

BLUE EARTH COUNTY  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
January 21, 2010

The Environmental Services Advisory Committee met on Thursday, January 21, 2010 in the Conference Room for the Environmental Services Department in the Gov't Center at 3:45 pm. Present were: Joe Kubicek, Dan Sargent, Gillia Olson, Kip Bruender and Jack Considine; Scott Fichtner, Vickie Finnegan, and Dave Kronlokken of the Environmental Services Department. Not present was: Brook McGuire, Patty Woodruff.

Dan Sargent, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Jack Considine moved and Joe Kubicek seconded the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried.

Jack Considine moved and Kip Bruender seconded the motion to approve the minutes of November 19, 2009. The motion carried.

Matt Maes & Joe Aho, Waste Management, gave a presentation on where the e-waste products from Blue Earth County are being recycled. A short video was shown on the Waste Management E-Recycling Facility in the Cities. A Waste Management Recycle American Adopts Responsible Recycling (R2) Program for Electronic Waste Recycling informational letter was given to the committee. An invitation was extended to the committee to tour the Waste Management Recycling Facility at a future date.

Gillia Olson, Recycling Education Committee, gave the following report: reviewed activities for 2009, activities for 2010 will include Farmers Market, Earth Day at the Library, Good Council Community Garden, radio ads and they are considering the Youth Health Conference. The committee is also looking into a magician that performs a recycling theme program. The MSU Theater presented a program on recycling at the Good Thunder School.

Kip Bruender, County Commissioner, gave a Commissioner's report as follows: Budgets, Ponderosa Landfill Gas to Energy project, meeting with State Legislators, Justice Center is up and running with a few minor adjustments, Energy Star award for the Courthouse, an update on the Nichols office building.

Jack Considine, City of Mankato Council member, had no report.

Scott Fichtner, Environmental Services, presented the following report: **Solid Waste, Recycling:** Preparing 2009 SCORE Report, Multi-County Solid Waste Meeting, SMC Demfill, Pharmaceutical Collections; **Ponderosa Landfill:** Scalehouse, Clay Borrow area investigation, MnDot inspection, Landfill gas project, Cell 10 construction this spring/summer, Purchased John Deere 700J Dozer for the ash landfill, Stormwater rules, Industrial Solid Waste Management Plan, Annual Report due by January 31st; **Household Hazardous Waste:** Final Loadout for 2009, Preparing 2009 final report, Will open April 6<sup>th</sup> for 2010; **Miscellaneous:** New septic ordinance, Floodplain maps, Wetlands Conservation Act responsibilities, Electronic Permitting system. **The next scheduled meeting is March 18, 2010 (location may change - Valley Room or Environmental Services Conference Room).**

The following informational articles were distributed: **Star Tribune -** "Communities Nationwide Turn Landfills Into Energy Sources", "A Business Recycled", "With New Recycling Project, HCMC May Be First Hospital In Region to Compost Food Scraps and Paper Waste", "Water, Water Everywhere? Not Anymore", "Septic System Is Faulty - Now What", "Ballroom Septic System Problem Only Gets Worse", "Someone was Spewing, But it Wasn't the Sewage Pipes", "Carver Under Investigation for Septic Issue", "Wind Power Takes a Blow", "Coal Plant's Demise a Setback for S.D. Wind Power", "Ethanol Plant Hot Over Corn Cobs", "A Smaller Hauler", "Request Stashed", "Target Field Sets Environmental Standard in Sports", "Tapping Into the Earth to Go Green and Save Money", "Lawsuit Reflects Clash of Growth, Rural Values", "S.D. Dairy Producers Cited for Pollution Violations", "Historic EPA Finding Kicks Open Talks", "China Says It Will Reduce Carbon Output Up to 45%", "Climate Talks Ahead: CO2 off the Charts", "Oceans Our Giant Carbon Dioxide Sponge, Seems to Be Getting Less Absorbent", "Aspen Warm to Extra CO2 in the Air, Research Shows"; **Free Press -** "Drug Disposal Effort Nets 198 Pounds", "Blue Earth County to Burn Landfill Gas", "Put E-Waste in It's Right Place", "Recycler Aims to Build Mankato Factory", "Visually Vibrant", "Student Fills Curbside Recycling Gap After Bemidji Makes Cut", "Signs of Vitality in Minnesota River", "New Option Now Available for CRP Along Waterways", "Madison Lake Sending Sewage to Mankato", "More Minnesota Farmers Think Green",

“MSU Dining Service Plans to Go Green”, “Taking Heat”, “Warming’s Impacts Worsened since Kyoto”; **Lake Crystal Tribune** - “County Buildings Earn 2009 Energy Star Award”; **Waste & Recycling News** - “Dumping E-Waste Does Not Fly With Recycling Business”, “CRI Study Takes Critical Look at Single-Stream”, “Coca-Cola Using Bottles Made From Plant Materials”, “GHG Finding Could Be Fuel for Lawsuits”; **Lake Region Times** - “Final Stages for Mankato Sanitary Sewer Connection”; **Kiplinger’s Personal Finance** - “5 Green Myths Exposed”; **Pierre Capital Journal** - “EPA Considering Carbon Emissions Rule”.

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business: Vickie Michels, LJP Enterprises, talked a little about how the new mobile home at the Ponderosa is working out well; garbage is down & recycling is up. It is good to see that people are recycling more and hopefully they will continue into the future.

The next advisory committee meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2010.

Dan Sargent, Chair and the committee thanked Vickie for bringing in the treats for today’s meeting.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm.