

Ontario County
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE MINUTES
December 14, 2016

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

Attendees: Supervisors Russell, Singer, Venuti, Baker, Wickham and Evangelista. Supervisor Lightfoote and Supervisor Vedora.

Staff: Tom Harvey, Mary Krause, Brian Young, Linda Frasca, Regina Sousa, Tim Jensen, Carla Jordan, Holly Adams, Kristin Haremza.

Consultants/Guests: Matt East – Casella.

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

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Russell requested a motion to approve the November 30, 2016 minutes. *Motion was made by Supervisor Baker and seconded by Supervisor Wickham to accept the minutes as written; motion carried unanimously.*

Solid Waste Management Plan:

2A & B. Carla Jordan reported that the biggest changes since the last meeting is that staff had incorporated all of Causewave's specific targeted dates so that we know where we are and can keep them on track. The internal survey date has been pushed out till after the new year as there are all ready couple of internal surveys going on in the County at this time. Ms. Jordan reported that the EWASTE+ event has been scheduled for January 21, 2017 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm and will be held at the Geneva City School District Bus Garage. The event is free to Ontario County residents who will be directed to register and provide information as to what they will be dropping off; if someone does show up who did not register they will not be turned away. The registration sign up is needed as we have a contract with EWASTE that is based on up to 50,000 pounds of material being collected and it will assist EWASTE with making sure that enough staff and vehicles (trucks) are on hand for the event. Staff has touched base with the County's Information Services department to have the event put on our website and Twitter account, etc. Ms. Jordan quickly reviewed the proposed resolution to contract with Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) to assist with the EWASTE+ event. CCE has proposed two options. Option 1: CCE will provide advertising, field calls/questions from county residents, handle the registration, and will have staff on hand at the event to check in and verify residency at a cost not to exceed \$5,357 dollars. Option 2: CCE would provide educational outreach and answer calls for a cost not to exceed \$3,800. *Motion to accept Option 1as proposed was made by Supervisor Singer and seconded by Supervisor Baker. Motion unanimously carried.*

Regina Sousa reported that the second 2017 Household Hazardous Waste event has now been scheduled for September 16, 2017 and will be held at the Town of Bristol Garage which has a good in/out traffic flow. Ms. Sousa has touched base with CCE and they are good with the proposed date. Staff requested EQC consensus on the proposed date. The EQC is good with the date as well.

Landfill – Operations and Expansion:

3A. Operations and Expansion Update – Matt East reported the following:

- Progress has been steadily going forward.
- They have reduced the tonnage coming in – maximizes the permit but does not exceed it.
- Cell Progress - Finishing up with the stone which allows for the ALRs (Allowable Leakage Rate) to be done and have begun the annual leakage rate testing.
- Gas well construction continues. Nineteen (19) wells have been installed as of now. Presently they are doing header connections so that vacuum lines to the installed wells are completed, and will be progressing to finish the installation of the wells as soon as possible.
- The contractor is still on site.
- Casella will be pursuing the leachate lagoon leakage.

Supervisor Baker asked how the odor control was doing and if there had been any complaints. Supervisor Wickham stated yes, he had received complaints from a few area residents. Mr. East explained that it is gas escaping from the landfill. Due to the odor issue Casella is moving up the gas system project that was to be done next year. Instead it will be done as soon as possible. Supervisor Venuti shared that he also had received complaints and that he himself had smelled a strong odor.

Supervisor Venuti asked why there was trash/refuse coming down the 5 & 20 side of the landfill. Mr. East explained that it is how the cell in that area is being filled and that Casella would be doing a temp soil cap in the coming year so it should be more eye appealing after that. The DEC has also been on site at least four (4) times ensuring that it is being done correctly. Supervisor Wickham stated that he visits the landfill regularly, and recommended that committee members contact Mr. East and to take a tour of it as he feels it has been very beneficial to him and he has a much better understanding as to what is going on there and is able to answer questions from constituents with accurate information, and they in turn feel as if the issue is not being ignored but is being addressed.

OUT OF ORDER AGENDA ITEM:

Chair Russell stated that Ms. Jordan had one more item to report on under the LSWMP. Ms. Jordan shared that Casella, as the County's service provider, has completed a waste characterization of the County's dumpsters. Basically, Casella collected all the County's dumpsters in one load to ensure that everything collected was generated by the County. Using photos provided by Casella, Ms. Jordan reported that after going through the load that approximately thirty percent to thirty-five percent (30 -35%) of the load was recyclable material/items. Five percent (5%) was restroom trash (hand paper towels). Ms. Jordan shared that discussion at a previous Echo Hero meeting was that as the County moves forward that we look at the cost benefit and the possibility of getting automatic hand dryers. The remaining sixty percent (60%) of the load was municipal solid waste; with five percent (5%) being wood scrapes. Summary of Casella report: 5% paper towel, 15-20% office paper, 5% cardboard, 5% bottles/cans, 5% wood, and 60% unrecyclable material and food waste. With these numbers the County can be more aggressive with the recycling program. Ms. Jordan stated that the report would also be shared the next Echo Heroes.

3B. NYSDEC Landfill Inspection Reports were provided for the Committee's information.

3C. Seam Welding Variance Update: At the last BOS meeting Tom Harvey was tasked with obtaining answers to several questions presented by the Board in regards to Casella's request for a seam welding variance. Mr. Harvey stated that he had found the DEC regulations (regs) for seam welding, dated 1987, which is when the first geomembrane requirements were first written in to the regs, and that there has been no temperature limit for welding. In the past, variance requests have been handled on a case by case basis as part of the construction draw and review process by the DEC. This year (2016) the DEC wants anyone asking for a variance to go through a formal variance review process. There is nothing specific in the regs as to what will come back from the DEC. Mr. East stated that the variance is needed because of the temperature falling below 32 degrees but none below 5 degrees, and explained the welding process to those present. Discussion continued regarding seam welding, as well as the leachate collection and containment system for both the landfill and leachate lagoon.

Other:

Supervisor Russell thanked the Planning staff for all their hard work throughout 2016.

Chair Russell reminded everyone that the next and first meeting of the PLANNING/EQC is scheduled for January 17,, 2017 at 1:30 pm and will be held in the 2nd Floor Conference Room – 20 Ontario Street, Canandaigua, NY.

Adjournment: Being no further business before the committee, *at 4:23 pm a motion was made by Supervisor Wickham, seconded by Supervisor Venuti to adjourn; motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Frasca
Senior Clerk