

Tippecanoe County Solid Waste Management District Meeting Minutes

**November 21, 2019 at 12:00 noon
Tippecanoe County Office Building
20 N 3rd Street, Lafayette, Indiana**

Members present: Chairman-County Commissioner Tom Murtaugh, Vice Chairman-County Commissioner Tracy Brown, County Commissioner David Byers, Lafayette Mayor Tony Roswarski, West Lafayette Mayor John Dennis, Lafayette City Councilmember Ron Campbell. County Councilmember John R Basham was absent.

Also present: Attorney Doug Masson, Amy Krzton-Presson and Kailey Curwick.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Tom Murtaugh called the meeting to order.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** from the June 27, 2019 regular meeting.
 - Councilmember Campbell moved to approve the minutes as presented, second by Mayor Dennis. Motion carried.
- III. **UPDATE ON RECYCLING CENTERS** – Status of Materials recycling at Transfer Station
The transition from the closing of the WL recycling center to the N 9th street facility has stabilized, but a broader look at costs and services is needed.
- IV. **FINANCIAL UPDATE** – Kailey Curwick
 - A. Current Financial Report and Expenditures to Date
The beginning balance this years was \$366,724.52, with last month's beginning cash on hand of \$421,758.90. Since last meeting there were \$107,297.08 in disbursements and \$3,811.77 in interest for a current cash balance of \$318,273.59. The expected November-December disbursement should be in the range of \$110,000-\$130,000 based on past disbursements, but that figure will be determined after settlement. There was discussion about increased haul charges and overall costs; some of which are attributed to the increased number of pick-ups at the three remote recycling sites. It basically costs the community \$30,000 per month and brings in \$260,000 a year. To cover the increasing costs the County added \$70,000 to the Districts 2020 budget, but additional analysis of the costs and services are needed.
 - B. Items paid since last Board Meeting
The list of expenditures from the last meeting were in the packet.
 - Commissioner Byers moved to approve the items paid since the last meeting as presented, second by Mayor Dennis. Motion carried.
 - C. Update of Approved Vendor List
There one new vendor that need to be added: Greater Lafayette Graphics, Inc.
 - Mayor Roswarski moved to approve the updated vendor list as presented, second by Mayor Dennis. Motion carried.

D. Additional Appropriation \$80,000

Commissioners Murtaugh and Brown have had two meetings with Bestway Disposal and more are needed to work out the costs of changing the drop-off recycling site from West Lafayette to the N. 9th Street location, increased hauling and additional bins at the remote recycling sites. Cost projections for the rest of the year have been developed and are still under discussion, however, he estimates that an additional appropriation of \$80,000 is needed to cover costs through the end of the year for increased pickups and establishment of the new 9th Street facility. The County is now being charged for hauling and sorting of anything over last year's monthly average (500 tons per month). The recycling service is restricted to private citizens of Tippecanoe County and not businesses or residents of other counties. The budget was increased in 2020 so hopefully there won't be a shortfall. There undoubtedly will continue to be increased participation and perhaps increased costs going forward. The industry is changing, and the needs of the recycling industry are becoming more stringent to the point where the recyclables will need to be cleaner in the future.

- Commissioner Byers moved to approve the additional appropriation of \$80,000 as discussed, second by Mayor Dennis. Motion carried.

V. **ACCOUNTING SYSTEM UPDATE** – Commissioner Murtaugh

The State Board of Accounts recommended that the District use a different accounting system than that used by the Auditor's Office of Tippecanoe County. Next years budget included funds to purchase a different system for the District to use.

VI. **REPORT OF ACTIVITIES** – Amy Krzton-Presson presented the Educator's Report

- A. E-Waste Collection Day on October 5 at McCutcheon High School collected over 55,000 lbs of electronic waste, which was more than twice that collected last year.
- B. Amy attended the Association of Indiana Solid Waste Management District's annual meeting and obtained many good contacts and resources for future use.
- C. Wabash Heartland Innovation Network (WHIN) and Indiana Recycling Coalition (IRC) grants
WREC and the IRC received grants from WHIN to conduct a recycling study in the 10 County region. By February of March the IRC study will be completed with recommendations on how to improve the communities recycling programs and reduce costs.
- D. Audits of Drop-off Recycling Bins with Purdue EEE
A senior design class from Ecological and Environmental Engineering helped analyze the contents of the drop off bins by categorizing and weighting the recyclables. The findings show a high contamination rate and a large amount of contained recyclables (bagged and boxed materials) that cannot be recycled. The recyclable glass was less than 10% by weight, with non-recyclable glass and contaminants weighing 4-5 times that of the recyclable glass. Thus, education about what is recyclable is preferable to eliminating glass. The take-aways are educating the public on the need for loose recyclables (not in bags or boxes) and what is and isn't recyclable (particularly plastics, with only #1 & 2 having reliable markets for recycling). The market for Styrofoam is limited with only one Midwest recycler in Evansville. The trash transfer contractor sends the recyclables to three Material Recovery Facility (MRFs) and they have been the best source of what is and what is not recyclable.
- E. Education and Outreach Events and Efforts
Educational signs have been placed at the recycling bins and presentations have been made to several local groups (WL Go Greener Commission, PU Ecological and Environmental Engineering student's society, Keep Stockwell Beautiful, Partnership for Water Quality, De-trash the Wabash and social media).

VII. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE – Amy stated that she will take over the committee and meetings. Commissioner Murtaugh thanked Amy for all her efforts especially her social media program.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Amy wants to work with Purdue, West Lafayette and Lafayette to align their messaging and also sponsor a tour of a MRF.

There was discussion about the possibility of charging for TV' and larger appliances at the e-waste collections days.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

X. ADJOURNMENT

John Dennis moved to adjourn. Chairman Tom Murtaugh adjourned the meeting.