

**HOUGHTON COUNTY
SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 23, 2019**

The Solid Waste Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at 3:00 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.

Attendance:

Commissioner Tikkanen, Commissioner Anderson, and Commissioner Janssen.

Also in attendance were David Hall, Tom Shook, Walter Kania, Sara Fehringer, Horst Schmidt, Renee Cunningham and Jennifer Kelly.

Approval of Minutes:

One correction needed to be made to page 2, it should say Waste Management, not Eagle Waste.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Janssen and seconded by Commissioner Tikkanen to accept the June 2019 Minutes with the one (1) change as presented.

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

Approval of Agenda/Additions:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Janssen 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 provided a Recycling Petition to the Committee and the people in attendance. David Hall requested the Petition to be amended to include other things. The Committee discussed the Copper Country Recycling Initiative to talk to Ontonagon and Baraga Counties regarding the Petition being circulated there also.

Old Business:

1. Transfer Station RFP discussion

Chairman Tikkanen discussed the potential to sell or lease the Houghton County Transfer Station.

Horst Schmidt asked what the RFP will accomplish. David Hall explained that the RFP will focus on recycling of solid waste. Horst Schmidt asked about federal funding and if it could be used to do recycling with the next budget and any money that is not used to be put into the recycling program. He also asked if a block grant is available.

Tom Shook asked if it is possible for everyone to pay \$5.00 per year per household for recycling.

Chairman Tikkanen stated that Eagle Waste would like to use this as a regular collection center as they can handle 1 month of recycling in 2 days.

The Committee had discussion as to the worth of the Houghton County Transfer Station, the bond-cash flow. They discussed Eric Forsberg drafting a rough draft of the RFP and presenting it at the August Board of Commissioners meeting.

Commissioner Anderson stated that the RFP should include the current employees and minimum services be maintained by any future owner of the transfer station.

Chairman Tikkanen is to appoint a RFP Committee.

New Business:

1. Walmart Cloth Bag Grant Application

Copper Country Recycling Initiative needs the County to be the applicant name and fiscal agent. Susan Burack will write the grant. The County will distribute the fund to Walmart and pay for printing costs.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Janssen and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to recommend to the Houghton County Board of Commissioners to have Houghton County be the applicant name on the Walmart grant application.

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

Public Comments:

Tom Shook asked if someone could contact MTU about looking into converting plastics into fuels (diesel & gasoline).

Chairman Tikkanen stated the RFP Committee will be Eric Bradfish, David Hall, Eric Forsberg, Tom Tikkanen, and Evan McDonald.

Adjournment:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Janssen and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 4:15 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