

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2014

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD**

**STATE OF MINNESOTA)
DODGE COUNTY)**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
MANTORVILLE, MN**

2014-08 C.O.W.

The Dodge County Commissioners met in Committee of the Whole April 22, 2014, in the Commissioner's Room at the Dodge County Courthouse Annex, Mantorville, MN, at 9:00 a.m. CDT. Vice Chair John Allen opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Convened

The Vice Chair acknowledged those present:

Those Present

Members present:	John Allen	District #1
	Tim Tjosaas	District #2
	David Erickson	District #4
	Steven Gray	District #5
Members absent:	Rodney Peterson	District #3
Also present:	Jim Elmquist	County Administrator
	Becky Lubahn	Deputy County Clerk
	Mark Gamm	Environmental Services Director
	Terry Selthun	Solid Waste Facility Manager

Environmental Services Director Mark Gamm discussed with the Board the future of the demolition debris landfill.

Future of
Demolition Debris
Land Fill
Discussion

Mr. Gamm informed the Board that the Dodge County Landfill is nearing the end of its permitted capacity. The county has about 5,000 yards of capacity available in the existing permitted cell and about 60,000 yards of capacity if they build their final cell. Environmental Services expects that the existing cell will reach capacity sometime this year.

MPCA has authorized the construction of Dodge County's final cell but Environmental Services is considering other options. Mr. Gamm reported that the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the following options:

Stop disposing of construction and demolition (C&D) debris in our Landfill and:

1. Reserve the remaining permitted capacity in our landfill for emergency disposal; (i.e., debris from a natural disaster) or for adding to our transfer capability.
2. Continue to accept C&D debris at the Transfer Station, sort-out recyclable items, and transfer the remainder to the SKB Landfill under our current agreement or to another landfill in the future.

The pros of this option are:

1. Disposal of C&D debris is still available for citizens and business at our Transfer Station.

2. Under our current agreement with SKB Landfill, the county can transfer the C&D debris to their landfill for about the same cost as operating our own landfill (\$13/yard). Future of Demolition Debris Land Fill Discussion - Continued
3. Long-term liability for landfill cleanup is reduced (assuming less waste = less liability).
4. We maintain our permitted capacity in the landfill and can decide to reopen at any time.
5. There are other landfills in the area that will also accept C&D waste including the Steele County Demolition Debris Landfill near Bixby, the Olmsted County landfill east of Byron, and two private landfills near Lansing. There is also a demolition Transfer Station near Rochester.

The cons of this option are:

1. The county would not likely be able to accept large commercial demolition jobs, like the one we accepted last year when the Mantorville School was demolished. It would not be economical to accept and transfer the debris; rather the contractor would just direct haul the waste to another landfill.

The Environmental Services Director provided the Board with a map of the Transfer Station that displayed the Transfer Stations property line, demolition debris and landfill location, composting location and the final permitted cell location.

Mr. Gamm and Mr. Selthun discussed with the Board the location of other demolition landfills and transfer stations in the area.

Commissioner Erickson wanted to know if the county has to provide a landfill.

The Environmental Services Director reported that the county does not have to provide a landfill; our only obligation under state law is to provide recycling opportunities.

Discussion took place on the options available for disposal of demolition debris.

Commissioner Allen stated that he struggles with not having a Transfer Station. It was his opinion that it's harder to get one going again once you've stopped using it.

Commissioner Gray had questions for Mr. Gamm and Mr. Selthun regarding the recycling of demolition debris.

The Environmental Services Director and Solid Waste Facility Manager reviewed the recycling options for demolition debris.

Commissioner Allen commented that he'd like to see information on the size and dimension of the final permitted cell.

Mr. Gamm discussed with the Board liability concerns associated with opening the final permitted cell.

Commissioner Erickson wanted to know if a membrane would be put in if the final permitted cell was opened.

Future of
Demolition Debris
Land Fill
Discussion -
Continued

The Environmental Services Director and Solid Waste Facility Manager reported that a membrane would not be put down. Mr. Gamm noted that the requirement for a liner is based on the size of the operation; Dodge County has a smaller operation and wouldn't need a liner.

Commissioner Allen wanted to know if it would be an option to switch the composting area with the final permitted cell area. The possibility of switching these two areas was discussed.

The Board informed Mr. Gamm that they would like to see figures associated with opening up the final permitted cell.

The Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:28 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Adjourned

ATTEST:

JOHN ALLEN
VICE CHAIR, COUNTY BOARD

BECKY LUBAHN
DEPUTY CLERK

DATED: