

Buffalo County Minutes

Committee/Board: Recycling Committee

Date of Meeting: August 27, 2020

Date of Filing: September 3, 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, Ms. Claire Waters, Mr. Marv Meier, Ms. Mary Lisowski, Mr. Brad Hanson, Mr. Brian Glass, Mr. David Danziger, Mr. Dwight Ruff and Mr. Bruce Fuerbringer.

Public Present: Mr. Ron Kazmierczak

Public Comments: None.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. The minutes of the June 18, 2020 meeting were presented. It was noted that Mr. Ben Adank's name was omitted as having been present at the meeting. Mr. Dwight Ruff moved to approve the minutes with the addition of Mr. Adank's name; seconded by Mr. David Danziger. Motion Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action: Recycling Program Financial Report: The 2020 YTD budget revenue and expenditures were presented by Mr. Fuerbringer to the committee. It was noted that revenues continue to be impacted by current depressed recycling market trends and the COVID-19 situation. Expenditures to date are in line with budget estimates. The committee accepted the report as presented. No motion required.

Review/Discussion/Action: Increase of Annual Skid Steer Trade-In/Purchase Arrangement with Lindstrom Equipment: Mr. Fuerbringer advised that he was contacted by Mr. Dan Hansen of Lindstrom Equipment, who requested that due to increased costs of the equipment, the current annual trade-in agreement be modified to reflect a \$500 increase, from \$700 to \$1200 in purchase cost for a new skid steer. There had not been any cost increase since the beginning of the trade-in arrangements, and the equipment being obtained has been significantly upgraded over the years. Motion made by Mr. Brad Hanson, seconded by Ms. Claire Waters to approve the increase trade in cost. Motion carried.

Review/Discussion/Action: Interest from Non-Participant Municipalities: Mr. Fuerbringer reported that he was contacted by the City of Fountain City to provide current information on the County recycling program, as there may be a future interest in the City returning to the program. At least one other county municipality has also made an informal overture requesting information as well. The Committee directed Mr. Fuerbringer to provide any information requested and consider how additional communities returning to the County program would impact it. No motion required.

Review/Discussion/Action: Evaluation of Single Stream Recycling Costs: Mr. Fuerbringer reported that he and Mr. Randy Johnson met with Green Circle Recycling management at their office in La Crosse to discuss the higher than anticipated tipping fees. Upon review of the system that Green Circle uses to allocate costs amongst their customers, it was agreed that Buffalo County be given a higher credit for experiencing a lower level of stream contamination than other program participants. The tipping fee was explained as being directly tied to the recycling markets. The original presentation and cost projections were provided to the Committee in early 2019, before the markets were impacted by world events. While current costs are higher than anticipated, trend in the market are expected to show some cost relief in the coming months. The committee agreed to continue to monitor the costs through the year, and to continue utilizing Green Circle Recycling as the County's processing vendor. No motion required.

Review/Discussion/Action: Approval of 2021 Proposed Budget: A proposed budget for 2021 was presented to the committee. It was noted that the DNR grant contribution to 2021 is expected to remain the same as the previous year. A review of expected costs associated with operations and single stream recycling were discussed, with minor adjustments made in several categories. Motion made by Ms. Claire Waters and seconded by Mr. Jeannie Czaplowski for committee approval of the proposed budget and the forwarding of it to the Finance Committee. Motion passed.

Review/Discussion/Action: 2021 Per Capita: Part of the discussion of the 2021 proposed budget included a revised per capita fee for county residents. It was determined during the discussion that the per capita should be raised by \$1, to a total of \$3 per capita as a component of the 2021 proposed budget. Motion made by Ms. Claire Waters and seconded by Ms. Mary Lisowski to recommend a \$3 per capita fee for 2021. Motion passed.

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-January, the specific date to be determined by a Doodle Poll sent out to committee members by Mr. Fuerbringer after the year-end holidays.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Mr. Dwight Ruff, seconded by Mr. Brian Glass. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bruce Fuerbringer
Buffalo County Recycling Interim Director