



**KENT COUNTY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**March 6, 2014  
8:30 AM**

**Earl G. Woodworth Building  
Meeting Room Chambers  
1500 Scribner Avenue NW  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Commissioners, Vonk, VanderMolen, Shroll, Bulkowski, Groenleer, Byl, Morgan

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Douglas G. Wood, Director; Dennis Kmieciak, Solid Waste Division Director; Dan Kendall, Finance Division Director; Elissa Soto, Office Manager; Molly Sherwood, Environmental Compliance Manager; Cal Brinks, Purchasing Division; Chris Robinson, WTE Operations Manager; Kristen Wieland, Resource Recovery & Recycling Manager; Francine Farrington, Fiscal Services; Linda Howell, Kent County Assistant Corporate Counsel

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Vonk called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**II. Public Comment**

None

**III. Review and Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION**

It was moved by Commissioner Byl and supported by Commissioner Bulkowski to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2014 meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Administration**

**A. 2013 Financial Overview**

Mr. Wood introduced Dan Kendall, Finance Division Director to give an overview of the Department's 2013 Financial Review. Board members received a copy of the report.

Administration Fund: Mr. Kendall noted that the administration fund never makes money. The expenses in this fund are charged to the other orgs. He noted that in this

fund expenses are usually under budget. For 2013 the wages are slightly higher due to the Department's reorganization plan.

Waste-to-Energy: Mr. Kendall noted that the rate in the budget set at \$45, but the actual rate is \$38.05. This is done to continue to fund the WTE's rate stabilization fund. The WTE made more money this year which will in turn increased the amount we were able to put into the reserve. The more tonnage the facility processes also means we pay Covanta, in accordance to the contract. He added that the 2015 preliminary budget has been completed showing that the rate needs to be a little over \$45 and the facility may need to start using some of its reserve. If it is decided to keep the rate at \$45 in 2016, more of the reserve will be used. Eventually there will need to be an increase in the fee.

Commissioner Vonk asked the amount of the increase. Mr. Kendall replied that this depends on the amount of reserve being used. Mr. Wood added that WTE rate is unique as it relates to the Department's other business. The rate is determined by elected officials at six cities that use the WTE. Officials elected to keep rate the same and then go up gradually.

Commissioner Bulkowski asked about the 3,500 tons of ferrous metal noted in the budget. He asked if this other valuable commodities are sorted out of the waste stream. Mr. Wood stated ferrous is only thing that comes out of waste everything else is combusted. The ferrous metal comes out of the ash. Commissioner Bulkowski asked where revenue from this recovered metals will go. Mr. Wood stated that these revenues would likely go to the expenses tied to the ash monofill.

Commissioner VanderMolen expressed concern about the increase in fees at the WTE. He recommended that the increases be incremental rather than a large jump. Staff agreed.

Solid Waste Division Fund: Mr. Kendall reviewed financial information for the Solid Waste Division which includes North Kent Transfer Station and South Kent Landfill. This fund is designed to get near even each year. More tonnage was received this year which increased revenue and also received monies for the sale of land.

Commissioner Bulkowski asked if we calculate waste per household. Mr. Wood stated that staff is in the process of doing this and have found that the amount varies greatly.

## B. 2014 Goals and Objectives

Staff reviewed Goals and Objectives for 2014. Mr. Wood explained that staff starts the budget process early in the year. It has been some time since they have been visited, staff will review these objectives with the Board.

Finance Division: Mr. Kendall reviewed Finance the Goals and Objectives highlighting two main goals. First is to participate in the selection process of new financial reporting software in the County. It is important to make sure the Department is part of decision making for software to be sure that it is structured properly for departmental accounting processes and also to ensure that it is compatible with systems currently

used at the other facilities.

The second goal is to reorganize the physical document storage area. Staff will be evaluating what is currently housed in the storage area and create a system to best organize it.

**Solid Waste:** Mr. Kmiecik reviewed goals and objectives for South Kent Landfill. The first goal is the completion of the Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) Wall. This wall will help extend the life of the existing ash monofill about nine more years versus going into Allegan County and building a new landfill. This extension will tie into the contract with Consumers Energy. Staff has done research and there is validity in doing this project. A project like this has never been done in Michigan. Staff has met with DEQ representatives and they are in the process of reviewing the project.

Commissioner Groenleer asked if you factor in the end use of the site. Mr. Kmiecik stated that ash is not a large area and staff is looking at capacity savings.

The next goal for South Kent Landfill is exploring the feasibility of mining metal from the existing ash at South Kent Landfill. Covanta has a company called Tarteck who proposed mining the ash to retrieve ferrous metal located in the ash.

**Environmental Compliance:** Ms. Sherwood reported on the goals and objectives for environmental compliance. At the Kentwood Landfill Ms. Sherwood's main goal is to develop a plan to improve landfill gas and leachate collection.

**North Kent Landfill:** Goals at North Kent are to reduce the volume of leachate being discharged and to improve the landfill gas collection at the site. Staff is in the final stages of installing an airstripper. Staff has run pilot studies which have been very successful. The only issue has been it freezing during the winter.

**Sparta landfill:** The goal for Sparta landfill is to complete items necessary for its five year review. Staff will need to install a permanent marker at the site to meet this requirement.

**Act 451:** Staff will create a reporting vehicle for implementing the new Solid Waste Plan Ordinance. They will evaluate reporting alternatives to maintain the three closed sites and the Resource Recovery program.

**MRF:** Goals for this site revolve around being more efficient in processing materials. Another goal is to explore the feasibility of adding a second recycling facility. In theory this facility would complement the facility we currently have.

**RSRC:** Goals in this area revolve around better use of the education center. Staff plans to add more classes and community events in the education center.

**HHW/WMTBM:** Staff aims to increase household hazardous waste and West Michigan Take Back Meds participation in community. They also aim to design a permanent building for these programs.

WTE: Goals for the Waste-to-Energy facility revolve around maintaining a manageable level of incoming inventory. Staff also desires to maintain an enforcement presence inside corporate lines within the six cities.

The next goal is to work with Covanta to enhance efficiency at the WTE and the service life of the WTE facility.

## **V. Solid Waste Operations**

### **A. Ash Monofill Mechanically Stabilized (MSE) Wall Overview**

Director Wood reviewed design plans for the MSE Wall with the Board. As stated earlier this wall has the potential to extend the life of the ash monofill an additional nine years.

### **B. Ash Monofill Metals Recovery Project**

Mr. Wood showed the Board what the TarTech mining operation could look like at the landfill. Mr. Wood explained that the Department would receive a percentage of whatever is recovered.

### **C. North Kent Transfer Station Loader Purchase/Action**

Staff requested approval of the purchase of a loader for the North Kent Transfer Station. Bids for a new rubber tire loader and Guaranteed Maintenance Contract were solicited on January 30, 2014 by the Purchasing Department. Five bids were received and evaluated.

The Department has an approved 2014 Capital Improvement Project budget for the purchase of this loader for use at the North Kent Transfer Station. It will replace the existing 2006 Komatsu WA200 loader that has exceeded its useful life.

Staff is recommending the low bid (price of machine plus guaranteed maintenance) submitted by Continental Equipment Corporation (AIS Equipment) from Grand Rapids for a 2014 Komatsu WA200P2-6 in the amount of \$162,415.00.

BID 1281 - Rubber Tire Loader - Transfer Station  
 Due Date/Time: 1/30/2014 2PM

Description	Model	Vendor Name	BID	
x Rubber Tire Loader	Volvo L50	Alta Equipment Company	\$ 149,091.00	
Maximum Cost of Repairs		Alta Equipment Company	\$ 63,020.00	\$212,111
Guarenteed Buy-Back			\$35,000.00	
Rubber Tire Loader	Komatsu WA200P2 - 6	Continental Equipment Corp	\$ 162,415.00	
Maximum Cost of Repairs		Continental Equipment Corp	\$ 40,800.00	\$203,215
Guarenteed Buy-Back			no bid	
x Rubber Tire Loader	Kawasaki 60ZV - 2	Grand Equipment Co	\$ 165,000.00	
Maximum Cost of Repairs		Grand Equipment Co	\$ 46,000.00	\$211,000
Guarenteed Buy-Back			\$29,500.00	
xx Rubber Tire Loader	Kawasaki 65ZV - 2	Grand Equipment Co	\$ 179,000.00	
Maximum Cost of Repairs		Grand Equipment Co	\$ 51,000.00	\$230,000
Guarenteed Buy-Back			\$37,500.00	
Rubber Tire Loader	Caterpillar 924K	Michigan Cat	\$ 166,536.00	
Maximum Cost of Repairs		Michigan Cat	\$ 107,000.00	\$273,536
Guarenteed Buy-Back			\$45,000.00	
x	Machine did not meet minimum engine horse power (volvo 117/128 hp, Kawasaki 122/128 hp)			
xx	Machine did not meet transmission spec (required hydrostatic and bid torque converter)			

**MOTION**

It was moved by Commissioner Groenleer and supported by Commissioner Bulkowski to award the purchase of a rubber tire loader to Continental Equipment Corporation of Grand Rapids in the amount of \$162,415.00 and authorize the Director to execute the contract for Guaranteed Maintenance.

Motion carried unanimously.

**D. South Kent Landfill Loader Purchase/Action**

Review and approval of the purchase of a new rubber tire loader for the South Kent Landfill Bids for a new rubber tire loader and Guaranteed Maintenance Contract were solicited on February 2, 2014 by the Purchasing Department. Four bids were received and evaluated.

The Department has an approved 2014 Capital Improvement Project budget for the purchase of this loader for use at the South Kent Landfill. It will replace the existing 2004 Komatsu WA450 loader that has exceeded its useful life.

Staff is recommending the low bid submitted by Alta Equipment Company from Byron Center for a 2014 Volvo L150G in the amount of \$365,258.00. Enclosed in your mailing is the bid tabulation.

RFQ 1282 - Rubber Tire Loader - Landfill  
 Due Date/Time: 2/6/2014 2:00 PM

Description	Model	Vendor Name	BID
Rubber Tire Loader	Volvo L150G	Alta Equipment Company	\$ 365,258.00
Maximum Cost of Repairs			\$ 66,687.00
Guarenteed Buy-Back Price			\$ 55,000.00
Rubber Tire Loader	Komatsu WA470-7	CEC Continental Equipment Corporation	\$ 424,500.00
Maximum Cost of Repairs			\$ 48,800.00
Guarenteed Buy-Back Price			no bid
Rubber Tire Loader	Kawasaki 90Z7	Grand Equipment Company	\$ 379,757.80
Maximum Cost of Repairs			\$ 96,000.00
Guarenteed Buy-Back Price			\$ 69,000.00
Rubber Tire Loader	Caterpillar 966M	Michigan CAT	\$ 446,027.00
Maximum Cost of Repairs			\$ 119,437.00
Guarenteed Buy-Back Price			\$ 125,000.00

Commissioner Shroll asked what is done with the old loader. Staff replied that machines usually have a buy back option, otherwise they are sold at auction.

**MOTION**

It was moved by Commissioner Byl and supported by Commissioner Shroll to award the purchase of a rubber tire loader to Alta Equipment Company of Grand Rapids in the amount of \$365,258.00 and authorize the Director to execute the contract for Guaranteed Maintenance.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VI. Resource Recovery and Recycling Operations**

A. Home and Garden Show

Staff has a booth at the Home and Garden Show being held at the DeVos Convention center this weekend. Board members were encouraged to visit the booth.

B. 2014 Earth Day Challenge

We are in the middle of the Earth Day Recycle Challenge which include area elementary schools. This year’s challenge involves the collection of plastic grocery bags. The winner will receive a recycled bench.

**VII. Accounting & Finance**

A. Carbon Credit and Renewable Energy Credit Update

Mr. Kendall is in the process getting carbon credits verified. The Department has the potential to receive \$115,000. We have also collected renewable energy credits from the WTE and have the opportunity to sell some of them and have the potential to

receive \$28,000.

**VIII. Conference/Education Travels**

A. North America Waste to Energy Conference/Action

Review and approval for the Director to attend the Annual North American Waste-to-Energy Conference. The North American Waste-to-Energy Conference (NAWTEC) is recognized as the industry's premier technical conference and trade show focusing on municipal waste-to-energy operational issues and policy, the latest in legislative updates that impact your company, as well as technology and research initiatives. NAWTEC is co-sponsored by the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) and the Energy Recovery Council (ERC); in partnership with the Waste-to-Energy Research and Technology Council (WTERT) at Columbia University.

The Conference is scheduled for May 7-9, 2014 in Reston Virginia at an estimated cost of \$1450/person.

**MOTION**

It was moved by Commissioner Groenleer and supported by Commissioner VanderMolen to approve for the Director to attend the North American Waste-to-Energy Conference, May 7-9, 2014 in Reston, Virginia.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Michigan Recycling Coalition/Annual Conference/Action

Review and approval for up to three staff members and any Board members to attend the Michigan Recycling Coalition Annual Conference in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Approval is being requested for up to three staff members and any interested BPW members to attend the 2014 MRC Conference held in Ypsilanti, Michigan, April 29-May 1, 2014 at a total estimated cost of \$735 per person for members and \$810 per person for non-members. One day attendance cost is \$200.

**MOTION**

It was moved by Commissioner Groenleer and seconded by Commissioner VanderMolen to approve conference travel for up to three staff members and any interested Board members to attend the 2014 Michigan Recycling Coalition Conference being held in Ypsilanti, Michigan, April 29-May 1, 2014 at a total estimated cost of \$735 per person (\$810 non-member).

Motion carried unanimously.

**IX. Approval of Monetary Outlays**

**MOTION**

It was moved by Commissioner Byl supported by Commissioner VanderMolen to approve the monetary outlays for the month of March 2014.

Motion carried unanimously.

**X. Director's Report**

A. Solid Waste Operations Manager Recruitment Update

An offer has been made to a candidate for the Solid Waste Operations Manager. Staff is waiting to hear a response.

B. Monthly Operations Report

Monthly operations reports were given to the Board members. They are asked to contact staff with any questions.

**XI. Miscellaneous**

None

**XII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

---

William Byl, Board Secretary