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PORT AND SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

**PROCEEDINGS OF BROWN COUNTY SOLID WASTE BOARD**

A regular meeting was held on **September 21, 2009**, 1:30 p.m., at the Brown County Materials Recycling Facility, 2561 S. Broadway, Green Bay, WI.

1. Call to Order – meeting was called to order by Chair Strenski 1:30pm.

2. Roll Call

Present: Mike Strenski, Chair  
Chuck Rhyner  
Norb Dantine  
Mike Fleck  
Dawn Goodman

Excused: Jim Rasmussen, Vice-Chair  
Bud Harris  
Allison Swanson  
John Katers, Secretary

Also Present: Charles Larscheid, Brown County Port & Solid Waste Dept.  
Chad Doverspike, Brown County Port & Solid Waste Dept.  
Joe Hollatz, Badgerland Express  
Tony Walter, Green Bay Press-Gazette

3. Approval/Modification – Meeting Agenda

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

4. Approval/Modification – Meeting Minutes July 20, 2009

**A motion to approve the minutes noting the adjournment time should be shown was made by Norb Dantine and seconded by Mike Fleck.** Unanimously approved.

5. WI Dept. of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) 2010 Prescription Drug Grant – Request for Approval

Brown County applied for a \$4000 grant through DATCP on September 18, 2009. If received, the grant money would be used for advertising the collection of prescription and over-the-counter drugs in 2010. This would be in conjunction with the current household hazardous waste operations. The costs incurred by the department for this program were explained to the Board.

6. WI Dept. of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) 2010 Household Hazardous Waste Program Grant – Request for Approval

Regardless of whether grant money is received, collection activities will continue at the Hazardous Waste Facility. If the Department does receive grant money it will be used to offset disposal costs. This grant money cannot be used for educational purposes. **A motion to approve #5 and #6 was made by Mike Fleck and seconded by Chuck Rhyner.** Unanimously approved.

7. Regional HHW Plan – MOU – Request for Approval

Discussions continue with Outagamie and Winnebago Counties on possible ways to consolidate services. Brown County feels it might be possible to expand our hazardous waste program. Currently Winnebago County has a small seasonal building for the collection of hazardous waste which is then brought to the Green Bay HHW facility for a fee. Outagamie County currently has a series of Saturday Clean Sweeps in May through October. Brown County staff assists with staffing these Clean Sweeps. Both Outagamie and Winnebago have expressed interest in expanding their current programs.

Brown County has a permanent facility with trained staff and could offer expertise, supplies and disposal of material collected. Information including cost estimates for Brown County to provide these services has been given to both counties. Winnebago County has included these costs in their next budget.

A bi-weekly hazardous waste collection is being considered for Winnebago County on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Brown County staff (2) would work out of Winnebago's facility, package as much of the material on site for pickup at a later time, and bring back any paint to bulk at the Brown County location.

A flat fee of \$25,000 would be paid to Brown County for providing this service. That covers cost plus a 40% premium. Each County would be responsible for their own disposal costs. Talks are continuing with Outagamie County to discuss the details of the program. Presently, businesses and/or other residents from other counties are charged a 40% premium. It is likely that should both Winnebago and Outagamie begin scheduled collections year round, additional staff will be needed. The MOU with Winnebago is for five (5) years with one (1) year additions and a 60-day cancellation clause.

**A motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding was made by Chuck Rhyner and seconded by Mike Strenski. Unanimously approved**

8. Oneida Tribe (IEP) Waste Gasification Project – Update

Oneida Seven Generations Corporation (OSGC), a private group within the Oneida Tribal government has approached Brown County about using waste at the Transfer Station to produce electricity. Brown County has been working with OSGC to assist in getting to the point where the OSGC is able to submit a grant to the State for funding as a demonstration project. It is possible they would locate near the Brown County Waste Transfer Station property although many of the specifics have not been worked out yet. A representative from OSGC explained the proposed project to Brown, Outagamie and Winnebago County staff. The demonstration project should not be a threat to tonnage requirements as required in the current BOW Solid Waste agreement. A draft letter of intent has been sent to Oneida Tribe. Any updates or decisions to be made on this project will be brought before the Solid Waste Board. It is anticipated Brown County could benefit from the project by a reduced fee on waste disposal or payment for landfill gas. The project could require 25 tons per day of landfill material and/or sludge with 94% of the waste burned with no emissions.

9. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) – Potential Port and Solid Waste Dept. Involvement

To date one Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been found in Brown County. City foresters have contacted Brown County for possible use of County properties to stage wood in compliance with State County quarantine limitations. Brown County hopes to work with the larger communities to manage any wood collected over the next several years. At this point, various options are being considered, all of which would include Brown County recovering any incurred costs from the municipalities involved.

## 10. Director's Report

- Transfer Station Scale Window

A scale operator at the Brown County Waste Transfer Station have been experiencing problems associated with carpal tunnel syndrome. On the advice of Brown County Risk Management and the Brown County Occupational Nurse, an automatic window has been installed at the scale house. The cost for the window including installation was approximately \$4000.

- Finance System

A new finance system has been implemented county-wide. Although more complex than the previous system, this "New World" system should prove to be more beneficial long-term. The New World system allows for a more precise breakdown of expenses and revenues by departments and specific accounts and increases security. The new system signals when an account has reached the maximum amount budgeted.

- Energy Independence Subgroup

The Brown County Energy Independence Subgroup recently submitted a grant application to the Wisconsin Department of Energy for a windmill at the East Landfill. Currently in the feasibility stage, the project would place a 75 kw windmill at the East Landfill to produce power for the Gas-to-Energy generators.

- Transfer Station Operations

Beginning August 1, 2009 a new contract with the Transfer Station operator/hauler went into effect. To date everything is going exceptionally well. Veolia's transfer station was down for two weeks during which time Brown County accepted approximately 800 tons per day. No issues were encountered and inspection reports from the WDNR were all favorable. The stormwater retention pond remains clean and does not show any signs of runoff from the concrete area.

- Property Sales

Vande Hey: In the 2009 budget, approval was granted for selling the Vande Hey farm in the Town of Wrightstown. The property was purchased by Brown County in 1995. Originally there were two houses on the property which were subsequently used for training by the fire department. The property is 154 acres total with agricultural crops currently are on the land. Wells on the property need to be abandoned before any sale. Approval was received from the WDNR to leave the pond and groundwater as is.

Johanski: Brown County purchased the Johanski property due to legal issues with the former owner. The property was purchased in 2001 for \$170,000. Brown County had been leasing the house and in total received \$70,000 in lease payments. The house has been vacant for the past two years as Brown County is unable to find anyone to lease or manage the house and subsequently is in dire need of repair.

A PowerPoint presentation was given showing pictures of the properties. Staff requested feedback from the Board as to whether it should be torn down or sold. A proposal with the various options will be brought back to the Board for a final decision.

## 11. Kewaunee County Service Agreement

Kewaunee County closed a portion of their landfill and installed 11 gas wells. Kewaunee County has contacted Port & Solid Waste regarding the possibility of a Brown County employee monitoring these wells once per month and providing written data. Staff is putting together a price quote (salary, benefits, 75% premium; equipment charge and mileage reimbursement) for Kewaunee County to consider. Staff pointed out that the price quote would be for recording and reporting measurements only. Brown County will not offer Kewaunee County any recommendations or guidance on the wells.

12. East Landfill Gas-to-Energy – Update

Engines at the landfill are currently running at 76% or 725 kilowatts. The engines' potential is 925 kilowatts. Foth Environmental & Infrastructure has reviewed the gas well history, checked the collection system, flow meters, blowers, vacuum pump, etc. Cornerstone Environmental has also been on site reviewing these items. Foth questioned whether the 100 hp blower is larger than what is actually needed. The current blower is sized for about 1000 cfm and the ELF is actually at about 500 cfm's. Staff felt by purchasing a smaller blower it would save money and increase revenue. Foth also believes there may be some operational issues. Cornerstone suggested installing more wells to increase the gas output. Staff continues to work with Foth, Cornerstone and Fabco on the Gas-to-Energy project issues. The Board asked if the project would still pay for itself in eight years as originally proposed. Staff is confident that over the long run, the project will pay for itself and is not losing money. This will be discussed in further detail in closed session.

13. Closed Session

19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties . . . pertaining to the East Landfill Gas-to-Energy Project.

**A motion was made by Mike Fleck and seconded by Mike Strenski to go into closed session.** Unanimously approved. Roll call was taken:

Present: Mike Strenski, Chair  
Chuck Rhyner  
Norb Dantine  
Mike Fleck  
Dawn Goodman

Excused: Jim Rasmussen, Vice-Chair  
Bud Harris  
Allison Swanson  
John Katers, Secretary

Also Present: Charles Larscheid, Brown County Port & Solid Waste Dept.  
Chad Doverspike, Brown County Port & Solid Waste Dept.

*(return to Open Session)*

**A motion was made by Norb Dantine and seconded by Mike Fleck to return to regular session:** Unanimously approved. Roll call was taken:

Present: Mike Strenski, Chair  
Chuck Rhyner  
Norb Dantine  
Mike Fleck  
Dawn Goodman

Excused: Jim Rasmussen, Vice-Chair  
Bud Harris  
Allison Swanson  
John Katers, Secretary

Also Present: Charles Larscheid, Brown County Port & Solid Waste Dept.  
Chad Doverspike, Brown County Port & Solid Waste Dept.

Chair Strenski indicated that during closed session the Board discussed matters concerning issues pertaining to the East Landfill Gas-to-Energy project. No action was taken

14. Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law

No other matters to discuss.

15. Adjourn

**Motion to adjourn was made by Chuck Rhyner and seconded by Norb Dantine.**

Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 3:10pm.

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Mike Strenski, Chair  
Solid Waste Board

Charles Larscheid, Director  
Port & Solid Waste Department