

**MINUTES OF THE DECATUR COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD**

Tuesday, May 1, 2019

The meeting of the Decatur County Solid Waste Management District Board was called to order by Chairman Joyce Brindley on Tuesday, May 1, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. at the Decatur County Solid Waste Office at 315 S Ireland St, Greensburg, IN 47240.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Rick Nobbe, Commissioner Mark Koors, City Council Vietta McKenzie, County Council Kenny Hooten, Westport Town Council Joyce Brindley, Mayor Dan Manus

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Jerome Buening

OTHERS PRESENT: District Director Brittani Saunders, Best Way Disposal Mark Fixmer, City of Greensburg Street Dept: Gary Robbins & Bruce Bockover

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Vietta McKenzie to approve minutes of March 2019 meeting. Rick Nobbe seconded and the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kenny Hooten made motion to approve April 2019 Claims. Mark Koors seconded and the motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Brittani Saunders

Several events coming up include the Decatur County Green Scene on May 4th starting at 9 a.m and Electronics Recycling on May 18th from 9-11 a.m. Rick Nobbe and Joyce Brindley will be present to help out for the Electronics Recycling event. This event will benefit the AGAPE center.

Yard Waste Contracts are coming due at the end of August. Leising Excavating and Mulch has expressed interest in renewing their current contract at the same rate of \$12,000.00 annually. This amount reflects the large majority of trash bags and some trash that has to be disposed of separately. The street department and Leising's work together to try to dispose of and not pick up trash in the yard waste. **Kenny Hooten made a motion to renew Leising Excavating and Mulch contract in the amount of \$12,000 for 2019-2020 Yard Waste composting. Vietta McKenzie seconded and the motion carried.**

The Community Clean Up Challenge was discussed at our April meeting. Brittani has created and started the clean up challenge for 2019. Participating groups have until July 1st to clean up an area in Decatur County. They must submit before and after photos of the area to show their hard work. They will be required to wear vests and protective gloves. Each group must register with our office before they are allowed to do the cleanup. At this time, we will also receive landowner approval. All groups will represent a non-profit in Decatur County. The winning team will receive money paid directly to their non-profit group of choice. A selection committee will be determined to choose the winning teams. This committee will be made up of community organization leaders. Brittani asked the board to establish a prize schedule for our winning teams. After discussion, **Kenny Hooten proposed we give \$250.00 to each team for participating and completing the challenge. Second place will receive \$500.00 and First Place will receive \$1000.00. Mark Koors seconded and motion carried.**

Permanent Recycling Site at the Greensburg Street Department:

Recently as a board, we implemented new signs at the Greensburg Street Dept recycling center and the Mayor paid to have new high-quality cameras installed. These cameras are accessible by cell phone by several employees so that constant monitoring can take place. In late April, a man who could not be identified set fire to one of the bins at night. The fire destroyed the recycling bin and it had to be removed immediately. On a daily basis, city employees help by removing debris and large items left at the site. Bruce Bockover and Gary Robbins from the Street Department were present to explain to the board that each morning when they came into work, there would be a large mess left from the evening prior. Best Way Disposal was also present to let the board know that over 50% of what is being thrown into these recycling bins is trash. Several photos were shown to the board to show how much trash and debris were in these bins. Best Way Disposal explained to the board that when this happens, the recycling material recovery facilities will not accept the recycling. This in turn makes recycling nonexistent at sites such as these because it cannot be recycled. Best Way is currently paying over \$60/ton to recycle at Republic Services Recycling. After speaking with Southeastern Solid Waste Mgt (includes Ripley, Franklin co), Dearborn County, Rush County, Shelby County, and Johnson County about possible ideas for this location, they explained that they were or have had similar issues and that many of their sites were closed or could be closing in the near future. They gave possible ideas such as closing the site at night, cameras, and signs. Kenny Hooten and representatives from the Street Dept explained to the board that in the past we did close this site at night and this did not deter people from leaving their trash at the gate. After speaking with local law enforcement, there is no enforcement for this dumping the way current statutes read. Director Brittani Saunders said she will be speaking with our Prosecutor to see if he has some ideas about how to make this happen. Without statute that stops dumping, it will continue to happen until people can be fined. Best Way Disposal has asked the board to make a decision on this site as soon as possible. After much discussion, the board majority felt we need to close the site for the time being until further discussion can happen about other possible ways to recycle. This could include a new site ran differently or a mobile unit. For the time being, residents using this recycling site will need to use the Decatur Hills Landfill site or other sites throughout the county that are open daily to correctly dispose of their recycling. The landfill site is recycled the same way as our other sites and will be tracked as well. **Kenny Hooten made the motion to close the Greensburg site and put signs up letting residents know of this change immediately.** Rick Nobbe seconded and the motion carried by all members.

Motion was made by Rick Nobbe to adjourn the May meeting. Kenny Hooten seconded and the motion carried.

Joyce Brindley, Chairman

Brittani Saunders, Attest