

Chisago County Solid Waste Advisory Committee: Meeting Notes July 15, 2021

Members Attending: Rick Greene, Mike Robinson, Lisa Thibodeau, Kristi Wimmer, Rick Jockisch, Jennifer Thompson

- I. Lisa Thibodeau called the meeting to order at approximately 2:00 p.m.**
- II. Minutes** - From previous meeting on 12/12/19 were handed out.
- III. Unfinished Business** – Lisa noted previous 2-meetings in 2020 were canceled because of the pandemic.
- IV. New Business**
 - a. ECSWC Director Janelle Troupe was unable to attend the meeting, but she sent in a brief report of a fire at the Cambridge Transfer Station the previous Monday 7/12/21, the station is still operational, but the building will have to be rebuilt.
 - b. County:
 - i. SWMT: Lisa relayed that a hauler had asked about the billing requirements for the solid waste tax and it took a while to get the answer from the DOR, but for residential MSW recycling is not taxed but must be separately line itemed otherwise if combined then the whole total is taxed and remitted to the DOR. Also, haulers must charge their customers MSW or C&D tax and then remit to the DOR, cannot - not charge their customers and pay it at the landfill and then expect the landfill to remit it, as some new haulers are.
 - ii. Hauler Reporting: It is now a statutory requirement that haulers report tonnages collected, by 2/1 annually. Some licensed Chisago haulers are not reporting and must start doing so for 2022.
 - iii. County SCORE Numbers: Lisa reported that when the county requests tonnage numbers at the end of the year for the SCORE Report, she takes the recycling tonnage and assigns it different percentages of commodities based on an MPCA waste sort. In the interests of getting more accurate numbers, she would instead like haulers to ask their MRFs for a commodity breakdown at the end of the year and use those numbers instead. WM said this shouldn't be a problem, Lisa said she would send out more info on the request.
 - iv. A brief discussion on 2020 numbers, that the tonnage for recycling was up but so was MSW – therefore recycling percentages seemed to have stayed about the same or slightly lower. The county is below the state mandated 35% and is in the 25-30% range.
 - v. Recycling Yard Grant: The county received a grant from the MPCA to build a fenced/gated recycling yard behind the HHWF in North Branch. The yard will accept cardboard and curbside type materials from county residents. Service for the yard will be contracted and paid for out of the subsidy funding. A large component of the grant will be an education campaign on what items will be accepted and to try and reduce contamination. Will partner with haulers on education. Don't Wish-cycle literature was shared; suggestion was to use photos as easier to understand than text lists.
 - vi. Brief discussion on future meetings, electronic would make it easier to attend, but in-person is good for networking, suggestion was to hold only one annual meeting in the summer as winter is busy and weather is bad, can hold extra if needed.
- V. Next Meeting: Tentatively** Thursday December 9, 2021; 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. HHW
- VI. Adjourn**