

SOLID WASTE SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 18, 2005

Attendees: Craig Bayston, member
Rich Howell, member
Mel Blanchette, member
Jim Tripp, member
Ralph Paarlberg, member
Donna Shehane, Solid Waste Manager
Ken Nelson, SAO

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bayston at approximately 10:00 am.

The final minutes of the November 2004 Solid Waste Sub-Committee meeting were handed out to the members. These minutes were previously approved in the December 2004 Solid Waste Sub-Committee meeting. A draft copy of the December 2004 Solid Waste Sub-Committee minutes was handed out for review and approval to the members. Rich Howell made a motion to accept the December 2004 draft minutes "as is." This motion was seconded and approved by the Solid Waste-Subcommittee.

The first item on the Agenda was the "Professional Services Agreement between Kankakee County and Patrick Engineering, Inc." The members were asked if they desired a copy of the official, signed agreement. No one requested a copy of the signed agreement if it was the same as the draft agreement handed out to him or her previously. Donna Shehane stated that a teleconference call had been conducted last week as a "kick-off" to the update of the county's Solid Waste Management Plan. The purpose of this teleconference was to establish what ARI's role is in the update of the Plan, as well as reviewing what items Patrick Engineering, Inc. will begin work on and what items the Solid Waste Division will begin work on.

The next item on the Agenda dealt with the proposed amendments to the current Kankakee County Solid Waste Ordinance. A Public Notice was published in the local newspaper and is also available on the county's web-site, asking for public comments on the draft amendments. Donna Shehane stated that a copy of the draft amendments was issued to all mayors, township supervisors, haulers, and fire departments/districts. The deadline for public comments is: a postmark by midnight on February 18, 2005 or hand-delivery receipt by 4:30 p.m. on February 18 in the Planning Department office. Copies of public comments received to date were passed out to the subcommittee members for review.

The In-house recycling program was discussed. Donna Shehane stated that the deadline of January 14, 2005 for submittal of a recycling grant application to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity was met. Ms. Shehane has requested approximately \$9,000 in grant monies for the purchase of recycling bins. It may take several months before IDCEO announces the grant recipients.

A copy of the Request For Proposals issued for County office building waste and recycling pickup service was passed out to each member. The deadline for submittal of bids is 3:30 p.m., February 4, 2005. The Solid Waste Sub-Committee members were invited to be present at the bid opening which will occur at 4:00 p.m. on February 4, 2005 in the Kankakee County Planning Department conference room, 2nd Floor, 189 East Court Street in Kankakee.

Under “Old Business,” the City of Kankakee’s Tipping Fee Grant Application was further discussed. At the last Solid Waste Subcommittee meeting in December 2004, the subcommittee passed a motion to approve the City’s request for \$2500 in funding with the following modifications/conditions:

1. The movie ads include a written reference to the County of Kankakee contributing funds for the ads
2. An effort be demonstrated by the City of Kankakee that they will encourage the movie theaters to recycle their largest recyclable item (at a minimum) within one year of the grant award
3. The City of Kankakee proceed with a program to establish an in-house recycling program at all City government office buildings within one year of the grant award.

Donna Shehane passed out a copy of a letter she submitted to Richard Simms, City of Kankakee Municipal Utility, dated December 22, 2004 requesting the above-mentioned information, as well as a response letter from the City dated January 10, 2005. After a discussion, a motion was made to deny the City of Kankakee’s grant request based on the inadequacy of their response to the three issues. The motion was seconded and passed. A letter will be issued to the City of Kankakee regarding this decision. Pursuant to the “Application For Funds From Kankakee County’s Tipping Fee Fund,” recently adopted and approved by the County Board on July 13, 2004, “Denial of the application by the Solid Waste Sub-Committee is final.” The City of Kankakee, however, may submit a new application for consideration.

A short update on the Pembroke Township Tipping Fee Grant Application was given by Donna Shehane. The County Board approved expenditure of tipping fee funds to cover the cost of the truck repair only, i.e., \$9500. The decision whether to approve the remainder of the requested grant monies is on hold, pending the outcome of an on-going outside investigation.

The county subsidy payments to A&J Disposal were discussed. The County currently subsidizes A&J Disposal at the rate of \$2500 per month to help cover their transportation costs incurred as a result of hauling recyclables from the City of Kankakee and the Village of Bourbonnais to a processing center in East Hazelcrest, Illinois. The tipping fee fund has historically covered this cost, however, with the pending closure of the Waste Management Landfill this summer, these funds will not be available in the near future. A few options were discussed such as including a resident fee in the proposed amended Solid Waste Ordinance. Another option was to discontinue the subsidy, leaving recycling costs in the hands of the residents and City of Kankakee/Village of Bourbonnais. Both of these towns have hauling contracts that state the hauler will provide recycling services and will recycle. It is believed that these two town contracts were not bid assuming the County subsidy would be in place. A third option that came up was that A&J and ABC negotiate a contract whereby ABC pays A&J for their services. A motion was made that the subcommittee recommend to PZA that the County end the subsidy to A&J through the use of the tipping fee fund, and that ABC and A&J have a discussion regarding this issue. The motion was seconded and passed.

Under “New Business,” Donna Shehane explained that the County Board, on January 11, 2005, approved the change of administration of the IEPA Delegation Agreement from the Health Department to the Planning Department. The need for an additional staff person in Solid Waste was also briefly discussed, as one full-time inspector is expected to conduct approximately 100 inspections per year, which is the anticipated amount of annual inspections in Kankakee County.

Rich Howell previously sent an e-mail to Donna Shehane stating that several farmers have asked about the possibility of a waste-tire collection event this year. Donna Shehane has several examples of RFPs that she used in the past to conduct waste tire collections. She also stated that the special fund for household hazardous waste events may be accessible for this purpose, but that she must verify this with Mr. Van Mill and Waste Management, Inc. A central location in the Kankakee/Bradley/Bourbonnais area would be advantageous, as this is the most populated area.

A new edition of the Kankakee County Waste & Recycling Pages is being worked on. New articles and information from 2004 events will be included in the new 2nd edition of the paper.

Donna Shehane discussed the alternate technology forum held by the POWER on January 5, 2005. Dorothy Austin, a chemical engineer from the firm of ARI (Concord, Massachusetts), also attended the forum as part of their work for the update of the Solid Waste Management Plan. Ms. Shehane stated that the forum was disappointing, in that there were no technical engineers, scientists, etc. present to field questions. Mr. Keith Runyon gave an overview of several different types of alternate technology. Each of these types of systems will be analyzed in the update of the Solid Waste Management Plan.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded and passed. The next meeting of the Solid Waste Subcommittee is scheduled for February 15, 2005 at 10:00 am.