

***Ontario County***  
**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**February 10, 2016**

**Committee Members:** *RUSSELL*, Baker, Evangelista, Singer, Venuti, and Wickham

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**Attendees:** Supervisors Russell, Baker, Singer, Venuti, Evangelista, and Wickham

**Staff:** Tom Harvey, Mary Krause, Mary Gates, Tim Jensen, Linda Frasca, Kris Thorsness, Holly Adams

**Consultants/Guests:** Supervisor Vedora, Nellie Puma – County Finance/DPW, Jerry Leone, Matt East - Casella Waste Management, Steve Healy

**Call to Order:** Chair Russell, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., and declared all members present.

**Privilege of the Floor:** Chairman Russell offered Privilege of Floor for those present. Supervisor Venuti requested that the committee discuss what will happen when the OML expires in 2028. He requested that the topic be included on the next EQC agenda (3-2-16) and would be happy to put together some information on the matter for the committee. Mr. Venuti reminded them that a year or so ago he had presented a resolution to the committee that was not supported by them but wanted to pull out one part of it as he feels it is important for a couple of reasons. One – what the county will be doing next for the county in regards to the OML and others that may be looking at the landfill and that area. Chair Russell thanked Mr. Venuti for his concern and stated that although he couldn't guarantee the topic would be discussed at the next scheduled meeting the committee would definitely look in to the matter in the near future. Supervisor Vedora stated that he remains concerned that trash vehicles continue to use Main Street, Geneva as a travel route when they are not supposed to and reiterated that it is part of the OML agreement. He continues to receive complaints from constituents about trucks coming from Route 14 south of the city and then turning onto Hamilton St. Mr. Vedora stated he asked at the last meeting and is asking again what is going to be done about this as they continue to use the main road. Mr. Leone reported that as requested by the committee at the 1-20-16 EQC meeting a letter was sent out to all waste haulers that use the landfill reminding them of the recommended route. Much discussion took place among committee members and staff. Supervisor Vedora stated he is very frustrated that the matter is not being resolved. Chair Russell and Mr. Leone both reiterated that it would help immensely if whoever sighted a hauler using the incorrect route, to please get their license plate or truck number and the name of the company in order to move forward and correct the issue.

**Approval of Minutes:** Chair Russell stated there had been a small correction to the minutes and requested a motion to approve the draft January 20, 2016 minutes as revised. ***Supervisor Baker made a motion to approve the 1-20-16 minutes as revised and presented; motion seconded by Supervisor Venuti. Motion carried unanimously.***

**2. Solid Waste Management Plan** – Tim Jensen stated that, at the EQC members request at the 1-20-16 meeting, the SWMP Strategy for 2016 had been revised to include additional items to the draft implementation plan, and a schedule of when each item is expected to be completed.

Mr. Jensen shared that planning staff continues to reach out to the county municipalities and surrounding areas to gather and summarize information regarding the management of waste. Staff plans to visit the municipalities the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> week of February to meet with local contacts for information and tour existing facilities; expect data to be available the second half of March. Tom Harvey stated it would take time to meet with everyone that staff plans on meeting with and that there will most likely be several smaller meeting instead of one large meeting – more interactive meetings with EQC members involved instead of just staff. Will be discussing what works and what hasn't worked – so many different thought/ideas to look in to. Supervisor Wickhman stated he feels the “Pay As You Go Program” is very important and should be a major part of the implementation plan.

Supervisor Venuti raised the issue of Household Hazardous Waste collection event(s) and reminded the committee that Casella still owed the County two hours from last year, per the OML. Mr. Jensen and Mr. Harvey reported that at this time two events have been scheduled for 2016. The first event is scheduled for spring 2016 and the second one is scheduled for later in the year. An additional third event will be scheduled if it appears that it is needed.

Mr. Venuti stated it would be a good idea to invite the Finger Lakes Institute and the FL Zero Waste group to the annual meeting on waste diversion previously proposed by Supervisor Evangelista. Supervisor Evangelista shared that someone had referred him to South Carolina's comprehensive recycling site. He requested that staff look further in to the site as their recyclable program is very comprehensive – they take in a lot more categories than what we do. He is not sure how they do this financially or how much is subsidized, or how they process what is taken in but feels it is unbelievable what they are taking in. S.C. residents can take batteries, plastic, a lot of debris, metals, textiles, etc., and he feels Ontario County should look further at their plan and possibly obtain some ideas on how we could do more. Committee members agreed with Supervisor Evangelista's recommendation.

Chair Russell asked if staff had all appointments were set up with municipalities for the survey part of the implementation program. Mr. Jensen responded that we did no, but staff was working to have the surveys completed by month end.

Supervisor Russell stated that in regards to the symposium that not only hospitals should be included but also skilled nursing facilities (nursing homes), and possibly the retail and industrial sectors but feels they should probably have their own call out. Supervisor Evangelista stated he appreciates the entire planning staffs' hard work in getting things done – the visual timeline helps immensely.

2B. SWMP – County Agency Waste Diversion – Roll Out Strategy: Mr. Jensen stated the title of the topic speaks for itself. The head of Building and Grounds is meeting with a representative from Casella, and planning staff to work on the logistics of improving waste collection – is it different containers for pick up, bins, etc. They will do a facility by facility waste stream analysis and will figure out what will be needed in each facility. Staff will act as administrative support for the education of employees. Regular meetings with Casella will be held to gauge how things are going with monthly reports to be provided describing what was picked up. Casella will be in the position to guide us and we see enhanced improvement outreach in 2016 early 2017. Mary Krause feels the recycling program could benefit from champions, like the Wellness Program. Possibly have departmental representative be tapped and then have employees trained and then take up the cause for us. Ms. Krause stated that staff should keep her posted and she will take it up with the HR Director and the HR staff. Supervisor Russell asked if the jail was included and even though the health facility is no longer a part of the county could they be invited to participate in the program. Mr. Jensen responded yes, the jail was included and stated that the health facility involvement depend on who their waste collector is. He will look in to it and take

it further if acceptable. Supervisor Russell stated that he agrees with Ms. Krause and if we could get a few people from each department and outside vendors it might be a great conduit to help gather the needed information.

3. Household Hazardous Waste Event – Mr. Jensen shared that a broader outreach will be done through the media. If high interest is shown there will be more events held. Mr. Venuti reiterated that advanced registration should not be allowed. Supervisor Baker agreed. Mr. Harvey and Supervisor Russell assured committee members that this would not happen this year. Notice of the event would not be given out until just before it is held. Additional specifics will be given as we draw closer to the event date, and a report will be given to the committee.

### **Landfill Operational:**

**3A. Operations Report** - Jerry Leone reported that since the last meeting Casella has done the following:

1. Plans are in place for an additional gas collection system enhancement. Eight (8) gas wells are to be installed in late February that will largely go towards replacing wells that were decommissioned as part of the final cover system removal, and is in front of the DEC at this time for approval.
2. Continuing with cell construction activities. A bid package is out on the street inviting contractors for proposals for the upcoming construction which includes two (2) different cells. A smaller cell is to be built to the south of the existing power plants that will buy Casella a bit of time given the status of the schedule that should get us through August of this year. The second cell will be constructed where the current leachate lagoon is located. Materials (pipes/liner/textile/clay/fabric/gravel, etc.) are expected to be delivered in the coming weeks.
3. Truck traffic letters were sent to third party long haul operators reminding them of the approved traffic routes coming north from I-90 into the Ontario Co. Landfill
4. Road upgrades are nearly completed to correct the access road failure.
5. Incoming Volume – Intake volume has been down lately as expected due to seasonality.

Matthew East, Casella General Manager, stated that due to some issues (an accident) with the access road, they have reinforced the road and are actively building a better and bigger road to handle all the heavy traffic. Additional drains have been installed, and they have filled in the east side. The road will be in better shape once completed.

**3B. DEC Inspection Reports:** Supervisor Russell asked what the construction work hours would be. Mr. Leone responded that construction would not really begin until March, and would know until then if work would be done on Sundays in either March or April – it all depends on the weather. Casella would know more as they advance with the construction and will update the committee at that time.

### **Landfill Expansion**

**4A. Permit Challenge Timeline** –Tom Harvey stated he had included the timeline document just to get it out in front of the committee and quickly reviewed the timeline for them. The first payment is expected in late May. Supervisor Venuti stated the committee needed to further discuss the payments and what the county will do with them. Supervisor Baker stated that it has been the consensus of the committee to follow the 2003 formula that had been previously agreed upon by the EQC. Supervisor Russell stated the matter needs to be presented to the full Board of

Supervisors but more information was needed before a presentation to the full board was given. Supervisor Wickham stated he wanted to make sure we knew what we were going to do with the money instead of just receiving and then spending it. Supervisor Baker stated the money could sit in the county reserves until decisions had been made. Supervisor Wickham said he favored that instead of just rushing to spend the money. Staff will look in to the matter and will come back in the near future with an in depth report. Recommendation made to let the County Administrator and Attorneys work it out and make a final decision. Mr. Harvey stated that municipalities have a lot of misinformation already. The EQC and staff will have to look in to this and educate them as soon as possible. Supervisor Evangelista stated that he feels that whatever the findings are they will have to be approved by the Board as to how the money is to be spent/dispersed but does not want the committee to micro-manage it

**4B.** Nothing to report at this time.

**4C.** Nothing to report at this time.

**Other:** No additional topics of discussion at this time

**Adjournment:** There being no further business before the committee, a *motion was made by Supervisor Baker, seconded by Supervisor Wickham to adjourn at 4:35 pm; motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

*Linda R. Frasca*

Senior Clerk