

**BLUE EARTH COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 19, 2009**

The Environmental Services Advisory Committee met on Thursday, March 19, 2009 in the Conference Room for the Environmental Services Department at the Gov't Center at 3:45 pm. Present were: Joe Kubicek, Dan Sargent, Gillia Olson, Kip Bruender and Brooke McGuire; Scott Fichtner, Vickie Finnegan, Dave Kronlokken and Scott Salsbury of the Environmental Services Department. Not present were: Jack Considine and Patty Woodruff.

Dan Sargent, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Gillia Olson, Recycling Education Committee, was introduced to the committee as a new member.

Joe Kubicek moved and Kip Bruender seconded the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried.

Brook McGuire moved and Gillia Olson seconded the motion to approve the minutes of January 15, 2009. The motion carried.

Kevin Langton, Mankato Paddling & Outings Club, came before the committee to request funding for disposal of the collected waste for the 2009 River Cleanup Project which will be held on May 8-9, 2009 this year. Dave Kronlokken presented a brief history of the past river cleanups held by the Paddling & Outings Club and how they worked together with the Environmental Services Department. The Club was commended on their work to clean up the rivers.

Kip Bruender moved and Brook McGuire seconded the motion to approve an appropriation up to \$500.00 for the Mankato Paddling & Outings Club for the 2009 River Cleanup Project. The Paddling & Outings Club will continue to work with Bill Goebel to help coordinate the proper disposal of the collected material. The motion carried with all voting aye.

Scott Salsbury, Environmental Services, gave a Technology Demonstration to the committee. This power point presentation included: technology in the conference room, GIS information (aerial photos, topography, shaded relief areas, river quality, parcel

permit information, Laserfiche Web Link for Blue Earth County Environmental Services).

Gillia Olson, Recycling Education Committee, gave the following report for the Recycling Education Committee: Earth Day Celebration on April 18th at the Library, a recycle game for the Carnival at Kennedy School in May, June will be a Recycling, Reduce, Reuse presentation at Good Counsel and a booth for Farmers Market in July, and August. The committee is moving more towards public inter-action education.

Kip Bruender, County Commissioner, gave a Commissioner's report as follows: Court Administration & County Attorney's offices have moved into the Justice Center, the other offices will follow in April with the Jail being the last to take place, ads will be placed in the newspapers with dates for public tours, 2010 budget process is beginning, and a report on the oversized sewer pipeline to the Madison Lake area.

Jack Considine, City of Mankato Council member, was not present for an update.

Scott Fichtner & Dave Kronlokken, Environmental Services, presented the following report: **Solid Waste, Recycling:** SCORE Report preparation, meeting with Prairieland on a Waste-to-Energy project, Sharps Disposal Program to begin in March; **Ponderosa Landfill:** Final payment for cells 8/9 construction, Liner cover for new cells, 2008 Annual Report, Landfill operations contract, Annual meeting with Landfill Operators and Consultants, Landfill gas-to-energy grant, meeting with Mickelson & Company; **Household Hazardous Waste:** Staff training, Facility opening for 2009 on April 7th, Green Thumb Nursery fire involved stored chemicals; **Miscellaneous:** Sewer extension to Lakes Region; Updates for Septic Rules, MATAPS – Mankato Area Transportation Multi-Modal Planning Study, Clean Air and Climate Protection model, Citizens Academy; next scheduled meeting – May 21, 2009.

The following informational articles were distributed: **Star Tribune** – “U Students Dive in for Recycling”, “Taking Plastic From Trash to Useful Fash”, “With a Click, Phone Book Goes Poof!”, “In Dakota County, Garbage In, Diesel Out?”, “Taking Out the Tech Trash”, “Burning Rural Garbage is a Hot Topic”, “Price of Fluffy Toilet Paper? Lots and Lots of Trees”, “Properly Dispose of Prescription Drugs”, “Metro-Area Water Getting Saltier”, “State's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Dip Slightly”, “EPA Set for Momentous Ruling on Warming”, “Carbon Offsets are the Latest Forestry Product”,

“Western Forests Dying Twice as Fast”, “Another Unexpected Victim of Air Pollution, Oceans”, “Tar is a Sticky Subject”, “For Two Problems, One Simple Solution”, “Wanted Waste”, “Picture Just One Agency for Natural Resources”; **Free Press** – “In the LEED”, “No More Nichols”, “Landkamer Tapped for Federal Post”, “County Starting Citizens Academy”, “RAM Forum Discusses Industry’s Economic Struggles”, “Think Big, Sewer Project May Extend To Lake Homes”, “Public to Get Say on Lakes’ Sewer Plan”, “Sewer Salvation on the Way”, “Government Hops on ‘Green’ Bandwagon”, “Researchers: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Accelerate Despite Concerns”, “Dry Cleaner Cuts Back on Chemicals”, “SCC’s Use of Foam Behind Water Tests”; **Time Magazine** – “E-Waste Not”, “The Next Biofuel”; **Pioneer Press** – “Farmers Balk at Talk of Banning Burning”; **Duluth News Tribune** – “Industries to Slash Mercury Emissions”; **Governing** – “Goodnight Computer”.

Under Old Business, Dan asked about a possible meeting/tour in May for the committee at the Justice Center.

Under New Business a discussion was held concerning paper reduction for packets. Scott Salsbury, Environmental Services showed a sample of how information could be set-up on a Web site for access by ESAC members. It was decided to discuss this possibility at the next meeting.

The next advisory committee meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2009.

Kip Bruender moved and Joe Kubicek seconded the motion to adjourn at 5:40 pm.