

# Buffalo County Meeting Minutes

**Committee/Board:**

**Recycling Committee**

**Date of Meeting:**

**Thursday, January 17, 2019**

Chair Mr. Max Weiss called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Marvin Meier, Mr. Tom Huber, Mr. Darin Larson, Mr. Bob Traun, Mr. Bradley Hanson, Mr. Ben Adank, Mr. Nathan Nelson, Mr. Bruce Kees, Ms. Jeannie Czaplewski, Mr. Al Amann, Mr. Don Black and Mr. Max Weiss.  
Excused: Mr. Joe Wick.

**OTHERS PRESENT FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING:** Ron Speltz and Interim Recycling director Bruce Fuerbringer.

**MINUTES:** An error in the December 13, 2018 minutes noting a wrong date listed in the manager’s report on the back page. Motion made and seconded to accept the minutes with recognized error. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING POSTED AGENDA ITEMS:** No comments were received.

**REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – Proposed 2019 Recycling Fees:**

Bruce Fuerbringer asked the Committee to set 2019 recycling fees. The committee reviewed current fees and compared them to those charged by St. Croix County. It was suggested that Buffalo County use St. Croix County’s fees as a guideline and to provide some regional consistency in fees. It was discussed that having fewer fee categories would be less confusing to site attendants and customers than a more complex fee schedule. The follow fees were established, with all other fees staying the same as in 2018:

Electronics Recycling Fees:

- TV’s, 39” and smaller.....\$20
- TV’s, 40: and larger.....\$35
- CPU and Laptop computers.....\$10
- Monitors.....\$10
- Non “All-in-One” printers and all other computer accessories..... \$5
- “All-in-One” printers .....\$10
- All “Other Electronics”..... \$5
- Floor Model Office Copiers ..... \$35

Mattresses

- Flat fee of \$25 each for all sizes.

Motion by Ben Adank and Seconded by Brad Hanson to approve changes in the recycling fees for 2019. Motion carried.

**REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION - SALE OF FORKLIFT AT THE MONDOVI RECYCLING CENTER:**

Bruce Fuerbringer advised that the high bid for the forklift resulting from the WI Surplus Auction was \$18,750. The Agency was holding the sale pending Committee approval of the sale price. Motion made by Jeannie Czaplewski and seconded by ben Adank for approval of the sale, and for the sale proceeds to be placed into the fund balance account. Motion carried.

**REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – Update Contracts with Municipalities; Parameters for Discontinuing County Recycling Program:**

Bruce Fuerbringer stated that while there are a number of ideas for initiatives to help improve and sustain the County’s recycling program, it is difficult to plan and act when there is recurring risk of current program members leaving the recycling program in favor of private pick-up of recyclables and the subsequent fear that the County program will be forced to discontinue due to reduced participation numbers.

A review of State Recycling Grants for the County demonstrated that if an entity such as BBC were to leave the program, the County ‘per capita’ grant dollar would remain the same, and the County would not need to discontinue the program. Mr. Fuerbringer asked if any of the current members were planning on leaving the program, and none indicated any intent.

Current municipal recycling contracts, along with the current recycling ordinance were discussed. It was recommended that all municipal contracts be reviewed and updated, specifying an initial 5-year contract period. This would also allow all of the contracts to be effective for the same time period. The current recycling ordinance was enacted in 1994. It was also recommended that the ordinance be reviewed and updated.

It was recommended that an action or strategic plan for the recycling program be created and presented to all participating municipalities prior to them signing an updated contract. Mr. Fuerbringer was directed to create a draft of such a plan and bring it back to the Committee.

Motion made by Brad Hanson and seconded by Jeannie Czaplewski to support this plan of action. Motion carried.

**REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – Other Reports:**

- Bruce Fuerbringer noted that the recycling fund balance CD is maturing the end of January. In light of the potential to expend funds for program improvements as part of a strategic plan, he suggested that \$75,000 be transferred from the CD to the liquid fund balance savings account, with the remaining CD balance being reinvested for 1 year. It was noted that the CD balance would still exceed the liquid fund balance savings account. Motion by Ben Adank, seconded by Brad Hanson to transfer \$75K from the CD to the fund balance savings account and reinvest the CD for one year. Motion carried.
  
- A list of expectations for site attendant work duties associated with their recycling duties was presented to the Committee in lieu of a previously discussed job description, as the attendants are not County employees. The list was reviewed for comment, with none being made. Municipalities will review the expectations with their respective agencies and site employees.

**PUBLIC COMMENT UNREALTED TO AGENDA ITEMS:** No comments were received.

**REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Bob Traun seconded by Mr. Ben Adank to adjourn. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce Fuerbringer, Interim Recycling Director