

Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost
Processing Board Minutes
April 9, 2024



The regular meeting of the Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Processing Board was held on Monday, April 9, 2024 at 11am at the Schoonover Municipal Building.

Members present: Mike Dwyer, Annette Atkinson, Cory Lyon, Robert Lovenheim, Aaron Springs, Julia Heilakka, and Chris Clause. Also present; Middle Smithfield Township Parks Manager Chris Rain as recording secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Robert Lovenheim made a motion to approve the February 2024 minutes. Mike Dwyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Facilities Report

Mr. Lyon stated that there were problems with mice damaging the grinder. The crew made repairs and got it working again. Vermeer ordered replacement harness at cost of \$5,600. A computroller was also damaged and will need to be replaced. Cost not available at this time.

We are receiving many calls for materials. Mr. Lyon stated that he is trying to get more contractors to use the facility. The compost is good but still leafy. There was a work day on March 26.

Mr. Lyon stated that he is working on the 902 grant for \$250,000. \$36,000 is still owed on the grinder. The 902 grant will pay off the grinder and partially pay for the loader. The balance on the loader will be applied for in the next 902 grant round. Mr. Springs asked if there is a match. Mr. Lyon stated that there is no cash match, the land value is used as the match. Mr. Dwyer made a motion to move forward with the grant. Mr. Springs seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

Treasurers Report

None

Payables

Mr. Dwyer stated that the only payables were electric and porta potty.

Solicitor

None

Engineers Report

None

Old Business

Mr. Dwyer stated that at the February meeting, the members were asked to review the audit proposal for \$18,000 with their Township boards. Mr. Lovenheim made a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Springs seconded. Motion passed 7-0. Mr. Dwyer stated that he will contact Scott Miller.

There was no update from Rachel Heller regarding the lease update. Mr. Lyon stated that she spoke to Bruce Kerns at PennDOT two weeks ago and tried to reach him again last week, but received no response. Mr. Dwyer stated that it is not urgent at this time. Mr. Lyon stated that we are good on our match with the acreage we are using, but we could use more acreage if we need to.

Ms. Atkinson reviewed the procedure for collecting cash. Cash should be in the lockbox, which needs to be mounted to the wall. She asked who was responsible for collecting the cash and how often. Mr. Dwyer stated that Bonnie Winters wanted it to be the person that was making the deposits. It should be either Bonnie Winters or Bonnie Christman.

Mr. Springs stated that Rob Rohner doesn't want Tim Rohner to be the treasurer until the audit is done.

The board discussed options for implementing electronic payment options. Credit card, QR code, and membership cards were all discussed. Ms. Atkinson suggested that the auditor may have a suggestion. Mr. Lovenheim recommended looking into the system that Camelback uses. Mr. Clause asked whether we could hire a seasonal employee just to handle the cash. Ms. Heilakka asked whether there was enough traffic to justify that. Mr. Lyon stated that during the week there was not, but there was on Saturdays. Mr. Dwyer stated that he would research options and get back to the board before the next meeting.

New Business

Ms. Atkinson provided the board with information about the 10 Million Trees program.

Mr. Lovenheim provided the board with information about composting and food waste. He stated that there should be a countywide program through the Waste Authority and that the Waste Authority should hire someone to seek out grant funding for the program. He also stated that board members should attend meetings of the Monroe County Commissioners and the Waste Authority to discuss. Mr. Dwyer stated that this was a good idea and suggested attending a Waste Authority board meeting first so they have more information to present to the county commissioners. He will contact Waste Authority board member John Ferro to find out when the next meeting is. Ms. Atkinson asked what the goal was. Mr. Lovenheim stated that it was to make Waste Authority more proactive about waste management including composting and hiring someone to go after grant funding.

Public Comment

None

Next Meeting

July 9, 2024 at 11 a.m.

Adjournment

Aaron Springs made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m. Robert Lovenheim seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Rain
Recording Secretary

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