

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE
May 2, 2012
MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members

David Baker
Ralph Angelo
Charles Evangelista – N/A
John Sheppard
Kristine Singer
Dodie Huber – N/A

N/A = Necessarily Absent

Attendees

County: John Garvey, Darlys McDonough, Kris Hughes, Linda Frasca, Andrea Schoeneman
Others: Cynthia Hsu, David Shaw – Finger Lakes Times, Carla Jordan – Casella Waste Management

Consultants:

CALL TO ORDER: Chair David Baker called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Supervisor Sheppard to approve the 3/21/12 minutes as with revisions, seconded by Supervisor Angelo. Motion carried

OLD BUSINESS - (Out of Order Agenda Discussion):

Landfill Update (Casella): Carla Jordan (Casella Waste Management) reported on the 4th flare matter and the need to receive approval from NYSEG to upgrade the service in that specific area; approval has been received and Casella estimates to have the flare up and running by the middle of next week. Ms. Jordan shared that they have started the 3 acre construction project at the landfill and stated that during the construction time period residents may notice the foul odor more than they have been lately. Ms. Jordan shared that a press release is expected to be released sometime in the coming week informing the public that the landfill website will be up and ready for use. Questions presented by committee members and staff answered by Ms. Jordan. Additional updates will be provided as needed.

Solid Waste Activities and DEIS, Phase III, State VIII and IX Landfill Expansion Update: Mr. Hughes reported that work continues to go forward as previously shown on the timeline schedule. Mr. Hughes shared that we are reaching some critical milestones in the process - there have been no significant changes to report on. Mr. Hughes will continue to provide additional updates on the matters as needed.

RETURN TO AGENDA ORDER:

Mr. Garvey, County Administrator, reported that he has been in touch with the NYS Department of Conservation (DEC) a number of times (David Vitale – DEC staff person reviewing the County SWMP) in regards to us receiving SWMP approval. A response was expected from the DEC this past October (2011) and as it is now May 2012 the DEC will be giving our plan high priority. Mr. Garvey shared that he had questioned what the result was that the DEC was seeking in regards to the plan and was informed that the DEC is looking for “Waste stream “ reduction and recommended that Ontario County looked at other communities that have completed their plans and received approval from the DEC. Mr. Garvey is working with B&L to set up a

360 Permit Update: Mr. Garvey reported he had met with the DEC in Avon to discuss the 360 Permit and shared that it went very well. Mr. Garvey shared that the topic of discussion mostly focused on why

Ontario County was not applying for the expansion permit at this time and basically our answer is that there are a number of issues that need to be resolved beforehand as depending on the issues are resolved affects the operation of landfill – one of which is where are Casella going to get soil to cover a working phase in a new cell (Borrow area) – depending on that effects how to go forward. Casella Waste along with their legal representative were in attendance at the meeting as well, and it is felt that until we have a good handle on the SWMP it will be very difficult to go forward; that does not mean we won't be proceeding with obtaining the 360 permit but the borrow area matter definitely needs to be resolved before we can obtain the permit. Mr. Garvey feels that a lot was learned at the meeting and that we have a positive direction to go forward. Additional updates on the matter will be provided as needed.

Hydrilla Update – (J. Garvey): Mr. Garvey reported that he had been alerted that Hydrilla – an extremely invasive water species plant has been found in the Finger Lakes region – Ithaca, Tompkins County. The plant is very aggressive and hard to control, and Canandaigua Lake is very susceptible to it. Mr. Garvey has met with Bruce Gilman who is very knowledgeable on water resource matters to discuss ways to prevent the plant from getting in to Canandaigua Lake. Mr. Hughes shared that Mr. Gilman is a member of the Water Resource Council and recommended the matter be referred to them. EQC members offered suggestions – i.e. boaters need to be informed and instructed to clean their boat hulls/motors before transferring their boats from lake to lake. EQC directed Mr. Garvey to submit a formal letter to the WRC requesting they look in to the matter. Additional updates on the matter will be provided as needed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chautauqua County Landfill, Transfer Stations To Waive Fees: (news article) (Chairman Baker): Chairman Baker briefly reviewed with EQC the news article on the Chautauqua County Landfill, transfer Stations to Waive Fees and recommended the County and Casella look in to whether we could do something along the same line and include it in the SWMP.

At this time, Chairman Baker requested the EQC and staff enter in to executive session. Ms. Hsu questioned why and whether there would be any actions voted on upon the committee/staff exiting the session. Mr. Baker reported the committee would be discussing hydrofraking issues and items 2 A and B on the agenda, and that he did not expect any committee action to take place.

Executive Session: Motion made by Supervisor Singer to enter in to executive session, seconded by Supervisor Sheppard. Motion unanimously carried. The 5/2/12 meeting of the EQC entered in to Executive Session at 4:25 pm.

Motion to exit executive session made by Supervisor Singer, seconded by Supervisor Angelo. Motion unanimously carried. The 5/2/12 meeting of the EQC exited Executive Session at 5:16 p.m.

No action required.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the committee, **motion was made by Supervisor Angelo, seconded by Supervisor Sheppard to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Frasca

Sr. Clerk
Ontario County Planning