

Full Board Meeting Minutes
1/17/2024

The Full Board of the Northwest Iowa Area Solid Waste Agency held a meeting on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Eagles Club in Sheldon, Iowa.

Chairman Brommer called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken. Present were: 21 Representatives with 53 votes. A quorum is 25 Representatives or 51 votes. Representatives present were: Alton, Hawarden, Hospers, Matlock, Rock Valley, Sioux Center, O'Brien County, Archer, Hartley, Paullina, Sanborn, Sheldon, Ashton, Ocheyedon, Sibley, Lyon County, Alvard, George, Inwood, Larchwood, and Akron. Absent were: Sioux County, Boyden, Chatsworth, Granville, Hull, Ireton, Maurice, Orange City, Calumet, Primghar, Sutherland, Osceola County, Harris, Melvin, Dickens, Everly, Fostoria, Gillett Grove, Greenville, Peterson, Rossie, Royal, Webb, Doon, Lester, Little Rock and Rock Rapids.

Motion was made by Arlyn Pedley to approve the Full Board Agenda as listed. Seconded by Jerry Johnson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dennis Thielvoldt to approve the Full Board Minutes of 1-11-2023. Seconded by Cory Altena. All ayes. Motion carried.

Manager report:

The Executive Board of Directors and staff have operated the NW IA Area Solid Waste Agency well during 2023; functioning economically, utilizing disposal space efficiently and remaining environmentally sound. The Agency has met each new challenge in planning and development of operational procedures which helps keep the tipping fees as one of the lowest in Iowa. The Executive Board will continue developing necessary policies and procedures to address each issue as they are presented.

The volume of solid waste, construction and demolition material increased 2% in FY23 to 70,524 tons. Recycling remained steady with 2516 tons.

The recycling partnership with Van's Sanitation & Recycling that started in May of 2017 has continued to work well. In August Van's sold the recycling business to LJP Waste Solutions from Mankato, MN. Currently there is no change in service, but NWIASWA and Van's are negotiating service and transportation costs to make recycling more profitable.

The Household Hazardous Material Regional Collection Center has completed its 16th year in operation. It processed 29 tons of HHM in 2023 with 787 customers participating. The highlight of HHM's involvement are the mobile-trailer events hosted by 25 communities collecting 75% of the materials processed during the year.

In May the Manager, Larry Oldenkamp, informed the Executive Board of plans to retire once his replacement was found. After many conversations the Board decided to hire Brent Hinson from Hinson Consulting to locate potential candidates for this position. The deadline to apply was January 8, 2024. Interviews take place in February followed by a formal approval of hire with employment start date in March. Larry will assist in transition; no retirement date has been set yet.

In the last 14 years NWIASWA has looked towards and planned for the future, purchasing land for soil in adequate daily coverage and cell construction, scale replacement, repairing, replacing and adding new litter fencing, upgrading leachate lagoons and lift stations and building composite-lined cells. The Agency is funding capital improvement, cell construction and site replacement accounts. With the increase in operational and financial assurance costs, the Agency will continually look into funding mechanism and methods to keep disposal costs as low as possible.

The Northwest Iowa Area Solid Waste Agency appreciates the cooperation and support of all the area communities and Counties, and all the hard work and leadership provided by the Board of Directors and staff! Larry thanks everyone for their support and allowing him to serve as the Agency Manager for the last 14 years!

Engineer report:

Jeff Phillips from SCS Engineers gave an update for 2023. The Agency and its operations remain in compliance with regulations as the annual permit was renewed in early 2023, not needing renewal until 2028.

The 5-year Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan Update was approved by DNR which reviews previous and existing integrated solid waste management activities and helps the Agency plan for future projects and priorities.

SCS is continuing the comprehensive review of the contract offered by Vespene Energy to collect emissions at the Agency. Potential contract modifications will be considered. It's likely possible the Agency can create an income from stored gases.

Data is being reviewed from the Airspace survey performed in late 2023 which aids in future cell construction timelines.

SCS is scheduling field work repair and installation requirements with leachate management systems.

Next on the Agenda was approval of the 2024-2025 Proposed Budget, 5-year Capital Improvement Plan, and 5-year Cell Liner Expenditure Plan. There is a \$2.00 per ton gate fee increase proposed in the Budget. Chairman Les Brommer explained the increase is necessary due to a new Director's salary, fuel rates rising and needed repairs/additions.

Motion was made by Jerry Johnson to approve the proposed 2024-2025 Budget. Seconded by Steven Meyer. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dennis Vanden Hull to approve the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan. Seconded by Ted Underberg. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Cory Altena to approve the 5-year Cell Liner Expenditure Plan. Seconded by Scott Maggert. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Full Board present at the meeting decided each county was well-represented by current selected members and to keep previously nominated people in-place for 2024. Remaining elected, and holding Executive Board Member status are:

Sioux County: Jerry Muilenburg, Les Brommer, Scott Maggert
O'Brien County: Dennis Vanden Hull, Brad Hindt, Randy Lyman
Osceola County: Leroy DeBoer, Jerry Johnson, Arlyn Pedley
Lyon County: Cory Altena, Dennis Thielvoldt, Ted Underberg
Clay Co. City: Kristi Fliss
Akron: Dan Rolfes

Chairman Brommer reiterated to the Full Board of the upcoming retirement of Director Larry Oldenkamp. He thanked him for his years of service, professional conduct and for assisting with finding his own replacement. We all wish Larry well in his retirement!!

Motion was made by Brad Hindt to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Scott Maggert. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:50 p.m.

Les Brommer, Chairman

Larry J. Oldenkamp, Secretary/Director