



# *City of Sioux Falls Solid Waste Planning Board Minutes*

*Carnegie Town Hall*

*235 W. 10<sup>th</sup> St.*

*Thursday, Nov. 17, 2011; 5:00 pm*

## **Agenda**

A regular meeting of the Solid Waste Planning Board was held on November 17, 2011, in the Carnegie Town Hall Chambers. The chair was present. A quorum was not present at the time of roll call. The Board may not take any official actions at this point.

### **1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

<b>Members present:</b>	<b>Members absent:</b>
Aimee Ladonski, Board Chair	Ken Allender, Citizen representative
Sarah Campbell, Citizen representative	Jake Anderson, Industry representative
Norm Dittman, Citizen representative	Bob Kappel, Environmental Manager
Greg Dix, Industry representative	Nancy Korkow, McCook County
Dave McElroy, Landfill Superintendant	Fred Snodderly, City of Madison
John Overby, Turner County	Ryan Streff, Minnehaha County
Deb Reinicke, Lake County	Dennis Weeldreyer, Lincoln County
	Merle Wollman, Multihousing representative

**Others present:** Kelly Fritz, Waste Management; Joel Hathaway, Habitat for Humanity; Joe Heffron, Sustainability Technician; Vim Lair, Habitat for Humanity; John Laverne, Citizen; Todd Sandman, Sandman's Sanitary; Kim Smith, Millennium Recycling; Tom Wilford, Marv's of Brandon.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

**Merle Wollman arrived at 5:12 pm. A quorum is present; the Board may now make official actions.**

**A motion was made by Dave McElroy and seconded to amend the agenda to include:**

**Item 10: Take nominations for a chair of the Ordinance Review Subcommittee**

**Item 11: Asking for board recommendation to lower or waive landfill rates for contaminated soils and other special wastes.**

**(Vote: Yeses: 7, Noes: None.) Motion passes unanimously.**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**A motion was made by Merle Wollman to approve the minutes from the Solid Waste Planning Board meeting of Sept. 22, 2011.**

Discussion:

- Greg Dix asked for clarification as to how small haulers were skewing the recycling rate, as noted in the discussion for Item 5, Section 18-52 in the minutes. Dave McElroy stated that the former method of calculation gave undue weight to small haulers.

**(Vote: Yeses: 7, Noes: None.) Motion passes unanimously.**

**4. Landfill Superintendent Report – Dave McElroy**

- Municipal Solid Waste is up 2%, and C&D is down 8% from last year.
- Landfill staff is having initial discussion of carpet recycling options. This would most likely take the form of a trailer at the landfill which a contractor would come and haul away periodically. Greg Dix asked where such a trailer would be located. Dave McElroy said that it would be in the public drop-off area off of Route 1 at the landfill. Greg Dix asked if haulers would have access to the trailer, and McElroy said that they would, just as haulers can access the public drop-off now.
- The Sustainability Master Plan (SMP) deadline has been extended. Staff expects to have results in January or February of 2012.
- Landfill Gas (LFG) and Leachate Recirculation Lateral project – The contractor has begun work on site and is currently extending airlines to the new section of the landfill and installing pneumatic pumps. They will be continuing in next few weeks, so haulers will be seeing some construction in Cells 1 and 2 and possibly some changes to the working face. Staff appreciates their patience through this process.
- LFG flare upgrade – The landfill's current flare is rated for up to 1400 ft<sup>3</sup>/min, we are currently producing 1250 ft<sup>3</sup>/min of landfill gas. The landfill is upgrading to 3500 ft<sup>3</sup>/min flare, installation has been delayed.
- The Construction and Demolition (C&D) Material Recycling Facility (MRF) feasibility study is complete. There will be a presentation later in the meeting that was put together by a consultant, SAIC.
- Wood waste and corn stover grinding will be underway again. Staff is testing different screens to try to refine the product.
- License applications and hauler surveys are out; staff encourages haulers to submit applications and surveys on time.
- Greg Dix asked that Dave McElroy explain how the questions on the hauler license application are determined. Dave McElroy stated that the applications are continuously being improved, and the information provided allows staff to help

the Board make judgments on solid waste issues. McElroy has drawn from his experience in wastewater discharge regulation and the garbage industry in Sioux Falls. Greg Dix asked if McElroy is the only one creating the application, or if it goes to Mark Cotter, Director of Public Works, for example. McElroy stated that other staff do review the application, but that he does not believe it goes specifically to Mr. Cotter.

- Public Comment (John Laverne): Mr. Laverne asked McElroy to clarify who SAIC is. McElroy clarified that SAIC stands for Science Applications International Corporation, a consultant formerly known as RW Beck. RW Beck has done the majority of consulting for the landfill since 2003.

#### **5. Sustainability Coordinator Report – Aimee Ladonski**

- In January through October of 2011, the Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHWF) processed approximately 400,000 lbs. of hazardous waste and 980,000 lbs. of electronics.
- Outreach Programs:
  - The Sustainability Program ran TV ads in September and October as follows: Fox TV: 119 ads; and Midcontinent Cable: 118 ads. Radio ads focused on both general recycling and HHWF services: B102.7, KSOO 1140 AM, and EZ100.1: 324 paid radio ads and about 1600 free ads, including online radio ads.
  - In September and October, we had an ad in Sioux Falls Woman Magazine.
  - Staff is revamping our ad campaign to focus on the ‘why’ of recycling and will be asking for the Board’s input during that process.

#### **Dennis Weeldreyer arrived at 5:25 pm.**

- Staff held a Solid Waste and Recycling Industry meeting on November 10, meetings for the Core Sustainability Team and Steering and Implementation Team for the SMP.
- Staff met with Dan Siefken and Merle Wollman of the South Dakota Multi-housing Association (SDMHA) to discuss improvements to rental property recycling and hosted a booth at the SDMHA trade show in October. Mr. Siefken is eager to work with City staff to improve recycling rates for our haulers. City staff is also looking for recommendations from haulers to improve recycling at rental properties.
- Staff hosted a booth at the Plain Green Conference in October, and SAIC gave a well-attended presentation on the SMP there as well.
- Staff hosted a booth at the Green Living Health Expo, which was not well attended.
- Staff gave a tour of the HHWF to students from Kilian Community College and discussed Sustainability in general.
- Staff met with both Parks and Recreation and the Sioux Falls Airport to give recommendations for improved recycling in each of those organizations.

- All of these methods of outreach are the City's way to help haulers meet ordinance and educate the community about recycling and sustainability.
- On Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>, the Ordinance Subcommittee met.
- Nov. 10, 2011 Solid Waste and Recycling Industry meeting:
  - Staff is developing 'Oops' forms for haulers to leave for client in instances when the customer has improperly recycled. This note is clearly from city staff, not the hauler, in order to protect the hauler's relationship with that customer.
  - Greg Dix asked where City staff was in the process to make those forms. Aimee Ladonski replied that staff is soliciting feedback from the Streets Department on design, as Streets has experience in creating such door hangers. There is not currently an internal deadline for this project.
- The SMP, which is paid for through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funding, is still underway. Staff did just receive draft versions of the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory and the Solid Waste Assessment (SWA) from SAIC, and they are currently working on the Business Case Analysis, which covers many sustainable programs. There will be a public open house event, currently planned for January of 2012. The SMP will be finalized by February of 2012.
- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) – The City of Sioux Falls received \$1.5 million in EECBG grant money. All of those dollars are now obligated, and approximately \$1 million has been spent. City staff will be providing the final report on those projects soon.
- Hauler surveys – Staff encourages haulers to complete the anonymous hauler survey and send it to SAIC. SAIC has received about 12 surveys at this point. Staff will be distributing postcards tomorrow announcing an extended, final deadline of November 30.
- Public Comment: None.

## **6. Environmental Report on Needle Disposal Program – Joe Heffron**

- On November 10, Jake Anderson asked the Ordinance Review Subcommittee to consider a possible ordinance revision to limit sharps in the waste and recycling stream.
- City staff has two action items resulting from the meeting:
  - To determine the appropriate place in ordinance for such a measure
  - To solicit input from the Health department
- Public Comment (Kim Smith, Millennium Recycling): Kim Smith noted that the reason the issue was brought to the Board was that Millennium Recycling is seeing an increased volume of needles in the recycling stream. They are hoping to ban needles from the recycling stream, if not the waste stream altogether.

- Aimee Ladonski stated that City staff will be meeting with Millennium Recycling and other parties to discuss expanding outreach for the current Needle Disposal Program.

**7. Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris recycling feasibility study update – Dave McElroy**

- Project scope:
  - Characterize the landfill's C&D waste stream
  - Research different recovery rates and strategies
- Bottom line:
  - SAIC, the consultant performing the study, is recommending that the Sioux Falls Regional Sanitary Landfill (SFRSL) build a C&D Material Recovery Facility (MRF).
- Staff is hopeful that in 2013 or 2014 at the latest, the City will be able to undergo a \$3-5 million project to build a C&D MRF facility.
- A lot of the C&D waste stream is from City waste: of 80,000 tons of C&D waste annually, only 50-55,000 tons is from commercial clients.
- SAIC did a 1-day waste audit in which they visually characterized 26 C&D loads and determined percentage of various materials (e.g., about 30% wood, 10-15% shingles). This data was smoothed with a 2006 waste characterization performed at the SFRSL and another study from Bartow County, GA.
  - Approx 70% of incoming C&D could be diverted in an MRF based on waste characteristics.
  - There are still some electronic items in C&D waste stream, despite the ban excluding electronics from the landfill.
  - Paper, soil and dirt from the C&D waste stream could be recovered for alternative daily cover at the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) landfill.
- Landfill staff went on 4 recycling facility visits in Minnesota and Wisconsin – Dem-Con, Veit, SKB (Rosemount facility), and Royal Recycling .
- Based on tons of waste received and the target materials, a C&D MRF at the SFRSL would be similar to the Dem-Con facility and could sort up to 6 materials.
  - Residuals from the MRF could be buried in the C&D landfill, though it is also possible that the SFRSL would no longer have a C&D landfill. The MRF may allow the landfill to convert the present C&D cell to an MSW cell.
  - Needed Equipment: Staff is researching obtaining a trommel screen, which helps separate for a better wood waste product. After the screen, materials would go up an incline conveyer, then move to the sort line. A magnetic separator would be situated above the conveyer to pull as much metal as possible automatically.

- Staff may be looking to Volunteers of America, or South Dakota Achieve to provide personnel.
- The facility would not make money on its own -- that's why private business generally doesn't do this unless the company also owns a landfill. However, the MRF would defer costs from operating a C&D landfill by diverting an estimated 72.5% of C&D waste stream.
- It would help the financial picture if the City could increase the flow of C&D materials to the MRF.
  - There is no national precedent for flow control for C&D as there is for MSW, but it could be a future direction.
  - City could also consider modifying ordinance and building codes to mandate C&D recycling and/or the use of recycled content products in new projects to help create a market for recycled C&D materials.
  - The City could also increase its promotion of and education about green building and LEED standards to contractors. The City could also begin a voluntary or mandatory green building/LEED program.
  - The first City building with LEED certification will be built in 2012 on the HHWF campus.
- Public Comment: None.

**A motion was made by Dave McElroy and seconded for the Board to support the City pursuing construction of a Construction and Demolition Materials Recycling Facility at the Sioux Falls Regional Sanitary Landfill. (Vote: Yeses: 8, Noes: None.) Motion passes unanimously.**

**8. Staff Update on Chapter 18 Revisions – Dave McElroy**

- Aimee Ladonski provided a history of how the latest ordinance revisions passed the SWPB and were approved by City Council
- Dave McElroy stated that the ordinance revisions went into effect on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>. Staff met with the Ordinance Revision Subcommittee last week. Staff also presented the City's interpretations and implementation plans for the ordinance revisions to members of the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry in a later meeting that same day. As always, the City trying to be reasonable and accommodating in the implementation of these new ordinances.
- Public Comment: None.

**9. §18-17 enforcement/interpretation: waste containers must be kept in an “inconspicuous place” – Dave McElroy**

- The City receives 3 to 5 complaints per year about residents who are leaving their garbage cans in conspicuous places outside their homes.
- The key sentence for discussion in 18-17 is: “The garbage and recycling containers shall be kept in an inconspicuous place beside or behind the structure which is reasonably accessible to the licensed commercial garbage hauler.”
  - How can multi-family dwellings like condos keep the containers in an inconspicuous place yet still allow for pick-up?

**A motion was made by Dave McElroy and seconded to refer the discussion on Chapter 18 enforcement of waste containers that must be kept inconspicuous to the Ordinance Review Subcommittee.**

- Discussion:
  - Merle Wollman stated that he lives in a medium-level multi-housing property, and that it is not possible to keep waste containers in an inconspicuous place for collection. Mr. Wollman stated that with so many different housing situations, the current language would be difficult to apply to all. He suggested wording similar to “as inconspicuous as possible.”
  - Dave McElroy stated that he would prefer to either have more concrete language or do away with the requirement altogether.
  - Aimee Ladonski stated that she would like to see what SAIC has put forward in terms of suggestions for this program. The final draft of the Solid Waste and Recycling Assessment should be available by the time the next Ordinance Subcommittee meeting is held, which would aid in discussion of this material.
  - Public comment (John Laverne): John Laverne stated that he thinks the ordinance was created when smaller aluminum cans were the norm; these were typically kept in the garage or in a small hutch. Mr. Laverne offered a definition of inconspicuous, “not easily seen.” Mr. Laverne stated that his comments are meant to be in the spirit of keeping Sioux Falls beautiful, and that he finds the large plastic waste containers outside beautiful homes to be an eyesore. Mr. Laverne made two suggestions for revisions to ordinance chapters 18-17, 18-20 & 18-21:
    - Ordinance currently states that waste containers must be kept a) out of sight, b) beside or behind the structure, and c) reasonably accessible to the waste hauler. It also does not distinguish collection days from the rest of the week.
      - Suggested wording: “Garbage containers shall be kept out of sight on non-collection days. On collection days, garbage containers shall be placed in a place near the structure which is reasonably accessible to the licensed commercial garbage hauler.”

- Mr. Laverne noted that separate considerations should be made for commercial and multi-housing properties, and that he was willing to provide help to the Board as necessary.
- Sarah Campbell stated that she would like to ensure that any ordinance revision did not put a financial burden on residents, i.e., if the resident is not able to afford buying a separate structure to house the waste containers, they should be able to put them on the side or back of their residence. This may still be considered conspicuous to some.

**(Vote: Yeses: 8, Noes: None.) Motion passes unanimously.**

- Public Comment (John Laverne): Mr. Laverne asked what the enforcement policy will be while the ordinance revisions are under discussion. Dave McElroy stated that City staff will continue to respond on a complaint basis by sending a letter to homeowner. He did not foresee an increase in enforcement.

**Sarah Campbell, Norman Dittman and John Overby left @ 6:30pm. A quorum is no longer present. The Board may not take any official actions at this point.**

**10. Nominations for Ordinance Review Subcommittee Chair – Aimee Ladonski**

- Heath Von Eye was the previous chair of the Ordinance Review Subcommittee, and he has been replaced on the Board by Fred Snodderly as the City of Madison representative.
- Aimee Ladonski asked if any present Board members were interested in being chair, but did not receive a response.
- Aimee Ladonski noted that Ken Allender (not present) had expressed interest in being part of the Committee but has not formally agreed to be chair.
- Aimee Ladonski reviewed current committee membership: Jake Anderson, Sarah Campbell, Greg Dix, Bob Kappel, Dave McElroy and Ryan Streff.
- Merle Wollman suggested the committee elect its own chair, and Ladonski stated that that was possible. No objections followed.
- Public Comment: None.

**11. Board recommendation to lower or waive landfill rates for contaminated soils and other special wastes – Dave McElroy**

- The City of Sioux Falls was awarded a state contract under the tire cleanup fund for a grant up to \$100,000 dollars, by which the Landfill can be reimbursed for costs to recycle tires from residents and farmers in the 5-county area (Lake,

Lincoln, McCook, Minnehaha and Turner counties). The City must amend its ordinances to waive landfill disposal fees for tires to take part in this program.

- City staff is also looking to reduce contaminated soil disposal fees to encourage infill development in the downtown area and proper disposal of contaminated soils in those areas. The Landfill could create a contaminated soil mono-fill area, and there may be a tiered fee structure to charge lower per-ton fees for larger projects.
- City staff have also waived landfill fees for clean-up events, some non-profit wastes, animal control wastes, the annually-distributed free pass, Projects NICE/KEEP, but it is not currently supported in ordinance to do so.
- Staff will be taking these proposals to City Council.
- Dave McElroy requested the Board's support to clean up that area of ordinance to allow the landfill to lower and/or waive some fees.
- Aimee Ladonski asked for the proposal's timeline. McElroy stated that there was not enough time to have the Ordinance Review Subcommittee and SWPB meet again, but that he wanted to get input from Board members and determine their general attitude on the subject. Ladonski asked Board members if there were any objections.
- Greg Dix clarified that the exempt tires could only come from the 5-county area, and McElroy confirmed. McElroy stated that other landfills may be serving their respective regions under the same program.
- Deb Reinicke asked why the tire disposal fee would be waived for farmers but not small businesses. McElroy stated that those were the terms of the state grant, possibly because people are still finding piles of tires buried in farm acreage. Merle Wollman added that businesses can still dispose of their tires for \$2 per tire.
- Greg Dix asked if the Landfill would publicize this program, and McElroy stated that it would when the program was underway.
- Public Comment: Can famers bring tractor tires?
  - Dave McElroy stated that tractor tires would be accepted under the program.

### **Public Comment**

- Dennis Weeldreyer gave an update on the Lincoln County Transfer Station, stating that the financial situation looks more positive now. As Mr. Weeldreyer stated previously, the Transfer Station will continue to be funded through 2012.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 pm.