

**RECYCLING & WASTE REDUCTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
January 31, 2017**

Members Present: Portage City Council Member Sue Lynch, Commissioner Laura Blaney, Kouts Town Council President Tim Jones, County Council Member Karen Conover

Staff: Therese Haller, Dawn Garmon, Jeannie McCall

CAC Members: Duane Davison

Others: District Attorney Clay Patton

Absent: Mayor James Snyder, Commissioner Jeff Good, Commissioner Jim Biggs

Council Member Lynch brought the meeting to order at 1:10

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL - Board

NEW BUSINESS

HHW Bid Responses

Ms. Haller stated that the **District** put out an RFP for HHW service vendors registered with the state and federal government to come in and do a turn-key HHW collection operation. Two responses were received; Tradebe, which was the **District** current provider and another company called EEI. A summary was provided to the **Board**. The amount of material collected at past events was provided. Tradebe came back with a response of 135,463 and EEI 145,138. EEI proposal was only good if all three counties participated. However, Lake and LaPorte Counties had decided to go with Tradebe. **Ms. Davis** stated that she believed it would be beneficial to go into a multi-year contract with Tradebe. There was a potential savings of \$96,000, however she was hoping for around \$70,000 considering the volume of HHW collected will fluctuate.

Commissioner Blaney made a motion to approve the Tradebe proposal. **Council Member Jones** seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Latex paint

Ms. Haller stated that the second page of the Tradebe proposal listed the disposal methods for many of the materials taken. As indicated, very little material was landfilled with the exception of latex paint. Of the latex paint was accepted at the HHW collections, a small amount was usable and recycled by the City of Hobart. Latex paint is not hazardous and bad latex paint can go into the trash if in a solid state. People don't always know it's gone bad because they don't open it. The cost to the District for landfilling bad paint was roughly \$16,000. The **District** also spent roughly \$3,500 for the good paint to be recycled by Hobart. The **District** paid \$3 per gallon sent to Hobart that was then not purchased by Porter County public. **Ms. Haller** stated that the **District** would do everything it could to educate the public about latex paint, but she wanted to

know what the **Board's** opinion was about taking the latex paint considering the cost to landfill so much of it and that it was not a hazardous material.

Council Member Conover suggested talking with the municipalities and schools to put information out in their newsletters.

Council Member Jones asked if the **District** had thought about just refusing the latex paint when people bring it to the collection.

Commissioner Blaney asked who it was that deemed if it was good or bad paint and could only the good paint goes to Hobart.

Council Member Jones inquired as to it costing the **District** to send even the good paint to Hobart.

Ms. Haller explained that it did cost the **District** to send it to Hobart, but at least it was getting recycled. The fear of turning it away was that it would end up in a ditch somewhere. It was decided to step up education and see how costs were at the end of the current year.

Council Member Lynch stated that the amount of paint going into Hobart vs. the amount going out needed to be promoted so people know it is available to purchase for \$3 a gallon and then can have it tinted.

Attorney Patton stated that the **District** was paying Hobart \$3 a gallon for any paint that was not being purchased by the Porter County public. So in essence, the **District** was paying for paint that no one was getting. He suggested that the paint that the **District** had to pay for anyway should maybe be given to a municipality or a not-for-profit to be used instead of the **District** just paying out money and the product not being used.

Council Member Lynch stated she thought the only drawback to the paint was that it was limited in the color it could be tinted.

Ms. Haller agreed that staff would do a comprehensive education campaign in 2017 both to promote not bringing bad latex paint to the HHW collections and for Porter County public to get recycled paint from Hobart.

Electronics Proposal Responses

The **District** received three responses to the electronics RFP, a company from Indianapolis called GreenWave, another one in Indy called ERI, and the current provider which did not respond in time. The **District** had asked respondents to lock in pricing for at least one year. GreenWave and ERI had responded appropriately and on time. The overall responses were \$107,000 and \$123,000 respectively based on volumes from 2016. Included in the info given to the Board was a breakdown of charges for some commodities and rebates. The total cost for GreenWave was a savings over the current provider of about \$12,000 plus they would take all of the batteries that were now being sent to someone else for processing at a cost of \$3,700-\$3,800 annually. So there was a potential savings of \$16,000. ERI's initial cost for commodities were listed with no rebates and no cost for transportation but were still more costly than the cost from 2016 service. District staff along with the other solid waste districts went to the GreenWave facility, viewed the operation and were comfortable with what they saw.

Ms. Haller continued that it was the staff recommendation for at least one year to go with GreenWave.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the proposal from GreenWave for one year. **Council Member Conover** seconded, motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member Conover stated she wanted to personally apologize for not being at the reorganization meeting in January. However, she could not get away from work at

that time. She thanked the other members for their confidence in her to remain as vice-chair of the Board.

Ms. Haller said that the SBOA stated the **District** could not have a special fund for disaster aid. She also informed the **Board** that there was a debris management plan as part of the County Emergency Response Plan and that she would work with EMA to update the plan as needed.

April 4, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. would be the next regular scheduled meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, **Commissioner Blaney** made a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Council Member Jones** seconded, motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:25.