrace Homes, 9 from AF County Market, 145 from FCI, and 1047 from drop-off sites for additional revenues of \$53,995.00. This figure does not count the trash & garbage in these containers **that was previously being taken out of county.**

Equipment leased out since the last report brought in an additional revenues of \$98,472.45 (\$92,770.45 last year).

INSPECTIONS: All landfill related inspections passed without violations or citations issued. Groundwater monitoring again showed road salts in some wells, some of which are not down-gradient to the landfill and could be normal groundwater fluctuations and/or road run-off. None showed hazardous chemicals from the landfill.

All fire department, scale, and fuel system mandatory inspections passed without any violations, problems or citations. No other areas of concern were found or violations noted.

LANDFILL IMPROVEMENTS: No major improvements were made to landfill buildings or grounds.

LANDFILL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: No further construction has taken place although waste volume & compaction calculations were done, as well as cost estimates for the next cell construction that will need to be done within the next 4-5 years.

CONSIDERATIONS TO STRONGS PRAIRIE: Since the first of the year, the citizens of

Strongs Prairie have received the following at no charge:

2007

1218.32 tons of garbage, worth \$48,732.80

(the County also paid the Town's share of Recycling Surcharge fees to the DNR in the amount of \$3,654,96)

90.08 tons of brush worth \$2,765.50

15.07 tons of yard waste worth \$376.75

Total consideration since the first of the year to Strongs Prairie as host community for 2007 is **\$51,732.80**.

2006

962.54 tons of garbage, worth \$38,501.60

121.03 tons of brush worth \$4,236.05

18.12 tons of yard waste worth \$453.00

Total consideration since the first of the year to Strongs Prairie as host community for 2006 was **\$43,190.65**.

In 2008 we will be charging the Township for "servicing" the drop-off site on Cumberland Avenue. Tipping will remain free, however, in order to keep this Department viable, we can no longer provide "free services". Therefore, we will be charging a pull fee for garbage and recycling containers to all townships, including Strongs Prairie. We can no longer afford to lose money if we want to stay in business. Along with this, the Town will also need to pay for the Recycling Surcharge fee for the portion of tipping coming from the drop-off site. At this time, we will not be charging the citizens the surcharge fee when they come to the landfill, however, this may need to be discussed in the future. Currently, with the passing of the State Budget, the surcharge fee is \$5.10 per ton.

Ms. Wical next presented information on how Strongs Prairie residents are assigned cards for free tipping. Discussion was also held on how the new subdivisions at Northern Bay, Lakeshore, and Timber Shores are handled. These are exempt from the "free tipping" agreement and is stated in the zoning permit application forms when the subdivisions are created.

OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS: A Household & Ag Hazardous Waste Clean-Sweep, appliance roundup, and a tire roundup will be held on Saturday, June 14th, 2008. Hazardous waste is expected to be free to citizens through a DATCP Grant. The appliances and tires will be half price. We will also try to incorporate a pharmaceutical collection that same day.

OTHER: The County budget for 2008 has been approved. The SW tax levy portion has decreased by \$13,290.00 from the 2007 Budget (there also was a \$15,409.00 decrease from the 2006 Budget).

Of the \$1,944,972 SW budget for 2008:

\$344,903 is on the tax levy which is 2.223% of the overall County tax levy

\$130,000 is recycling grants

\$1,470,069.00 are revenues from customers.

DISCUSS JUNEAU COUNTY HAULERS USING LANDFILL: Ms. Diemert presented information on the regional discussions that are being held between Adams, Juneau, Jackson, Vernon, & Monroe Counties. We are holding regional discussions because as we near our site life maximums decisions will need to be made regarding regionalized so get the “economies of scale” needed to continue public landfills. None of us can survive alone and we need to merge, or regionalize, operations. If public landfills are eliminated prices for garbage disposal and recycling services will be out of our control. Ms. Diemert asked Strongs Prairie if she could invite Hank Koch from Foth & Van Dyke make a presentation to the Committee on the future of small public landfills, how the citizens in those areas will be affected, and what options are available. Ms. Diemert asked that Strongs Prairie consider becoming the regional landfill site. If this happens then the Town can negotiate continued free tippage as well as some other economic incentives. If we have to put in a transfer station and haul it out of County then the free tippage for Strongs Prairie will probably disappear.

Discussion was also held on the Supreme Court case that reverses the Carbone decision regarding Flow Control. With the new Court ruling, County’s are given control of the waste within their geographic boundaries and may designate that it be brought into their facility. However, in Wisconsin, this can happen only if they are designated to have a “dirty MRF” which is a separate building that takes in mixed waste and more recyclables would be pulled out before it is landfilled. In our situation that could mean pulling out more scrap metals, recyclables left in garbage, clean lumber, and other construction materials that can be recycled or reused. Ms. Diemert reminded the Committee that the Adams County Landfill was originally supposed to operate as a “dirty MRF” but plans were changed when funding was cut.

IDENTIFY POSSIBLE UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS: Ms. Diemert will have Hank Koch from Foth & Van Dyke present information on forming a regionalized solid waste system with surrounding counties.

NEXT MEETING & ADJOURN: The next meeting date was set for May 19, 2008 for the regular Advisory Committee meeting. *Motion by Bays, second by Wical, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 P.M..*

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

MYRNA DIEMERT, SW DIRECTOR/RECYCLING COORDINATOR