

## Advisory Committee Meeting

Day: Tuesday  
Date: July 10, 2012  
Time: 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm  
Location: City/County Building  
Room: 303 (3<sup>RD</sup> Floor)

### Advisory Committee:

#### Present:

Gary Bergman; Eileen Bergt; Ann Bleed; Jack Coogan (Chair); Steve Hatten; Paul Johnson; Mike Koberlein; Dan Kurtzer; Casey Larkins; Jeanelle Lust; Sarah Murtagh; Adam Prochaska (Vice Chair); Sue Quambush; Cecil Steward; Meghan Sullivan; Chris Zegar

#### Absent:

Mike Ayars; Tim Farmer; Jane Raybould; DiAnna Schimek

### City of Lincoln/Lancaster County:

Miki Esposito; Sara Hartzell; Gene Hanlon; Scott Holmes; Karla Welding; Dan King

### HDR:

John Dempsey; Theresa McClure

### Public:

Dale Gubbels; Carrie Hakenkamp; Charlie Humble; Jim Klein; Jay Kurtzer; Janelle Lurt; Bob Strouf; Brad Uribe; Bruce Von Busch; Greg West; Sarah Hanzel

## Agenda

- 1) The Committee Chair called the meeting to order, acknowledged the Public Meeting Law, and conducted a roll call of attendance; attendance is reflected above.
- 2) The Chairman called for approval of the June 13, 2012 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved with no changes.
- 3) A safety briefing was conducted by the facilitator, Theresa McClure.
- 4) The Solid Waste Management System overview was presented by Gene Hanlon and Dan King and included the following topics:
  - a. Regulatory Framework
  - b. Existing System, Facilities, and Programs
- 5) The Assessment of (Basic) Needs / Status Quo was presented by John Dempsey. He also presented an overview of the topic of Minimum Levels of Service and the services and impacts of changes to the Service Area for the solid waste system.

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- 6) The Facilitator provided an update on the elements of Public Participation and reminded Committee members on how to access the website for various information.
- 7) The Guiding Principles were presented by Karla Welding. She also discussed Plan Goals which will be discussed in greater detail at a later meeting. Plan Goals will be aligned with the Guiding Principles.
- 8) John Dempsey presented an Overview of Alternatives/Assessment including how future meeting topics were anticipated to be presented in a module format highlighting six topics. A handout was provided to further expand the topic list.
- 9) The Evaluation Criteria was presented by John Dempsey, and described as part of the process to be used to evaluate and screen different options and strategies to be included in the Plan.
- 10) The Advisory Committee asked about the following during an open discussion period:
  - a. Is the Occupation Tax different from the Tipping Fee?
    - i. Karla Welding indicated that yes, the Occupation Tax and Tipping Fee are different fees. The Occupation Tax is \$7.00/ton of refuse paid by refuse haulers. The Tipping Fee is \$14.00/ton, and is charged to all landfill users.
    - ii. Scott Holmes and Karla Welding explained some of the complexities associated with how each of these fees are assessed and collected at various City facilities.
  - b. What is the Occupation Tax?
    - i. Karla Welding explained the Occupation Tax is used to fund Solid Waste Management programs other than those involving the Bluff Road Landfill. Occupation Tax funds may be used for maintenance of the old North 48<sup>th</sup> Street Landfill and for solid waste related programs delivered by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, and to supplement user fees to operate the transfer station, composting, and North 48<sup>th</sup> Street Construction and Demolition Waste Landfill and material sales for providing recycling programs, education, and outreach.
  - c. Does the Tipping Fee sustain the small vehicle transfer station program?
    - i. It was noted that the small vehicle transfer station may be funded in part through the Occupation Tax.
    - ii. It was noted that the transfer stations also has a user fees.
  - d. More clarification was requested on charging for recyclables contained in the waste if a hauler separates it before bringing it to the landfill.
    - i. It was noted that the Lincoln Municipal Code excludes source separated recyclables from the definition of "refuse" and as such source separated recyclables are not subject to the Occupation Tax.
  - e. The Committee requested that examples of what has been successful in solid waste programs in other cities be presented to the Committee as part of the topical evaluation of alternatives.
  - f. The Committee asked if the word "integrated" was included in regulation and if it was defined.
    - i. It was noted that Nebraska's main solid waste legislation is entitle the "Integrated Solid Waste Management Act" and that USEPA uses the term integrated in describing the waste hierarchy of management options.
  - g. The Committee indicated there may be interest in reviewing and commenting on the Guiding Principles and Goals when the published list of goals becomes available.

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- h. The Committee suggested that as part of the alternatives review process that satisfying the Guiding Principles and Goals be considered in the evaluation process.
  - i. It was suggested that some of the content of modules 5 and 6 may need to be addressed/considered through evaluation of topics in modules 1 through 4.
  - j. The Committee discussed developing a contact list of all Committee members to be shared amongst the Committee. It was agreed that a contact list of names be developed and shared between the committee, but to the extent that it included emails, it not be posted on the website.
    - i. It was noted that a Committee member could opt for not having their email included on a shared list if the list was going to be published in the public record.
    - ii. Discussion occurred as to whether Advisory Committee members could communicate amongst themselves regarding Committee topics outside of the scheduled Advisory Committee meetings. The conclusion was that communication about Committee topics among Advisory Committee members outside of the scheduled meetings is discouraged.
  - k. It was noted that Committee Members should not be distributing information to other members outside the meetings. It was requested that a protocol be established whereby the City could receive information and where appropriate distribute that information via the project website, e.g., under the tab for resources.
- 11) It was noted that the next Advisory Committee meeting would be held at the following time and location,
- August 14, 2012
  - 2:30-4:30 pm
  - Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department
  - 3140 N Street
  - Lower Level Training Room
- 12) The Chairman opened the Public Comment Period.
- a. A member of the public, Jim Klein, asked Miki Esposito to recount what she had stated at the past meeting relating to the Mayor's goals for the Solid Waste Plan. She indicated the following:
    - i. an interest in curbside recycling
    - ii. current public-private partnerships are important, and
    - iii. Public participation in the Plan development is important
- 13) The Chairman closed the meeting.

## Action Items

- 1) The City will consider developing a general flow chart to help further explain the Occupation Tax.