

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
WASTE MANAGEMENT FEE PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

**STATE OF MINNESOTA)
DODGE COUNTY)**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
MANTORVILLE, MN**

2009-01 PUBLIC HEARING

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a Waste Management Service Fee public hearing September 15, 2009, in the Commissioner's Room at the Courthouse Annex, Mantorville, MN, at 7:00 p.m. CDT to discuss the proposed waste management service fee. David Hanson, Chair called the meeting and public hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. CDT.

Meeting Convened

The Chair acknowledged those present and established that there was a quorum:

Those Present

Members present:	Klaus Alberts	District #1
	Lyle Tjosaas	District #2
	David Erickson	District #3
	Don Gray	District #4
	David Hanson	District #5
Members absent:	None	
Also present:	David McKnight	County Administrator
	Mark Gamm	Environmental Services Director
	Sandra Schaefer	Septic System Coordinator/Account Technician
	Terry Selthun	Solid Waste Facility Manager
	Rita Cole	Waste Management Specialist – Secretary/Clerk

Environmental Services Director Mark Gamm presented the reasons behind the proposed waste to energy service fee. Mr. Gamm reviewed specifically the proposed collection method by haulers and example charges that residents should anticipate.

Waste
Management
Service Fee
Discussion

Mr. Gamm reviewed the cost of the third burner that Olmsted County built which is the reason behind the proposed fee.

The Environmental Services Director provided for the Board's review a draft ordinance and highlighted the significant parts of the ordinance, including what will and will not be taxed. The waste to energy service fee was explained and how the fee may be adjusted in the future. The potential start date of October 1, 2009 was discussed.

Commissioner Alberts asked if the haulers charge by container size or weight? It was clarified that haulers collect by container size.

Virgil Andrist inquired how do we collect from accounts that are delinquent? Mike Trulson of Waste Management talked about the process they use to collect past due accounts.

Commissioner Gray inquired about ultimate responsibility; owner or renter? The ultimate responsibility is with the property owner. Commissioner Gray inquired about the starting date. Mr. Gamm stated that October 1st is too late. Mike Trulson requested a later date than October 1st. Mr. Trulson talked about his recommendations on billing versus collection requirements in the ordinance.

Waste
Management
Service Fee
Discussion -
Continued

Virgil Andrist asked about renter's issues and the ultimate responsibility of property owners. Mr. Andrist inquired about legal issues for the county and risk to the county.

Dan Brockmiller asked why we entered into a 20 year contract? Mr. Brockmiller also discussed the history of the waste to energy project and expressed concerns about the increasing cost.

The Environmental Services Director talked about the 20 year partnership and the impact on bond ratings and getting to increased capacity of garbage burning. A \$90 million dollar debt was created with the third burner. There is a net loss in the operation of the Waste to Energy facility and that is shared between Olmsted and Dodge counties.

Mr. Gamm discussed some options that are being discussed that may help bring costs down a little.

Virgil Andrist talked about the benefits that Olmsted County is receiving off of Dodge county resident costs. Commissioner Alberts stated that the loss of the operation is split between the two counties.

Commissioner Hanson stated that the draft ordinance would be considered at the Board meeting on September 22, 2009.

Commissioner Hanson adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m. CDT.

Meeting Adjourned

ATTEST:

DAVID HANSON
CHAIR, COUNTY BOARD

DAVID MCKNIGHT
CLERK

DATED: