

Ontario County
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
August 14, 2013

Committee Members Present: Baker, Angelo, Sheppard, Huber, Evangelista, and Singer

Attendees: John Garvey, Tom Harvey, Linda Frasca, Nellie Puma, Supervisor Vedora, and Andrea Schoeneman

Guests: Carla Jordan, Bob Walls (Casella Waste Management); Dave Shaw (Finger Lakes Times); Richard Eaton (Resident); and Katie Bennett-Roll (Resident)

Chairman Baker called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., and declared that Supervisor Evangelista and Supervisor Singer were temporarily absent and would be arriving shortly.

Approval of Minutes: *Motion was made by Supervisor Huber, to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2013 meeting with correction to page 1, Solid Waste Management Plan paragraph, spelling correction of Mr. Vitale's name, seconded by Supervisor Angelo. Motion carried.*

Solid Waste Management Plan Update: County Administrator John Garvey reported that the plan is still being reviewed by the Region 8 DEC, and stated there was nothing new to report at this time. Tom Harvey shared that the DEC office in Avon was coordinating the review with the Albany DEC office which will be involved as well.

Part 360 Permit Update:

Chair Baker welcomed Bob Walls and Carla Jordan from Casella Waste Management to the meeting, and turned the floor over to Ms. Jordan for a report on the Part 360 Permit status. Ms. Jordan stated that she was waiting for comments from the committee members related to the application documents. Ms. Jordan stated that the application can be submitted prior to the SWMP being approved. The Permit won't be deemed as completed, but the review of the permit application could be started. Ms. Jordan is hoping to receive any comments before the next committee meeting and produce the final document which Mr. Garvey can sign.

Landfill Operations Update: Ms. Jordan shared that there is a household hazard waste event scheduled for September 21, 2013, and is free for all Ontario County residents. Pre-registration for the event has begun. Anyone who wants to participate must be registered. Information on the event has been sent to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors who will be sending it to all the City, Town, and Village Clerks to be posted for resident notification. A notice will also be in the area newspapers in the coming weeks.

Ms. Jordan revisited residents' concern regarding emergency response time to landfill issues. Casella has put together a site map (on file) that shows the designated emergency response meeting areas. The plan shows what happens in the case of an emergency at the landfill. Casella staff generally meets the emergency crew (vehicle) responding at the landfill entrance, there is also signage up indicating "emergency staging area" where Casella staff would meet up with emergency personnel and take or direct them to the correct "emergency" area. The maps will be mailed to all local emergency responders and an

after-hours tour has been set up by Bob Walls (Casella) for all local fire departments. Tom Harvey stated that this information would also be shared with the 9-1-1 center so they would be aware of the set up. A copy will be sent to the Jeff Harloff, Director of Emergency Management, and Sherman Manchester, County Safety Coordinator.

Operations: Supervisor Evangelista questioned the tree removal on Rte 5 & 20. Bob Walls reported that the trees were half dead, and that new landscaping will be planted at the bottom of the berm in the near future.

Seneca Resident Katie Bennett-Roll shared her displeasure that there continues to be a significant odor coming from the landfill and said she felt that the odor matter will never fully be resolved. Bob Walls stated Casella will continue to look in to the matter and work towards making things better.

Innovative Energy System Update: Chair Baker reported on the IES response time matter. He stated that the information given by Ms. Jordan at the July 24th meeting was what she had been told and therefore reported at the meeting. There has been concern as to whether timelines were accurate; therefore, County Administrator John Garvey has looked further in to the matter. Mr. Garvey reported that initially, IES told Casella that the plant went out on Friday night and the utility wouldn't be back on line until the next day (Saturday). Both Mr. Garvey and Casella contacted IES and requested more specific details (when/why) and received the following: On 7/20/13 (Saturday) in the early morning hours (2:35 a.m.) the plant was shut down by protective relays due to trouble on the grid because of severe weather in the area at that time. The plant came back in operation at 3:30 a.m. At 5:00 a.m. the plant shut down due to two of the generators having been damaged by lightning strikes. There are eleven (11) generators between the 2 facilities that convert landfill gas to energy (electricity). Nine (9) of the generators returned to service at 5:30 a.m. with the tenth generator returning to services shortly thereafter. The eleventh generator was off until Monday (7/22/13).

Area resident, Richard Eaton stated there were inconsistencies in what residents were being told and what was reported in the newspaper. He questioned why the newspapers quoted Supervisor Sheppard as saying that he had begun receiving complaints Friday night not Saturday morning. Mr. Eaton wanted to know if residents were dealing with one instance where the plant went down, or were there two separate ones. Bob Walls stated that Casella had not received any complaints on Friday night regarding odor. Mr. Eaton asked if there was a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for instances such as this. Supervisor Baker responded that a SOP is now in place at the landfill. EQC members stated they are in agreement that Casella and IES have taken steps to ensure that response procedures to an emergency situation have been worked out and a system is in place so that response times are quick and the matter is resolved in a timely manner.

OTHER:

Draft 2014-2015 SWM/Landfill Budget Review: Chair Baker turned the floor over to Nellie Puma for review of the draft 2014-2015 Budget Review. Ms. Puma went over the proposed budgets and answered all questions presented by committee members. **Motion made by Supervisor Sheppard recommending approval of the draft 2014-2015 SWM/Landfill Budgets as presented, seconded by Supervisor Huber. Motion unanimously carried.**

Supervisor Evangelista reported that approximately a month ago, he observed a refuse hauling truck which did not have the back flap secured with trash flying out the back of the truck. Mr. Evangelista

called Casella and reported the truck number. Mr. Walls stated that he reported this to the truck company. Casella will follow up on the matter.

Supervisor Vedora reported that in the last two weeks five residents in the western section of Geneva had called him and complained about the odor coming from the landfill. Chair Baker requested that Supervisor Vedora please report incidents as they happen.

ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business, **Supervisor Huber made motion to adjourn the 8/14/13 EQC meeting, seconded by Supervisor Angelo. Motion unanimously carried.** The 8/14/13 EQC meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Frasca

Sr. Clerk

Ontario County Planning