

Buffalo County Minutes

Committee/Board: Recycling Committee

Date of Meeting: June 18, 2020

Date of Filing: June 22, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Max Weiss at 6:35 p.m.

Acting Recycling Director Bruce Fuerbringer opened this organizational meeting for the Recycling Committee and took roll.

Members present: Mr. Max Weiss, Ms. Jeannie Czaplewski, Mr. Marv Meier, Mr. Bruce Kees, Ms. Mary Lisowski, Mr. Bob Traun, Mr. David Danzinger, Mr. Dwight Ruff and Mr. Bruce Fuerbringer.

Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair: With the unanimous consent of the Committee, Mr. Fuerbringer moved agenda item #5, the Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair up for first consideration. Mr. David David Danzinger nominated Mr. Max Weiss as committee chair, and Mr. Dwight Ruff seconded the nomination. With no other nominations, a unanimous ballot was cast for Mr. Max Weiss to be committee chair.

Mr. David Danzinger nominated Mr. Dwight Ruff as Vice Chair, and Mr. Bob Traun seconded the nomination. With no other nominations, a unanimous ballot was cast for Mr. Dwight Ruff to be committee vice chair.

The committee meeting was then turned over to Mr. Max Weiss, Chairperson.

Public Comments: None.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. The minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Mr. Danzinger motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Traun. Motion Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ 2019 Annual Recycling Report: Mr. Fuerbringer presented the 2019 Annual Recycling Report to the committee for review and comment. Several grammatical corrections were noted. The committee accepted the report by consensus without objection.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ Recycling Program Financial Report: The 2020 YTD budget revenues and expenditures were presented to the committee. The County received a check from the State in the amount of \$98,831.57 for the successful completion of the DNR/Recycling grant requirements for 2019. It was recognized that income and spending generally down due to the COVID-19 slowing business down since March.

Review/Discussion/Action: Initial 2020 Hauling Statistics: Recycling Manager Randy Johnson reported that overall, the volume of recycling is up approximately 6.4 tons over the same period last year, even as the number of loads hauled had decreased by about 6 and as several recycling sites had closed for several weeks due to the COVID-19 situation. It was suggested by Mr. Randy Johnson that single-stream recycling has allowed fewer trips due to fibers and containers being able to be mixed, and his not having to haul any partial loads of one commodity.

Review/Discussion/Action: Update on CIP Projects: Of the approved CIP equipment purchases and refurbishment of equipment, two are in progress; 1) six (6) roll-off trailers are currently in the process of refurbishment at Alloy Metals in Eau Claire, and 2) a new custom made roll-off trailer is being fabricated at Driftless Custom Works out of Nelson. Both projects are expected to be completed before the end of the year.

Review/Discussion/Action: Single Stream Recycling Update: It was noted that single stream recycling was being widely accepted throughout the County, with a minimal amount of additional contamination (non-recyclable items being disposed of through recycling) occurring. The cost factor of the service has been significantly higher than the committee was led to believe when Mr. Matt Harter of Green Circle Recycling presented his proposal to the committee last Fall. At that time, Mr. Harter stated that Green Circle had never billed a customer more than \$50/ton tipping fee. The initial invoices sent to the County from Green Circle in March and April had tipping fees of nearly \$75. The Committee directed Acting Recycling Director Bruce Fuerbringer and program Manager Randy Johnson to meet with Green Circle Recycling, LLC administration in a fact-finding effort to determine the reasons behind the higher billing rate. Mr. Fuerbringer and Mr. Johnson will report their finding to the committee at the next meeting. The committee also directed that Advanced Disposal of Eau Claire be contacted and if they are willing to submit a proposal to take the County's single stream recycling.

Review/Discussion/Action: To Date Electronics Recycling Statistics: As there has been no electronics recycling hauling occurring to date in 2020, there was no current report to submit. Mr. Johnson provided the committee with a summary of 2019 electronics recycling. No change in the current method of collecting electronic recycling was recommended for 2020.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ Status of Capital Equipment Purchases: All 2019 approved capital equipment purchases have been completed with the exception of the new roll-off containers. With the switch to single stream, fewer boxes are required to haul the recycling, and it was decided to hold off on any new purchases and re-evaluate the need later in 2020.

Review/Discussion/Action: Other Reports: No other reports.

Public Comments Unrelated to Agenda Items: No public comments.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Next Meeting Date and Agenda Items:

The next meeting will be set for mid-August, the specific date to be determined by a Doodle Poll sent out to committee members by Mr. Fuerbringer in early August.

Adjourn: Ms. Czapplewski made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Adank. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:


Bruce Fuerbringer
Buffalo County Recycling Interim Director

