

## REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION OF IOWA COUNTY

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2024

The regular meeting of the Regional Environmental Improvement Commission of Iowa County was called to order at 7:00 p.m. March 13, 2024 at the Iowa County Annex Bldg., Marengo Iowa by John Gahring.

**Members Present:** John Gahring, Alan Schumacher, Dale Faas, Gary Boland, Ethan Morford, Adam Rabe, Earle Hall, Jim Reinhart, Garrett Dozark and Tyler Marshall

**Members Absent:** Brian Ward, Jamie Abernathy

**Also Present:** Diane Yoder, Interim Director, Darin Matthiessen, Operations Foreman, Todd Whipple, HLW Engineering, Alicia Presto, ECICOG

#### **Agenda:**

Approve motion Hall, second Reinhart, motion approved: unanimous

#### **Secretary's Report / Minutes:**

Minutes of the January 10, 2024 regular meeting were distributed and reviewed. Approve motion Faas, second Boland, motion approved: unanimous

#### **Discussion of Waste Hauling and Fees:**

S&J representative Nate Bechtal discussed the recently increased per capita and rates. Indicated they would have preferred that the REIC increase minimums instead, to make haulers more competitive. S&J has lost some business to people who are hauling their own waste to the landfill. Current minimum is \$12 / 400 lbs. S&J suggests minimum of \$15 as a figure that would help waste haulers retain their customers. Minimum rate has traditionally been kept low to discourage illicit dumping. Rates cannot be changed this meeting due to it not being on the agenda. Can be added to the agenda for the June 12 meeting.

**Concerned Citizens:** None Present

#### **Treasurers report:**

- Renewed CD's: 9 months for 5.1% at Farmers Trust
- P/L Report
  - doing pretty good because of C60 disposal revenue
  - Profit above budget \$324,000 current budget year to date
  - Motion Reinhart, second Marshall, motion approved: unanimous
- Closure / post closure doing well because of interest rates. Need maybe \$15,000, but we budgeted \$45,000

- Wages: 5% approved in budget, Martinson: \$25.12, Matthiessen: \$32.18, Yoder \$27.75, Riess \$29.25. Need to have this in the minutes to satisfy auditors finding. Raise effective July 1.
  - Motion Boland, second Reinhart, motion approved: unanimous
- Audit Report sent by Yoder via email. No comments from the board.
  - Motion Marshall, second Faas, motion approved: unanimous
- Landfill investment policy: Provided for discussion. Put on June's agenda for approval.

### **HLW Engineering, Todd Whipple Report:**

- End of January, the water quality report was submitted to IDNR. Everything looks good, largely the same as last year. Continue doing same activities as required by permit.
- Did quarterly gas monitoring, leachate monitoring and lagoon sampling 3/13/24.
- NPDES renewal coming up. Renewal due April 3. Packet almost ready, needs board approval and signature.
  - Motion to approve application Marshall, second Faas, motion approved: unanimous
- EcoSource discussion - might be doing more drilling at C60, could result in a couple hundred yards of additional soil for disposal.
- Engineering service agreement presented for approval. Same scope as previous years.
- Rates up 2%, but overall reduction ~\$500 due to one less inspection.
  - Motion Reinhart Second Faas, motion approved: unanimous
- Financial assurance estimate - by July need to add \$13,000, instead of budgeted \$45,000. Form to be submitted to IDNR needs signature and submittal.
  - Motion Marshall second Reinhart, motion approved: unanimous

### **ECICOG**

- Summary of activities distributed to board.
- Environmental education is part of annual activities - looking for a school to host an assembly. Environmental Education fell off due to COVID, trying to get it more active.
- Summer reading program is "I'm Trying to Love Garbage". Flyer to go out to local libraries next week.
- REIC is in the IDNR Solid Waste Comprehensive Planning program, which is due in 2028. No longer will be in the EMS system. Still have the textile recycling grant funding. Textile collection point; getting good use.
- Operation be safe be clean - Operator CEUs.
- Working on 28E agreement. Has received approvals from all communities except Parnell and Ladora. ECICOG to follow up with those communities.
- Working on RFP for white goods recycling since that contract is up at the end of the year. May not be too many options for bidders. REIC / ECICOG will go for bids as a region, as a total of 6 facilities.

### **Interim Director**

- Only one quote for scale repair to date. Scale has cracks and a hole. Needs to be repaired short term, or long term repair. Quote received was for short term repair. More

permanent repair not in current budget. Short term repair could be done by a local welder. We need more quotes. No decision until June 12. Will get additional quotes from local welders.

### **Personnel Committee**

- Received 5 applicants for landfill director position. Interviews narrowed the field. Personnel committee has a recommendation for selection. Board to give approval to the personnel committee to offer and negotiate wages.
  - Motion to accept Personnel Committee recommendation Schumacher second Reinhart, motion approved: unanimous

### **Chairman's Report**

- No update on Wasserbahn for this meeting. Put on agenda for June meeting for more discussion.
- Kinze laser dust is acceptable for disposal, approval was given for additional loads.
- No ABC front loaders (Williamsburg City contract) have shown up at landfill. Marshall to inquire.
- Board of Health as appointed Garrett Dozark to REIC board.

### **Schedule**

Next meeting June 12, 2024, Sept 11, Dec 11

Motion to adjourn Hall, second Schumacher, motion approved: unanimous

Tyler Marshall, Recording Secretary

Minutes are unofficial until approved at next board meeting.