

**CLINTON COUNTY AREA SOLID WASTE AGENCY  
MAY 12, 2022**

8 PRESENT

Chairman Varner called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Roll call was taken; those present were;

Clinton County – Determann	DeWitt – Chrones	Camanche – Varner
Andover – White	Delmar – Goodall	Grand Mound – Lange
Low Moor – Pray	Wheatland – Heileman	

We have 8 votes present; 5 votes needed for majority and 6 needed for a super majority.

Low Moor made a motion to approve April 14, 2022 minutes. Andover seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:**

Jim Schnoor of J&C Enterprises (Camanche Disposal): We had an incident on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April, machinery fire. In a round about way Jeff Rittmer accused us of hauling in medical waste, with an oxygen tank in it.

We took over the Mercy complexes and I stipulated we were not to haul medical waste. They guaranteed me there would be no medical waste in the loads.

Mr. Rittmer called on a Tuesday night after the fire at 6:30 PM and he called my cell phone. Rittmer also called the next morning. I was in at 8:55 AM the next morning. He had me remove my dumpster from his shop because I didn't return his call right away. He also talked about calling his lawyer.

I just wondered if this should have been handled by the landfill director and not Rittmer?

In the mean time I contacted the broker I work with at Mercy. They went through 13 days of surveillance on that compactor and no oxygen tank was disposed of in that container.

Rittmer kept bothering me and Brad is the director and should be handling this.

Camanche: Any communications you have with Rittmer do not have to go through us. That's between you and him.

Schnoor: So, I'm wasting my time here?

Camanche: We discussed it once everything was settled down and nobody got hurt. IF that tank was in your truck, you wouldn't have known it. We recognized that.

Schnoor: I have verbal and e-mails from Mercy and there's no oxygen tank.

Camanche: we don't know where it came from and nothing else has been pursued.

Schnoor: The hospital wanted to look at the tank or get a serial number off it.

Jeffery Rittmer: Tried that, couldn't get serial number off it.

DeWitt: We're talking life and safety here. I'd like to see better communication between haulers and people working together without being at each other's throat.

Schnoor: said people are on their phones at the fill, too.

Camanche: Is there anything else you'd like to bring up?

Schnoor: My time is wasted out here. I feel this should have gone through Brad and not Rittmer.

**UNANIMOUS CONSENT CALENDAR:** Delmar made a motion to approve the Unanimous Consent Calendar. Andover seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

**DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND EDUCATION REPORT – Brad Seward**

- A. Legislative Update - I am handing out a summary of updates to proposed bills that could affect solid waste.
- B. Memorial Day Holiday Closure – The agency will be closed Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day.
- C. Report on Machine Fires – We had two machine fires in less than a week. Nobody was hurt in either incident. The first was a track loader, owned by Rittmer Inc. That took place on April 26th in the landfill cell. The fire briefly also jumped to the working face. Those fires were extinguished with the help of Low Moor and Clinton Fire departments. Rittmer staff did find an oxygen cannister that was punctured which they believe to be linked to the incident.

The second fire took place at the yard waste area on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. A tub grinder, owned by Midland Davis, caught fire and burned. The grinder was grinding trees. The fire briefly jumped to a small mulch pile. Those fires were extinguished with the help of Low Moor, Clinton and Camanche Fire departments. No cause has been determined in that fire.

We take these things very seriously.

Camanche: Brad did inform me of the fires.

Clinton County: What about LP tanks? Seward: we take those through Haz-waste program and bleed them off so they are empty and can be landfilled. Compressed gas cylinders are not accepted at landfill.

Andover: could you send out e-mails when this happens so we're not caught off guard? Seward: absolutely.

Clinton County: do we have a policy to investigate and keep a report on file? Seward: we leave investigation up to fire department. Emergency Management stopped in and investigated the second fire and reminded us to call DNR and the diesel spilled because of the fire. We did notify DNR.

Seward: We have requested a fire report from Low Moor.

DeWitt: the Law Center will have those reports. Please request one from the law center.

Clinton County: have something on record and do what you can to prevent this from happening. Work on getting something on file.

DeWitt: When I look at where we sit, we're less 100 yards from the city limits. We're the furthest point from Low Moor's volunteer fire department. I wanted to ask to see if Clinton could make us a primary response or make it automatic mutual aid?

Seward: when I called 911, I asked for immediate mutual aid from Clinton. It did happen and Low Moor beat Clinton here.

Rittmer has purchased a water truck (old fire truck) for dust control.

Seward: anytime we have a fire, I request Clinton's assistance.

Clinton County: Work on reports for anything like this or where somebody gets hurt.

## **ENGINEER SITE REPORT – No Report**

## **LANDFILL OPERATIONS REPORT – Jeff Rittmer of Rittmer Inc.-**

Briefly recapped the fire of the track loader.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM ANY AGENCY MEMBERS OR THEIR CONSTITUENTS: None**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### **A. Trust Account Discussion/Possible Action –**

DeWitt: Trust account has been at Clinton National for 22 years. I found it interesting that after that time we've basically seen a 2% return after fees, annually.

The information shared by CNB basically equates to about \$805 a month to manage right off the top.

The information from DeWitt Bank and Trust has a set fee of \$300 per month flat fee, plus points. Equates to over \$500 a month.

Then we got Citizens First Bank with CD rates of 2.64% with no fees to manage it.

Guaranteed rate of return, so long as we don't need it for two years.

As an agency do we need to have immediate access to that money?

Clinton County: What would be the penalty if broke the CD? Seward: I can ask CFB about that.

Seward: We may not be able to break some of that for a predetermined amount of time.

DeWitt: I thought we could get immediate access to those of the trust account? Seward: There's a maturity date. I have to ask about those.

DeWitt: I'm not too pleased in being stuck in this either.

Camanche: Let's find out. Let's not assume we're stuck there yet.

Camanche: Let's get that information.

Low Moor: Is Citizen's based on the full amount? DeWitt: We need to find that out.

Seward will ask that, too.

Andover made a motion to table the topic for more information. Camanche seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

Clinton County – Determann - Yes

Andover – White - Yes

Low Moor – Pray - Yes

DeWitt – Chrones - Yes

Delmar – Goodall - Yes

Wheatland – Heileman – Yes

Camanche – Varner - Yes

Grand Mound – Lange - Yes

Motion passes 8-0.

#### **B. Rittmer - Additional Fuel Compensation Discussion/Possible Action **ATTACHMENTS #3 & #4 –****

I shared your decision with both Crystal Creek and Rittmer on the fuel overage compensation. Crystal Creek understood. Jeffery Rittmer of Rittmer, Inc. had some questions or inquiries.

Rittmer: What happens if it goes to like \$7 per gallon for off-road diesel? We may have to revisit then.

DeWitt: What is the price you paid?

Rittmer: \$4.48 for off-road diesel, last fill-up.

DeWitt: Let's revisit this in September.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Hard to Handle (RR Ties) Waste Discussion/Potential Action – Railroad ties are once again a topic of conversation. There is a stretch of rail in which the ties were being replaced near Low Moor. The Rittmer staff originally took those ties in the cell, but then decided to stage those ties outside of the cell. Which created some disagreement on how to handle those ties? It was my understanding that ties were supposed to go to the cell after we ground the last large batch, we had a few years ago. It was not my understanding that we would ALWAYS grind them. These ties were charged at the \$88 per ton hard to handle rate. This raises several questions.

DeWitt: they were ground up and?

Seward: they were put in the cell. You can sell them as mulch because of the creosote.

DeWitt: It would be easier on the equipment and airspace.

Low Moor: We have a whole list of hard to handle waste. I guess I thought that wouldn't go into the cell?

Seward: I don't think the DNR would allow that outside of the cell.

Camanche: I don't think they would.

Rittmer said Evora told him they could be staged outside the cell.

DeWitt: I would be concerned about the equipment.

Low Moor: What about staging it outside the cell?

Seward: It depends on what hard to handle waste it is. If it is something that could easily leach, then it has to be in the cell.

Delmar made motion to chip the railroad ties first, then landfill them. Andover seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

DeWitt – Chrones - Yes

Delmar – Goodall - Yes

Wheatland – Heileman – Yes

Camanche – Varner - Yes

Grand Mound – Lange – Yes

Clinton County – Determann - Yes

Andover – White - Yes

Low Moor – Pray – Yes

Motion passes 8-0.

- B. Wage Resolution for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

**RESOLUTION # 1**

The small committee met and decided to recommend proceeding with step two of the three step wage escalator plan. The proposed wages show a more than seven percent average increase.

Camanche: Might have to wait. We were approached today. Two employees don't take full-family insurance and therefore save a pretty significant amount of money for the agency. One of those employees were curious if that could be applied to wages.

Clinton County: I've not heard of that.

Camanche: Some companies like Rock-Tenn allow that.

DeWitt: City of DeWitt does it, as well. We put a cap on it because, but it only based on single person not family.

DeWitt: Should defer to county though because that's who we get insurance through.

Clinton County: We talk about every year.

Seward: I was asked to ask, because asking never hurts.

DeWitt: Your committee met and discussed this?

Seward: Yes, and there is an increase in the employee portion of the premium from 8% to 9%. Plus, premiums did increase.

DeWitt: Are you comfortable with this increase? Camanche: I am.

DeWitt: Who's not then?

Seward: what was suggested was that this person would come up with a complete benefits package description.

DeWitt: So, you're comfortable with the raises?

Seward: This is the proposed second of three steps. Without that new information, at the committee meeting it was recommended to approve.

Camanche: If the board is not willing to do that, then we can vote on it.

Delmar made motion accept the proposed wage resolution. Andover seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

Clinton County – Determann - Yes	Andover – White - Yes	Delmar – Goodall - Yes
Grand Mound – Lange – Yes	Low Moor – Pray – Yes	Wheatland – Heileman – Yes
Clinton County – Determann - Yes	DeWitt – Chrones - Yes	

Motion passes 8-0.

**C. Waste Tire / Electronic Waste Rate Changes for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 RESOLUTION # 2** – We have proposed the following rate changes for the next fiscal year. Seward outlined the proposed rate changes.

DeWitt: Will these go into effect July 1<sup>st</sup>? Seward: Yes.

Low Moor made motion accept the proposed rate increases. Camanche seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

Andover – White - Yes	Delmar – Goodall - Yes	Grand Mound – Lange – Yes
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Low Moor – Pray – Yes  
DeWitt – Chrones - Yes

Wheatland – Heileman – Yes  
Camanche – Varner - Yes

Clinton County – Determann – Yes

Motion passes 8-0.

**EMERGENCY BUSINESS** – Executive Board will need to meet before the next regular meeting to discuss the proposed budget.

Also, Director's evaluation is coming up. Camanche asked DeWitt to spearhead the performance evaluation of the Director.

Seward asked that the evaluation be conducted in closed session.

DeWitt made a motion to adjourn; until June 9 2022, at the Recycling Center at 6:30 PM. Adjourned at 7:25 PM