

## Minutes 2/21/2024

The Executive Board of the Northwest Iowa Area Solid Waste Agency held a meeting on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 7:30 pm at Landfill office.

Chairman Pedley called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken. Present: Arlyn Pedley, Brad Hindt, Cory Altena, Dennis Thielvoldt, Dennis Vanden Hull, Jerry Johnson, Jerry Muilenburg, Leroy DeBoer, Les Brommer, Scott Maggert and Ted Underberg. Absent: Dan Rolfes, Kristi Fliss, and Randy Lyman.

Motion was made by Johnson to approve the agenda as listed. Seconded by De Boer. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Thielvoldt to approve the Executive Board Minutes from 1/17/2024. Seconded by Muilenburg. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Vanden Hull, seconded by Underberg to approve the Full Board Minutes from 1/17/2024. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hindt to approve the payment of Recycling Bills received up to 2/21/2024. Seconded by Thielvoldt. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Altena, seconded by Johnson to approve the payment of HHM Bills received up to 2/21/2024. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brommer to approve the payment of Landfill Bills received up to 2/21/2024. Seconded by Maggert. All ayes. Motion carried.

### Manager Report:

The Department of Energy has invited Vespene Energy to submit an application for a loan-guarantee to develop the distribution of biogas to electricity plants at 50 municipal landfills in 21 states. Vespene Energy hopes to build these sites in tracks of 10, dedicating one to two years to the first 10 sites and the next wave of 10 sites thereafter. Brett Arnold from Vespene contacted Larry, noting there's spots available in the first group and would like NWIASWA included. Larry reminded Brett the contract is still being reviewed by the agency's engineers and awaiting the feasibility report. NWIASWA has also hired a new Director and wants his input before a decision is made regarding this national project.

On February 23<sup>rd</sup> Larry Oldenkamp and Tyler Sipma plan to attend the training opportunity offered by SCS Engineers at the Cherokee County Landfill to receive CEU's required to renew their Landfill Operator's Certificates.

SCS Engineers have submitted the following reports on the agency's behalf:

January 26<sup>th</sup> – Annual Water Quality Report, Leachate Control System Performance Evaluation, Landfill Gas Annual Report, all to the Department of Natural Resources for review.

February 19<sup>th</sup> – Tier II Emergency Planning Chemical Accident Prevention report to the State EPCRA (Emergency Planning & Community Right-to-Know Act). It's also been shared with Sioux County Emergency Management and local Fire Departments.

SCS Engineers' staff are currently working on the following:  
EPA Greenhouse Gas Report for 2023, due March 31, 2024,  
Airspace Report, anticipated completion in February,  
and the Leachate pump installation which is scheduled for March.

**New Business:**

Brent Kach accepted the Director position for the agency and plans to start on April 1, 2024. The Executive Board was informed by the Hiring Committee of the specific details extended when offering him the position. Motion by Brommer, seconded by Hindt to formally approve the hiring of Brent Kach. By roll-call vote, all eleven members present stated Aye. Motion carried. Brommer mentioned an addition to the next meeting's agenda: specific decisions made on Larry's exit and start of retirement, as numerous entities require a date for pensions to be accessed.

As fees are being raised by Van's Sanitation & Recycling to accept NWIASWA's recycled items, the Board discussed their own rates charged to take-in recycling. Currently only commercial recycling is charged a rate of \$22 per ton. A decision was made to continue *not* charging for residential recycling and to raise the commercial rate a portion of the increases imposed. Motion by Hindt, seconded by Altena to approve the following decision: As of July 1, 2024, NWIASWA will change the commercial recycling rate to \$30 per ton. All ayes. Motion carried. This allows the agency to continue accepting recycled items for the foreseeable future. All rates, including gate fees, will be reviewed during budget-season, in regards to subsidizing recycling costs to the agency.

At 8:02 pm Hindt made a Motion, seconded by Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

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Arlyn Pedley, Chairman

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Larry Oldenkamp, Secretary/Director