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## PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY SOLID WASTE BOARD

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A regular meeting was held on **January 16, 2012** at the Brown County Materials Recycling Facility, 2561 S. Broadway, Green Bay, WI

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Present: John Katers, Chair  
Ray Kopish  
Mark Vanden Busch  
John Kennedy  
Mike Van Lanen  
Norb Dantine  
Mike Fleck  
Bud Harris

Excused: Lisa Bauer-Lotto

Also Present: Dean Haen, Brown County P&SW  
Chris Blan, Brown County P&SW  
Chad Doverspike, Brown County P&SW  
Mark Walter, Brown County P&SW  
Craig Wirtz, Brown County P&SW  
Peter Schlein, BC Planning & Land Services  
Chris Anderson, Foth  
Geoff Farr, Village of Howard  
Dan Teaters, BC Planning & Land Services

3. Introduction of New Member – John Kennedy

John Kennedy was introduced to the Board and welcomed as the newest member of the Solid Waste Board. Kennedy provided a quick summary of his background experience and board members introduced themselves.

4. Approval/Modification – Meeting Agenda

**A motion to approve the agenda was made by Norb Dantine and seconded by Mike Fleck.** Unanimously approved.

5. Approval/Modification – Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2011

**A motion to approve the minutes of October 17, 2011 was made by Mike Fleck and seconded by Mike Van Lanen.** Unanimously approved.

6. Household Hazardous Waste Program

a. Budget Adjustment – Request for Approval

When the original budget was prepared for 2012, it was not known what dollar amounts would be available for the Clean Sweep Grant Program. In August 2011, we were notified we were eligible for more money than had been budgeted. A Prescription Drug grant was awarded for \$11,076 with a match of \$3,692; an Ag Grant of \$6,500 was awarded with a match of \$2,167; and an HHW grant of \$22,050 with a match of \$7,350 was awarded. Based on this information, we are increasing the amount in the budget for 2012 from \$28,550 to \$38,010.

**A motion to approve the budget adjustment was made by Norb Dantine and seconded by Mike Van Lanen.** Unanimously approved.

b. Proposed Program Changes – Request for Approval

Discussion ensued on the pharmaceutical program for over-the-counter drugs. In order for Brown County HHW to accept certain types of drugs for disposal, we must register with the State as a hazardous waste collector for drugs. This will allow HHW to collect non-controlled drugs and dispose of them through our hazardous waste contractor. Staff noted that HHW already receives some drugs from the area and that the recently awarded drug grant is a joint grant with Marinette County, Oconto County, City of Green Bay, Village of Ashwaubenon and Brown County Sheriff's Department.

**A motion to approve the establishment of the Brown County Household Hazardous Waste Facility as a hazardous waste collector with the State of Wisconsin was made by Ray Kopish and seconded by Bud Harris.** Unanimously approved.

c. 2011 HHW Collection Results - Update

A 2011 budget summary and HHW weight collections was distributed to the Board. In 2011 a record one million pounds of hazardous waste material was collected. This was most likely boosted by the collection of electronics (395,000 lbs). The participation rate however, has also increased and is now at approximately 10% of the households in Brown County. In 2011, HHW earned approximately \$61,000 more in revenue than budgeted primarily by working with businesses to get rid of their material along with our customers and electronics. Overall staffing costs are down the most and contractor costs are higher. Staff anticipates that paint collection will drop once the fee is implemented for disposal of latex paint. The Board recommended making VSQG customers aware of the services provided at HHW.

7. Establishment of a Rate Stabilization Fund – Request for Approval

Requests have been received from municipalities for Brown County to establish a rate stabilization fund. Fund would create the ability of Brown County to set aside funds to be used to offset substantial increases in future landfill tipping fees. Language establishing the Rate Stabilization Fund is in the draft Municipal Solid Waste Management Services Agreement. Based on approximately 170,000 tons of MSW per year, a target of \$200,000 to \$1M was proposed.

Staff noted that currently we are operating on a subsidy and are not charging a tipping fee that covers the actual cost incurred by Brown County to operate the Transfer Station and BOW landfill. One issue to be resolved is the subsidiary situation. The subsidy could be removed as part of the 2013 budget by lower expenses or the implementation of tiered tipping fees charged to customers. Upon resolving the current subsidy, the establishment a rate stabilization fund could be pursued. The Solid Waste Board would establish the establishment and guidelines for use of the fund. Discussion ensued.

**A motion was made by Mike Van Lanen and seconded by Mike Fleck that per the Solid Waste Board, staff will establish as part of the 2013 budget and subsequent budgets a rate stabilization fund that would only be used for the goal of maintaining between \$250,000 and \$1M with an adjustment for CPI. The fund would be protected with the sole use of any collected funds by a future Solid Waste Board to minimize significant tipping fee increases.** Unanimously approved.

8. Analysis of Existing Landfill Gas-to-Energy Project – Request for Approval

When the Gas-to-Energy (GTE) facility was built it was based on projections that two engines were needed to convert 1,000 cfm of landfill gas to electricity. After many attempts to do as much as possible operationally to modify the system, 350 cfm of landfill gas is available and the need to operate two engines is not efficient. Staff would like to have Foth perform a study and look at options to enhance that system. Long-term projection at this point is that the GTE Project will be close to breaking even but currently is in the “red”. Staff is hoping this study will assist in getting into the “black”. Items done to date have been: 1) Switched over from a 100 hp blower to a 50 hp blower; 2) Installed eight gas wells in 2009; 3) Hooked up four of the leachate ports to the gas collection system; 4) Added 20 leachate pumps in gas wells to reduce the water levels; and 5) Performed a leachate recirculation pilot study. Currently, however, there is still only enough gas to run one engine. The original study projected having two engines running at full load through 2018; the project is only in its third year and we are operating one engine.

The goal is to maximize return on investment. Options being considered include; 1) shutting the project down and selling the equipment, 2) supplementing natural gas with landfill gas, 3) leachate recirculation, 4) moving an engine to the West landfill, and 5) moving West landfill gas to the East landfill. **A motion to approve the study with Foth for \$17,500 was made by John Katers and seconded by Bud Harris.** Unanimously approved.

9. ELF Groundwater WDNR Information Request – Update

In 2005 Brown County was asked by the WDNR to perform a groundwater investigation at the East Landfill. Some exceedance in tetrachloroethalyne and vinyl chloride were found. During the first part of 2006 Brown County submitted a plan to WDNR, implemented the plan, and performed an additional groundwater investigation. All data was forwarded to the WDNR. From that point until mid-2011 Brown County did not have any communication from the WDNR on this issue. Between that time, without request from the WDNR, Brown County installed a pump in leachate port 23, hooked up leachate ports 1, 2, 3 & 4 to the gas extraction system, and installed 20 gas well pumps. As a result of the study from 2005 to 2011, the WDNR requested additional information. A letter along with the report will be sent to the WDNR. Discussion on this report ensued. The Board will keep apprised of any further developments.

10. Municipal Solid Waste Management Services Agreement – Update

Multiple revisions have been made to the Agreement and staff believes the Agreement is close to being acceptable to the eight urban municipalities. Addendum #2 of the agreement address the Oneida Energy, Inc. (OEI) project. Five municipalities indicated they would only sign a Municipal Solid Waste Management Services Agreement with Brown County if Addendum #2 was included. Staff has met with OEI and the municipalities. OEI has provided new data. Upon completion of our agreement negotiations, Brown County with assistance from the municipalities will start negotiating a contract with OEI. OEI's new operation date in December 2012. Further updates will be brought to the Board.

11. Director's Report

- **HHW Summary**

A summary layout was created which will be for each of our cost centers to provide a review of the department's performance.

- **Three-County RFP for Tires**

Brown County is signing a tire contract with Bay Environment Tire for \$130 per ton, saving \$10/ton by working with the other counties of BOW.

- **Shingle Recycling**

Staff is evaluating recycling shingles here and/or at the Transfer Station. A meeting was held last week with the small haulers of the area. Many of their customers are requesting their shingles be recycled at a savings over disposal. A business proposal will be an agenda item at the next Solid Waste Board meeting.

- **Director's Position**

Over the holidays, Green Bay Press Gazette reported in a 2012 government outlook that Brown County's intent was to fill the open department head positions and continue to merge departments. Nothing more specific has been received from the County Executive.

12. Strategic Plan for Solid Waste Management Plan – Update

This will be a running item on the agenda through June when the Strategic Plan should be complete. A SWOT meeting was held with Port & Solid Waste staff last week. A vision statement was developed based on information pulled from various reports over the years and will be modified based on input from the Board and the SWOTs. Two more SWOT meetings will be held; one with the municipalities on January 31, 2012 and the second with a mixed group of citizens, partners, etc., in order to obtain as much input as possible. Staff will be working with Brown County Planning to review what they compile from this study. This information will then separated into goals, objectives and action steps which will be brought to the Board to prioritize. Dan Teaters and Peter Schlein, from Brown County Planning & Land Services conducted a SWOT analysis with the Board members (Solid Waste staff left the meeting at this point).

13. Such other Matters as Authorized by Law

There were no other matters to discuss.

14. Adjourn

**A motion to adjourn was made by Norb Dantine and seconded by Mike Fleck.**  
Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 3:25pm.

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John Katers, Chair  
Solid Waste Board

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Dean Haen, Interim Director  
Port & Solid Waste Department