

MINUTES OF THE DUBUQUE METROPOLITAN AREA  
SOLID WASTE AGENCY

January 26, 2011

(draft minutes to be considered for approval at the next scheduled meeting)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Manternach, Ric Jones, David Resnick

STAFF PRESENT: Don Vogt, Chuck Goddard, Doug Hughes, Bev Wagner

OTHERS PRESENT: Joe Rettenmaier, Nita Wiederaenders, Frank Banigan, Brian Harthun, Paul Schultz, Bob Bamsey, Brian Christensen

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Conference Room at the City of Dubuque Municipal Services Center, 925 Kerper Ct., Dubuque, Iowa.

Motion made by Mr. Manternach, seconded by Mr. Resnick, carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2011 meeting.

Mr. Goddard presented information regarding revisions to the Agency's Waste Minimization Grant Criteria, its Education Application Form, and its Other Application Form, as proposed by the members of the Agency's Waste Minimization Grant Review Committee. He explained that the changes focused on the Agency's EMS Program. Ms. Wagner thanked committee member Nita Wiederaenders for her assistance with initiative. Ms. Wiederaenders noted that the committee hoped there would be more emphasis on public education grants in the future. Ms. Wagner then briefly described a recent Hempstead High School surface water monitoring project near the Agency Landfill. Mr. Jones said that the new classroom at the E.B. Lyons Nature Center could prove to be an asset for future education efforts. Motion made by Mr. Resnick, seconded by Mr. Manternach, carried unanimously to concur with the staff recommendation and approve the proposed changes to the Agency's Waste Minimization Grant application guidelines.

Mr. Goddard noted that the Landfill Gas Collection and Control System Project has been completed and recommended that the Directors authorize the Chairperson's endorsement of the resolution accepting the project in the final amount of \$562,851.68. Motion made by Mr. Manternach, seconded by Mr. Resnick, carried unanimously to concur with the staff recommendation to approve and adopt the resolution accepting the project.

Mr. Jones initiated discussion regarding the issue of glass recycling by noting his email to his fellow Dubuque City Council members on January 6<sup>th</sup>. He said that he has received only positive feedback regarding the possible changes to the Agency's policy. Mr. Goddard noted that staff had met in recent weeks and prepared a list of six (6) recommendations for changes to the Agency's glass recycling policy. Paul Schultz said that if the Agency does change its policy, it should urge all Dubuque and Delaware county communities to not only end the curbside collection of glass for recycling, but emphasize to their citizens the importance of returning their 5 cent deposit bottles to their local redemption centers. Dittmer Recycling's Joe Rettenmaier noted that a strong public education effort would be needed in the coming months. Mr. Jones noted that Dittmer Recycling should also be aggressive in discouraging glass from being brought to its facility by communities. Allied's Frank Banigan also spoke in support of the policy

change, agreeing that a strong public education effort would be necessary. Attendees agreed that July 1, 2011 should be the date for full implementation of the new policy. Motion made by Mr. Manternach, seconded by Mr. Resnick, carried unanimously to amend the Agency's glass recycling policy by adopting staff's six written recommendations, and in addition, the new policy would strongly encourage communities to end their curbside glass recycling programs and encourage their citizens to redeem their deposit bottles.

Mr. Goddard briefly described the service agreement proffered by AECOM's Robert Bamsey for the planning and development of the Agency's next generation of customer service facilities. He noted the facilities would include two truck scales, a multi-use building that would house the scale operations office, the HHMRCC facility, the electronic scrap facility, offices, and the small loads drop-off facility. AECOM's Robert Bamsey and Brian Christensen then presented to the Directors their initial concepts for the noted facilities. Mr. Schultz urged consideration that the small loads drop-off facility be large enough and designed to accommodate on-site diversion of recyclable materials. He noted that such a design would help the Agency achieve its target of 2% per year waste diversion. Mr. Goddard said that staff had very recently toured the facilities at the Black Hawk County Landfill and the Landfill of North Iowa. He said more inspection trips of other Iowa landfill facilities were planned for the very near future. Mr. Schultz asked the Board that he be allowed to provide input during the facility planning process. Mr. Banigan offered that tipping-floor safety be paramount in the design of the facility, citing his previous experience with transfer stations. Motion made by Mr. Resnick, seconded by Mr. Manternach, carried unanimously to retain AECOM to provide planning and design services for the next generation of Agency customer service facilities at an estimated cost of \$7,500.00.

Mr. Goddard outlined the service proposal from AECOM to provide engineering services needed for the planning and development of the Agency's next generation of solid waste disposal cells, beginning with phase #1 of Cell #9. AECOM's Bob Bamsey then gave a short presentation regarding the future cells and the work needed to yet be done before IDNR will issue authorization to proceed with construction of the new cells. He noted the six pre-design tasks and fourteen actual design tasks provided for in the agreement. Motion made by Mr. Resnick, seconded by Mr. Manternach, carried unanimously to retain AECOM to provide planning and design services for Phase #1 of Cell #9.

Mr. Goddard presented information to the Directors regarding staff's proposal that the Board consider amending its electronic scrap disposal and recycling policy. He said that staff is asking the Board to consider banning the burial-disposal of electronics with screens, effective July 1, 2011. He noted to the Board clear evidence that 40% of all heavy metals found in an average landfill's leachate had leached from electronic scrap with screens that had been previously buried in those landfills. Mr. Schultz noted to the Directors that those heavy metals can also cause problems at wastewater treatment plants that subsequently treat the leachate. After discussion with Allied and Dittmer representatives regarding a possible implementation date, there was consensus that July 1, 2011 would be the preferred target date for any policy change. Mr. Resnick urged that any policy change also consider the elimination of the Agency's per pound recycling fee and recommend only per-item fees effective with the policy change date. Motion made by Mr. Resnick, seconded by Mr. Manternach, carried unanimously to authorize staff to prepare a new electronic scrap recycling and disposal policy for the Board's consideration at its March meeting.

Mr. Goddard briefed the Board regarding a service proposal from Cornerstone Environmental

Group LLC to prepare and submit on behalf of the Agency the USEPA-mandated Annual Emissions Summary for 2010. He noted that this report is a Title V permit requirement and is due by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Motion made by Mr. Manternach, seconded by Mr. Resnick, carried unanimously to approve the service agreement in the amount of \$3,300.00.

Mr. Vogt briefed the Directors regarding his recommendation that Mr. Goddard be authorized to attend and present at the 2011 DECON national conference. He noted that Mr. Goddard had already received tentative approval from the City of Dubuque, pending the Board's action. Mr. Goddard said that he has been asked to give a presentation regarding the deconstruction of a number of Dubuque homes in the path of the Bee Branch stormwater project. Motion made by Mr. Manternach, seconded by Mr. Resnick, carried unanimously to approve Mr. Goddard's conference attendance.

Mr. Vogt presented an overview of the proposed FY12 operating budget, proposed FY12-FY21 capital improvement project, equipment procurement, and program budget, and proposed FY12 fee schedule. After brief discussion regarding the recommended dual-fuel truck and heavy equipment overhauls, Mr. Resnick moved, seconded by Mr. Manternach, carried unanimously to adopt the resolutions approving the proposed FY12 budgets and fee schedule and authorize and direct the Secretary to communicate the FY12 budget and fee information to all communities in Dubuque and Delaware counties.

Mr. Vogt provided an overview of the December 2010 Operating Statement, indicating that year-to-date tonnage and revenue continued to exceed that from the previous year. He also noted that year-to-date expenses were on track at 50%. Motion made by Mr. Manternach, seconded by Mr. Resnick, carried unanimously to receive and refer the December 2010 Operating Statement for audit.

Staff reports were reviewed to include the Solid Waste Tonnage Reports, Education and Communication Coordinator's Report, EMS Update, and ISOSWO Spring Conference. Motion made by Mr. Manternach, seconded by Mr. Resnick, carried unanimously to receive and file all staff reports.

No Public comments were received.

The Directors then affirmed that their next meeting will be held on March 2, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. at the City of Dubuque Municipal Services Center, 925 Kerper Court, Dubuque, Iowa.

Motion by Mr. Resnick, seconded by Mr. Manternach, carried unanimously to go into closed session per Iowa Code Chapter 21 at 6:38 p.m.

The Board came back into session at 7:21 p.m.

Motion made by Mr. Manternach, seconded by Mr. Resnick, carried unanimously to adjourn at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Don Vogt  
Acting Agency Secretary

