

SOLID WASTE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE
MCCARTY, LAPIN, FARWELL, KENNEDY, BROCKWAY
AUGUST 11, 2020
8:30 a.m.

Under the current COVID-19 emergency/Executive orders, this committee meeting was not physically open to the public at the County Office Building. The meeting was streamed via facebookLIVE.

Members: Representative McCarty- present, via zoom
Representative Lapin- present, via zoom
Representative Farwell- present, via zoom
Representative Kennedy- present, via zoom
Representative Brockway- present, via zoom

SOLID WASTE- ERIK SCRIVENER, TAMMIE HARRIS, SHANE DIGAN and LONNIE O'BRYAN from CASELLA via zoom

Erik Scrivener requested approval to accept the SWEC committee meeting minutes from July 7th. Representative Brockway moved for approval. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,407. Ayes: 1,780; Absent: 627-Kennedy. Motion carried.

Shane Digan reviewed recycling and solid waste reports for the month of July.

Representative Kennedy arrived via zoom.

Erik Scrivener gave an update on the NYSERDA funded **portion of the agency housing** projects noting that the solar has been connected and the geothermal will hopefully be operational before winter.

Shane Digan followed up discussion from last month with information regarding recyclables being sent to a burn plant. Mr. Digan is concerned with the potential cost of transportation in the proposal to do such. Mr. Digan added that there will be a presentation later in the meeting.

Lonnie O'Bryan stated that Casella has bought a hauling company in Albany and the facility is only for paper and cardboard and is not a MRF. Ms. O'Bryan added that, they sort out the paper and cardboard which is approximately 80%, (@\$70/ton) noting that the glass, tin and plastic that gets separated out costs \$105/ton and then goes to Sierra. Ms. O'Brien explained that recyclable sorting by residents at NTS and STS is voluntary, which means some residents sort their recyclables out and some do not. Representative Farwell asked why we don't sort vs. zero sort at the 11 other sites. Ms. O'Bryan stated that this would be difficult because the 11 sites are not staffed when open.

Lonnie O'Bryan noted that the rebate **for cardboard** at Auto Crushers has decreased from \$25 to \$15 **per ton**.

Erik Scrivener stated that Otsego County's HHW day is cancelled and the other options explored as alternative are not possible.

Shane Digan gave an update that the City has set up the equipment at Seward, Sand and gravel in connection with the food waste program. Mr. Digan added that there is money left in the grant and will explore options to enhance/expand the program.

Erik Scrivener asked for the county to establish a Solid Waste Reserve fund for future capital projects.

Shane Digan stated that he has received further correspondence from JGS to explore expanding Freon recycling from specifically the NTS and the STS to the other drop off sites. Lonnie O'Bryan stated that each site would have to be permitted to take such material, as well as mentioned other concerns.

SGS RECOVERY- SEAN WATERS AND DAVE URBANSKI via zoom

Sean Waters gave a brief presentation explaining how SGS supports sustainability by manufacturing a renewable energy that cement and lime kilns utilize. Mr. Waters added that recyclables are received, the material is screened, processed, loaded into walk in floor trailers and delivered/transported by Buffalo Fuel.

SOLID WASTE CON'T- ERIK SCRIVENER, SHANE DIGAN via zoom

Erik Scrivener reviewed the 2021 Solid Waste preliminary budget. Mr. Scrivener stated that if the Solid Waste User fee and the tip fee were increased, more local share of Solid Waste expenses would be offset as well as there would be an opportunity to establish a Reserve fund to be used for future Capital Projects.

JORDAN CLEMENTS- SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION via zoom

Jordan Clements gave the following district updates but was not limited to:

- Emailed the committee the district summer newsletter
- Tuesday, October 13th farm tour will be a virtual tour this year
- Office still closed to the public due to federal agencies in the same building are still closed to the public
- All buffers have been installed for the year (approx. 6 acres)
- Manure storage replacement project is completed

- Waiting for official announcement by the Governor of awarded grants to the district

Representative McCarty informed Mr. Clements that 2021 budget requests are due to the Treasurer in August.

There being no further business to discuss, the committee adjourned.