

**HOUGHTON COUNTY
SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 28, 2019**

The Solid Waste Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in the 3rd floor Circuit Courtroom of the Courthouse, City of Houghton.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Tikkanen.

Attendance:

Commissioner Tikkanen, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Janssen (came in late).

Also in attendance were David Hall, Sara Fehringer, Walter Karrio, Tommy Shook, Eric Forsberg, Horst Schmidt, Ruth Gleckler, Evan McDonald, and Jennifer Kelly.

Approval of Minutes:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Tikkanen to accept the Minutes as presented.

The Motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 2, Nays 0.

Approval of Agenda/Additions:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Tikkanen to accept the Agenda as presented.

The Motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 2, Nays 0.

Public Comments:

Tom Shook from Sidnaw stated he brought plastic to Waste Management.

Old Business:

1. April 25th UP Solid Waste Forum/Marquette

Commissioner Tikkanen informed the Committee of the Commissioners attending a EGLE meeting and the Solid Waste forum.

David Hall explained the toxic waste regulations.

Commissioner Tikkanen discussed Pefas, and explained how Pefas are a chemical substance present in the environment, in water systems, in non-stick materials, fire suppression foam, microwave popcorn, and pizza boxes.

Commissioner Anderson stated Michigan is behind on recycling. The Committee will look into tire recycling for next year.

Commissioner Tikkanen stated the State is encouraging materials management.

Commissioner Janssen stated she is not sure if we have elevated levels of Pefas in our County.

Tom Shook questioned if plastics and micro plastics are in our lake water. Evan McDonald stated yes micro plastics have been found.

Evan McDonald stated that the Pefas levels have been elevated downstate.

David Hall stated that Pefas spread with water molecules.

New Business:

1. Upcoming visit to Eagle Waste

Members of the Committee toured the material recovery facility in Eagle River, WI. It is ran by Eagle Waste and serves 92 communities.

Commissioner Janssen commented on the east and west coast and how China will not take any more recycling and they are now operating more efficiently.

The Committee discussed Alden Albi can run plants with scanners.

David Hall feels that recycling has to be a regional idea, and encourages the county to lease or operate a facility.

Commissioner Anderson stated it was \$165/ton in the City of Hancock, and \$150/ton for recycling. Eagle Waste is going to come here to tour the transfer station.

The State has money for remote areas available.

Public Comments:

Horst Schmidt stated Michigan Tech has issues with Pefas.

Adjournment:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Janssen and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 4:13 p.m.

The Motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 3, Nays 0.

Tom Tikkanen, Chairman

Prepared By: Jennifer Kelly, Houghton County Clerk/Register of Deeds & Clerk of the Solid Waste Committee