

GENESEE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

June 6, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

The Solid Waste Management Planning Committee met at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, in the 3rd Floor Harris Auditorium, 1101 Beach Street, Flint, Michigan.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman John O'Brien called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. WELCOME/ INTRODUCTIONS

Present: John O'Brien, Heather Griffin, Kyle Burnash, Derek Bradshaw, Tim Church, Mike Csapo, Amy Freeman, Derek Neal, Daniel Bourdow and Nancy Edwards

Absent/Excused: Darren Bagley and Chad Young

Others present: Sheila Taylor, Cody Roblyer, Gwynneth Coselman, Renate Soto, Emily Forbush, Connie Deloney, Bernard Deloney, Jim Monk, Kathy Root, Tim Belill, Cheryl Belill, Craig Stemper, Scott Bennett, Coetta Adams, Donna Mehrman and Ser Houge

III. Approval of February 14, 2023, Minutes ***

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Amy Freeman, **Seconded by** Tim Church to approve the February 14, 2023 Minutes.

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comment Period

James Monk, 12514 Marshall Rd., Montrose, MI, addressed the Committee in opposition to the proposed Type III Landfill in Montrose Township.

Donna Mehrman, 12171 Marshall Rd., Montrose, MI, addressed the Committee in opposition to the proposed Type III Landfill in Montrose Township.

Craig Stemper, 9061 Lake Rd., Montrose, MI, addressed the Committee in opposition to the proposed Type III Landfill in Montrose Township.

Scott Bennett, 12292 Duffield Rd., Montrose, MI, addressed the Committee in opposition to the proposed Type III Landfill in Montrose Township.

Kathy Root, 12403 Marshall Rd., Montrose, MI, addressed the Committee in opposition to the proposed Type III Landfill in Montrose Township.

Coetta Adams, 11385 Dodge Rd., Montrose, MI addressed the Committee in opposition to the proposed Type III Landfill in Montrose Township.

Connie Deloney, 2184 W. Dodge Rd., Clio, MI addressed the Committee in opposition to the proposed Type III Landfill in Montrose Township.

Bernard Deloney, 2184 W. Dodge Rd., Clio, MI addressed the Committee in opposition to the proposed Type III Landfill in Montrose Township.

Jennifer Raymond, 2645 Brown St., Flint, MI addressed the Committee in opposition to the proposed Type III Landfill in Montrose Township.

V. Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment Draft ***

a) 90-Day Public Comment Period Review

Mr. Cody Roblyer gave an overview of the 90-day Public Comment Period, reviewing the opportunities the public had to participate and give input on the Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) Amendment. The 90-day Public Comment Period was approved by the Committee at the last meeting held on February 14, 2023. After the approval, staff announced the public comment period opportunities by advertising in the Flint Journal and The Courier, notifying all Local Units of Government (LUG) and sending a press release to the local news media. When the public comment period started on March 1, staff posted notices to the GCMPC website and Facebook page. The public comment opportunities included a public hearing held on April 5, 2023, in the Genesee County Administration Building at which 3 people attended. There were also three open houses held at various locations in the County: Flint Farmer's Market on April 18 at which 14 people attended, Loose Senior Center in Linden on April 19 at which two people attended, and Montrose Township Hall on April 20 at which 81 people attended. A week prior to the public comment period ending on May 30, 2023, a final email was sent to all LUGs and a post to social media announcing the end of the comment period.

In total, 152 comments were submitted to staff during the 90-day public comment period, which were sent to the Committee last week for review, including staff responses to the comments. Mr. Roblyer provided a summary of all the public comments received: 98 of those comments were general opposition to the Water and Waste Landfill, 14 were environmental concerns, 9 were property value concerns, 12 were nuisance concerns, 5 were concerns for family/future generations, 13 were directed at the location of the Water and Waste Landfill, and 1 was general questions about the Solid Waste Management Plan.

At this time, staff is requesting the Solid Waste Management Planning Committee consider public comments received and take action on the Genesee County Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment Draft.

Mike Csapo stated that he read through all the comments and listened to the audience members comments. He stated there has been much mischaracterization and misunderstanding of both the proposal and the process of the Type III Landfill that Genesee County Water and Waste is proposing, but many of the concerns that have been raised are both real and legitimate. Mr. Csapo stated the provision that he requested to be attached to the Type III Landfill was designed to ensure that the Type III Landfill could only proceed as a last resort. Mr. Csapo stated he appreciated the Drain Commission's forward thinking about how it's going to meet its responsibilities in the future, but he feels that other alternatives could have been explored more thoroughly. He states that he feels that including the Type III landfill in the Solid Waste Management Plan is premature and may ultimately prove unnecessary.

For those reasons, Mr. Csapo moved that the Type III Landfill in Montrose Township proposed by Genesee County Water and Waste be removed from the plan without prejudice and forward the Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment to the Board of Commissioners without the Landfill included.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Mike Csapo, **Seconded by** Amy Freeman to approve the Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment Draft with the modification of removing the Type III Landfill in Montrose Township proposed by Genesee County Water and Waste.

Roll Call vote was taken:

Tim Church – yes

Derek Neal – yes

Kyle Burnash – yes

Daniel Bourdow – yes

Heather Griffin – yes
Derek Bradshaw – yes
John O'Brien – no
Mike Csapo – yes
Amy Freeman – yes
Nancy Edwards – yes

Motion passed.

Discussion ensued.

VI. Other Business

a) Next Steps

Ms. Gwynneth Coselman gave a recap on the next steps in the process of the Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment. In July, the Plan will be presented to the Board of Commissioners (BOC) for approval. In August it will be submitted to the local units of government (LUGs) for action where 67% percent or 23 LUGs must approve the Plan to move forward. As of today, this Committee is dissolved, unless either the Board of Commissioners or the LUGs do not approve the Plan. If so, the Committee would meet again to discuss any possible changes. If the Plan is approved by the BOC and LUGs, it will be submitted to EGLE for a 6-month review period.

b) Committee Member Updates

Nancy Edwards thanked the staff for all the hard work; she has really enjoyed being a member of this Committee and has learned so much.

Mike Csapo stated that staff did an outstanding and thorough job in the whole planning process including giving the public an opportunity to weigh in.

Heather Griffin echoed her fellow committee members and thanked the staff for making this process very functional and being transparent with the community.

John O'Brien thanked the committee members and stated that committee membership is on a voluntary basis. The committee worked very hard and accomplished so much.

X. Adjournment

John O'Brien adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.