

**HOUGHTON COUNTY
SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 26, 2019**

The Solid Waste Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. in the 5th Floor Floor Conference Room of the Courthouse, City of Houghton.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Tikkanen.

Roll Call:

Tom Tikkanen. Absent: Glenn Anderson and Gretchen Janssen. There was not sufficient members for a quorum.

Also in attendance were David Hall, Bradfish, Eric Forsberg, and Jennifer Kelly.

Minutes:

Tom Tikkanen will get Jennifer Kelly as list of people to email for each set of monthly minutes for the Solid Waste Committee meetings.

Public Comments:

Old Business:

1. Regular Meeting Dates

The members discussed the meetings being posted on the doors of the courthouse and on the County website. There will not be a March meeting due to conflicts in all of the Commissioners schedules. Jennifer Kelly will correct the yearly calendar and get it posted on the doors of the courthouse and on the County website.

2. April 25th UP Solid Waste Forum/Marquette

Tom Tikkanen will send out an email to see who can attend the Forum on April 25, 2019 in Marquette.

3. Enhancing Cardboard Recycling at Transfer Station

Tom Tikkanen discussed having 203 people tour the transfer station facility and coordinate a time with Terry to look at options. Eric Forsberg questioned what can be done to get people to recycle cardboard, and that Terry is against a part-time employee for cardboard recycling.

Tom Tikkanen will send out an email regarding getting better signs at the transfer for recycling.

Jennifer Kelly suggested getting the Gazette to attend the tour and take pics of the cardboard recycling to raise awareness.

4. Waste Management contract renewals/Eagle Waste

Tom Tikkanen will ask Gretchen Janssen and Glen Anderson to contact the City of Houghton and the City of Hancock as to when both city's contracts are expiring with Eagle Waste, and if either city is having any conversations yet with other waste haulers.

David Halls stated Jim Wittinghill is a contact at Eagle Waste.

5. E-waste Collection

David Hall contacted DEQ and talked to Steve Noble. David reported that there is E-waste being collected locally at the Houghton store. They do not take TVs at this time. Tom Tikkanen will contact Pete at Goodwill to see what items they will accept.

6. Tire Collection

Tom Tikkanen stated there will be a tire collection in Calumet Township in April. The date is to be determined. Tom Tikkanen will find out if there will be a charge and will monitor the April collection date, and will report at further meetings.

The due date to apply for a grant is in September 2019.

The committee needs to discuss where to hold other events? Tom Tikkanen will contact Ed's Used Parts and Menco.

7. Household Hazardous Waste Collection

David Hall talked to 3 agencies. He discussed what could be accepted, how much would need to be contributed, and if an event could be held at the mall or at the airport. The committee discussed that no grants are available for household hazardous waste. A Clean Sweep grant is available through the Department of Agriculture and that pesticides are hazardous waste.

New Business:

1. Available grants

Regarding tire collections, Tom Tikkanen has printed an application for a grant. The committee further discussed e-waste collection and household hazardous waste collection.

ERG collected approximately 22,000 pounds of household hazardous waste from the Father's Day Flood in Houghton County that cost approximately \$20,000.00.

Eric Bradfish recommended limiting the collections to residential only.

Tom Tikkanen will contact Edward at ERG.

2. Goals and Objectives

Tom Tikkanen stated that the Solid Waste Committee is on the right track.

3. Review/Analysis of Transfer Station – Renovation & Expansion

The Committee discussed options such as hiring of an engineering to see the flow of vehicles at the transfer station. The Committee agreed to keep this on the Agenda for the April meeting.

4. Tax Parcel Fee/Assessment

The Committee will look into this further and keep this on the Agenda for the April meeting also.

Adjournment:

The Committee adjourned at 4:52 pm.

Tom Tikkanen, Chairman

Prepared By: Jennifer Kelly, Houghton County Clerk/Register of Deeds