



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

***Downtown Library***

***200 N Dakota Avenue***

***Monday, January 23, 2023; 5:30 pm***

## **Call to Order/Roll Call**

A regular meeting of the Solid Waste Planning Board was called to order at 5:30 by Holly Meier, Sustainability Coordinator. A quorum was present.

## **Roll Call:**

### Members Present:

Joshua Peterson, Environmental Services  
Manager City of Sioux Falls  
Barbara Hamer, Citizen Representative  
Tim Edman, Citizen Representative  
Shannon Dwire, Recycling Industry  
Representative  
Cindy Neuroth, Waste Hauling Industry  
Representative  
Don Kuper, SFRSL Superintendent  
Holly Meier, City of Sioux Sustainability  
Coordinator  
Jon Hanson, Lincoln County Representative

### Members Absent:

Mark Kaufman, Turner County  
Representative  
Nancy Korkow, McCook County  
Representative  
Mandi Anderson, Lake County Representative  
Ron Sauby, South Dakota Multi-Family  
Housing Association Representative  
Scott Anderson, Minnehaha County Planning

### Others present:

Dan Neuroth, D&C Solid Waste Services; Gregg Engler, City of Sioux Falls Attorney's Office;  
Dawn Elsinger, City of Sioux Falls Public Works; Jesse DeWitt, A-OK Sanitary Service ; Ken  
Harmdierks, Buds Cleanup Service; Ruby Zuraff, Roo's Sanitation; Marissa Begley, Millennium  
Recycling

## **Approval of Agenda**

**A motion was made by Josh Peterson and seconded Barbara Hammer to approve the agenda as presented.**

Vote to approve: Yeses, Peterson, Hamer, Edman, Dwire, Neuroth, Kuper, Hanson, 7. Noes, 0. Abstains, 0. **Motion passed.**

## **Approval of Minutes**

**A motion was made by Jon Hanson and seconded by Cindy Neuroth to approve the minutes of the Solid Waste Planning Board meeting for Quarter 4.**

Vote to approve: Yeses, Peterson, Hamer, Edman, Dwire, Neuroth, Kuper, Hanson, 7.Noes, 0. Abstains, 0. **Motion passed.**

## Unfinished Business

No unfinished business

## Reports

### 1. Landfill – Don Kuper

- MSW tonnage for 2022 is at 211,250 (0% increase from 2020)
- C&D tonnage for 2022 is at 218,290 (64% increase from 2020) This is mostly due to the increase of Shingles that were brought into the landfill this year. This will most likely continue in 2023.
- LFG sales we up from 2021 due to increased natural gas prices.
- Airspace Utilization Report
  - MSW AUF is trending higher
  - Report is not complete yet
- 2023 Projects
  - New Scale House and Public Drop Off will go out to bid on February 9<sup>th</sup>
  - Leachate and LFG enhancements project
  - SCADA upgrades design
- No tipping fee or flat fee increases for 2023 but possible rate increases in 2024
- Landfill Staff
  - A new scale operator has accepted the open position and will be starting the onboarding process soon
  - Interview for the FT Public Drop Off Attendant are taking place tomorrow
  - Equipment Operator interviews are scheduled for next week.
  
- Board Discussion:
  - No board discussion
  
- Public Input:
  - No public input

### 2. Environmental Report – Holly Meier

- Recycling
  - As of January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022, recycling rate is at 18.3% but additional claims are still being accepted through February 17<sup>th</sup> so that number may shift a little bit.
  - the 2022 goal is 20.5% for recycling and the standard is 16.4%
  - the environmental office mailed letters to all haulers in mid-December reminding them of the 2020 goal and the standard that must be met.
  - A reminder that haulers that do not achieve the standard are subject to enforcement which includes the \$1 per municipal solid waste ton surcharge for first year of non-compliance to city ordinance Chapter 57
  - December recycling reports will be going out after all additional claims have been entered. This is usually in March depending on how soon we can get outstanding additional claims from callers currently five haulers are not meeting the standard of 16.4%.
  - the Environmental office has already reached out to the haulers not meeting standard and is hoping to work with them on any additional claims that are available for them.
  - Per City Ordinance, licensed commercial haulers will be notified of the current year's recycling goal by March 31<sup>st</sup>

- Recycling task force has been meeting since October 1<sup>st</sup>. Holly did not give a long update on that because there is a separate agenda item for the Recycling task force update
- There was a presentation of 2022 numbers from household hazardous waste
  - For 2022 the number of visits and tonnages are both lower than 2021
- Board Discussion:
  - Board member asked a question why 2022 numbers may be lower. One suggestion was made that we are not seeing as many of the bigger TV's that they used to get in. The majority of those are the flat screens which are much lighter.
- Public Input:
  - No public input

### 3. Recycling Industry – Shannon Dwire

- Equipment is installed and requires adjustments, but they are running well.
- Robots are installed and they are finalizing for startup this week. Impact is still to be determined. They should know more in the following weeks.
- Finding help continues to be a challenge. They are about 30% down. They are hopeful that the robots will help with that.
- Markets continue to be very low for most of the main grades.
- Papermills continue to be full
- Finished products sales behind the papermills and packaging remain stagnate. Expect this to continue through the summer and possibly fall
- Goals this year are to continue to focus on education, receiving cleaner materials, and improving programs throughout the region.
- Board Discussion:
  - No board discussion
- Public Input:
  - No public input

### 4. Solid Waste Industry Report – Cindy Neuroth

- No Report

### 5. Citizen Representative Report – Barbara Hammer

- Some citizens are a little agitated with putting their containers out, and they were not picked up due to the snow.
- The end of people's driveways is crowded because of the snow. There is not much that can be done about that.
- Barbara did inform citizens to check with their hauler about valet service.
- Board Discussion:
  - No board discussion
- Public Input:
  - No public input

## 6. County Reports

- Lake, Lincoln, McCook, Minnehaha, and Turner Counties
  - No Report

### **New Business:**

#### 1. Recycling Task Force update and discussion

- Ruby's updates
  - The board is finding it difficult to compare our recycling rates to other cities because not everyone tracks the same things.
  - The education materials have been approved so that we can have one message
  - The goal is to have the same message on flyers and bin stickers
- Shannon's updates
  - One single message being encourage throughout the five counties
  - The city seems to be more open to discussing tactics in improving recycling
- Holly's updates
  - One of the things that is in development is some guidance on commercial bagless recycling. Millennium Recycling representatives have developed that, and the city is looking into highlighting this in the spring.
  - The other piece of education we're also going to be working with is the new nonprofit Binfluencers formerly Ecomaniacs to understand what role they're going to be playing regarding community education and recycling. We look forward to working with that organization.
  - Part of our fact-finding mission was that in October the landfill had their preliminary waste characterization study and we have some preliminary numbers that aren't final yet and then the second sort is going to be happening in May.
  - The waste sort is helping us understand what is going into the waste stream. Is there cause for concern about an increasing number of recyclables going into the landfill or are there some other pieces that are happening that are dropping recycling rate.
- Josh's Comments
  - Josh thanked everybody who's been on the task force for putting in the time with this. There is not an easy fix, so he appreciates everybody's and effort in trying to come up with solutions
  - The top three things that have come out as a challenge are education, commercial businesses, and multi housing. There is not one single answer to fix all the problems.
  - There are some short-term things we can try and start working on this year.
    - Our city facilities are not leading by example. We should step up and show that a commercial building can recycle correctly and recycle well. We're working with our facility staff to improve on that.
    - Education program. Millennium and the City are working together on this.
    - There needs to be some funding with the Landfill to increase the program. The city is not quite sure yet what that would look like at this time.
    - Enforcement – possibly an increased tipping fee of materials not recycled properly is one idea that came to mind.
    - Additional inspections at the landfill
    - Possibly enforcement at the residential level. There is some concern of the city getting between the hauler and their customer.
    - The city is in the process of budgeting for 2024

- Long term items
  - We still need to do some investigating to see what other communities are doing
  - Finalize the Waste Characterization study
  - A possible MERF sort in the future
  - These are bigger picture/cost things that will take some time
- Public Input
  - Ken Harmdierks Comments
    - Recyclables are not getting generated like they used to. One example was Newsprint
    - He suggested possibly a new plan and figure out a new goal
    - Madison has their own recycling center that a lot of the community will haul their own and those number do not count for the hauler
    - There were some questions about industrial waste and MSW
    - The goals involved don't seem to fit the system.
- Board Input
  - Cindy Neuroth
    - Would like to see the minutes from the Recycling Task Force so that she knows what's going on and can comment.
  - Tim Edman
    - The Task Force will be putting together a summary of what it recommends to this board. The hope is that at the next Task Force meeting they will be able to start pulling some things together for this summary.
    - Tim asked if Josh would be able to give an overview of the rate review. Josh answered that he will not be able to tell us exactly where they are but can give an update.

2. Board member terms expiring in 2023

Barbara Hamer	Citizen Representative	Term Expires October 2023
Shannon Dwire	Recycling Industry Representative	Term Expires November 2023
Cindy Neuroth	Hauling Industry Representative	Term Expires March 2023
Ron Sauby	South Dakota Multi-Housing Representative	Term Expires March 2023

- Anyone seeking to fill an open spot need to apply soon so that it can get signed by the City Council

**Public Input**

- No Public Input

**Adjournment**

**A motion was made by Cindy Neuroth and seconded by Shannon Dwire to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm**

Vote to approve: Yeses, Peterson, Hamer, Edman, Dwire, Neuroth, Kuper, Hanson, 7. Noes, 0. Abstains, 0. Motion passed.