

Chisago County Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes August 9, 2018

Members Attending: Rick Greene, Mike Robinson, Kurt Schneider, Lisa Thibodeau, Kristy Dreckman, Dave Hoefler, Terry Flor, Dale Bergfalk, Jennifer Thompson

- I. Lisa Thibodeau called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.**
- II. Minutes from previous meeting on 12/14/17 were handed out.**
- III. Unfinished Business – none.**
- IV. New Business**
 - a. ECSWC Director Janelle Troupe reported there was a small fire at the landfill on July 27th, most likely due to small rechargeable batteries in the trash – need more resident education. It's been a busy summer between the storms and compactor trouble. Sharps now in covered container at transfer station. Chisago Lakes Sanitation reported no longer accepts sharps, bring them to the HHW instead. Waste contracts are slowly coming in, signers will get a copy of the ISWMP with contract. Cambridge Transfer Station now has two operators and this works much more smoothly. Brief discussion on implications of GRE closing down WTE plant; the ECSWC is running at capacity.
 - b. DKV Update: Landfill is currently re-permitting for next 10-year period for cells 5 & 6, will also need to amend their Chisago County CUP and is starting process.
 - c. Recycling – industry status: There was much discussion on the fact that China is cutting back on what it will allow in for paper and plastic, and may shut down completely in 2020; on top of that they have now put tariffs on imported high end recycling. Since coasts can't ship overseas, Midwest markets are getting flooded bringing prices down. Need more infrastructure but will take time. Contamination a huge issue with recycling. MPCA suggests haulers review their websites for correct info to customers on what to put in the recycling bins. County offered to work with haulers on educating residents to reduce contamination, using the marketing campaign developed by Recycling Partnership, if can agree on a "do and don't" recycle list. County will send out more information in the upcoming weeks. Question of disposal for recycling if no markets came up, Lisa T. reported that MPCA said may consider on a case-by-case basis, but only as a last resort after other options such as beni-use have been looked at. Also a discussion on charging for recycling; haulers have to charge all residents the same for recycling, but can charge, and can raise prices or put fee's on to cover current market problems.
 - d. SWAC Meeting Schedule: There had been talk of increasing SWAC meetings up from two a year, Lisa T. proposed to go back to quarterly meetings with June &

Dec being the trade group (haulers) and Mar & Sept being citizen group. There was not much interest in more meetings.

- e. Solid Waste Budget – hauler subsidies: Lisa T. reported that the county had just gone through budgeting process and the Department had also looked at the Waste Management Fee. Building off of subsidy options presented at the June 2017 hauler meeting, the department is recommending to stay with the status quo option at this time with the main consideration being the recycling market situation. Built into next year's department budget is a program audit, if approved this will include a look at subsidy programs for 2020. It was also pointed out that there are fewer haulers contracted for the subsidy program this year with the same amount of funding, in effect giving an increase for those remaining in the program.

V. Next Meeting

Thursday December 13, 2018; 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Chisago County Household Hazardous Waste Facility

VI. Adjourn