

Commissioner Colleen Swedyk opened the Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room. Commissioner William F. Hutson was also in attendance. The Public Hearing was for the purpose of consideration of recommended amendments to charges and fees imposed at the Medina County Solid Waste District Facility.

The attendance sheet is attached with the following people in attendance:

David Hull
Sherri Scheetz
Stan Scheetz
Beth Biggins-Ramer

Sanitary Engineer Amy Lyon-Galvin provided a handout of a presentation that was shared with the Solid Waste Policy Committee. She explained three budget scenarios were presented at the October 31 Solid Waste Policy Committee meeting noting that this discussion is based on scenario 2. Ms. Lyon-Galvin explained that this scenario institutes a generation fee which is collected at the first point the waste material generated in Medina County is received. There is waived waste that does not come to the facility because the characteristics of it are such that it cannot be deposited on our transfer station floor. Those with a waiver are allowed to haul that material directly to the landfill. Addition of a \$5.00 generation fee through an accelerated Solid Waste Management Plan amendment process is not included in the resolution as it will come with the ratification process. Ms. Lyon-Galvin stated that the following changes are being recommended:

- An increase to the charge imposed at the Solid Waste District Facility for municipal solid waste from \$44.50 per ton to \$50 per ton
- An increase to the charge per bag of refuse delivered to the facility from \$1.30 per bag to \$1.45 per bag
- Elimination of the yard waste voucher program and allowing pass through charge for yard waste be charge to all customers (currently \$21 per ton but will be raised to \$22 per ton with the next contract)
- Elimination of the credit for early payment and institution of late fees for those who do not pay on time

Public Comment

David Hull inquired when the current vouchers expire; Ms. Lyon-Galvin answered that they are good through the end of the calendar year. She stated that they have discussed the implementation of a price per bag for the yard waste.

Sherri Scheetz stated that her interest is in recycling and not the proposed changes. She asked what is being done to improve recycling such as education and curbside pickup. Mrs. Swedyk several communities including Brunswick Hinckley, York and Brunswick Hills now offer, or are in the process of beginning to offer, curbside recycling. Mrs. Scheetz asked when it will be in Medina. Mr. Hutson answered whenever the City of Medina decides they want to do it. Ms. Lyon-Galvin stated compliance is demonstrated with the EPA in offering recycling opportunities to 90 percent of the county through the countywide bin program; they continue to optimize that program. In answer to a question by Mrs. Scheetz regarding education, Ms. Lyon-Galvin explained that education was an initiative in the last five year plan update. They have gone through a grand period of change in trying to educate the community including social media, short films, print materials and have recently updated the website. Ms. Lyon-Galvin explained the new mixed waste processing for commercial waste. She noted that they expect to also have some meetings after the first of the year with the southern township trustees to see if they would like to follow the model that some others have followed in instituting curbside recycling. Beth Biggins-Ramer assists communities interested in curbside recycling in preparation of their bid packages and assists to guide them through the process. Ms. Biggins-Ramer stated that they have had conversations with the City of Medina and it's a budget issue; they would have to look at purchasing new equipment and there is the capital investment of the carts. She stated that when they are ready, they can help them apply for grants to help defray the cost of the carts as they helped Montville and Brunswick.

David Hull stated that the best way to do this is through curbside recycling because of contamination rates. He inquired what the estimated contamination rate will be with commercial mixed waste processing. Ms. Lyon-Galvin answered that the loads will be segregated. If they find that certain trucks pick up loads high in organics, they will not direct that load to the commercial recycling area; it will likely be directed to the residential area. This was discussed at a recent hauler meeting. Mr. Hutson stated that when they toured the facility in Oberlin, they were told that if they got a 75 percent recycle rate they were happy. Mr. Hull noted that it is encouraging that the curbside recycling and trash pickup is being offered at a lower rate than for just trash before. Ms. Lyon-Galvin added that it also cuts down on the volume of truck traffic on the roads. Mrs. Swedyk stated that with the addition of Brunswick, Brunswick Hills and Hinckley, it's a significant percentage of the population that we're adding to the curbside program – it's wonderful. Ms. Lyon-Galvin stated the market is very competitive and looks as if it's going to remain that way.

Sherri Scheetz inquired about education provided at the public schools. Ms. Lyon-Galvin stated the Ms. Biggins-Ramer has helped launch recycling in most of the school systems with the exception of Cloverleaf. There was discussion regarding offering field trips to students in the future. Mrs. Scheetz stated that a lot of education is needed; Ms. Lyon-Galvin agreed.

Mrs. Swedyk stated that when some of the communities who are still on the fence about curbside recycling see how well it's going in the other townships, they will be more likely to go out for bid. Mrs. Scheetz stated that is the most encouraging thing she has heard – that somebody in Medina County is looking at curbside. Ms. Lyon-Galvin explained the "Get Caught Green-Handed" campaign.

Ms. Biggins-Ramer stated that a W.R.A.P. program was started last year and it continuing this year. The goal is to become the first county in Ohio to be classified as a WRAP Champion. The idea is to get education out about plastic bags, shrink wrap, etc.; they can go back to larger retailers in their plastic collection to be baled and recycled. They go into making plastic benches, trench materials, etc. There was discussion regarding the types of plastics accepted in this program.

Adjournment

Mrs. Geissman asked if there were any other comments, questions or concerns. There being none, Mrs. Swedyk moved to adjourn the public hearing; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Geissman. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all the commissioners voting AYE. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Beck
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

COMMISSIONERS

OF

MEDINA COUNTY

Patricia G. Geissman

William F. Hutson

Colleen M. Swedyk