

The regular meeting of the Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Processing Board ("Board") was held on Monday, March, 16, 2015 at 10:07am at the Schoonover Municipal building.

Members present: Mike Dwyer, Annette Atkinson, Dick Vollmer and Stanley Whittaker. Also present; Consultant Pat Calpin, Public Works Foreman Cory Lyon, Township Secretary Michele Clewell and Public Works Assistant Karen Stapleton.

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion of Dick Vollmer and seconded by Annette Atkinson the January 12, 2015 minutes were approved. Motion carried 4-0.

Solicitors Report – No Report

Engineers Report – No report

Treasurer's report

Although Brian Barrett was not present; he was contacted via telephone in order to participate. Mr. Barrett stated that advanced funding was made by Middle Smithfield Township a month or so ago and vendors are now being paid.

Payables –

Mike Dwyer provided the payables list for review and approval. Annette Atkinson made a motion to approve \$37,269.00 for the operational costs incurred throughout the past few months. Dick Vollmer seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Mike Dwyer provided a copy of letter from Dale Kirk of Kirk Suma, CPA in reference to the audit. Mr. Dwyer stated that he thought we accepted this audit rate but it probably came in after our last meeting. Michele Clewell reported that everyone accepted it last year and we received a letter stating they were going to begin conducting the audit, but it never happened. Ray Wolfe has contacted them through voicemail, trying to get them in here as soon as possible. Stanley Whittaker asked why Mike Dwyer initialed paragraph 2 of page 4. Mike stated that it is a quick highlighted reference showing the total audit fee of \$1,450.00 which is the fee we agreed too. If the fee is going to go over that \$1,450.00 Kirk Suma, CPA will need to notify us in advance.

Facility Improvements

Cory Lyon reported that the facility has been plowed. We have electrical service now in the upper site not the lower site. Once the snow melts we have to drop the building down and anchor to the concrete.

Dick Vollmer asked if anyone is using facility. Cory Lyon stated that we were pretty active until the snow.

We had residents dropping brush; Middle Smithfield Township was using it for brush drop off and the bins were actually filled.

Dick Vollmer asked if any commercial people are using it. Cory Lyon stated that Tree Smith is using it for their tree removal wood chips. Prior to the snow Tree Smith was dumping their wood chips at Richards Tree Farm. As far as he knows no one has bought a commercial permit yet.

Mike Dwyer stated that we need to start calling and sending letters to Tree Smith and other commercial business.

Stanley Whittaker asked if there were many Christmas trees dropped off this season. Cory Lyon stated that many trees came in to the Middle Smithfield Township Building which was the old drop site and also at the Oak Grove facility. We always did well with Christmas Trees, but now they are under the snow. We have a pretty good pile of brush down at the bottom.

Consultant Pat Calpin stated the piles are coming down and from what Cory Lyon explained to me they have been resting all winter. Once we get them turned a few times we will be ready for distribution, probably in May. Consultant Pat Calpin stated that due to the fact that there is now snow on top of them they are still cooking. Right now it's going to be important to get them some air to dry them out a little bit to make those millions of microbes.

Mike Dwyer stated that the ribbon cutting will be in spring and wanted to know if anyone had a preference. In agreement the tentative ribbon cutting was set for Monday, May 11th at 11:00am. He also would like to invite state representatives, Conservation District, Solicitor Donald Petrille, Esq., DEP and PennDot.

Stanley Whittaker stated that John Sivick would also like to be there.

Old Business

Mike Dwyer stated that he and Annette Atkinson have signed the ESSA Bank signature cards and that John Sivick, and Brian Barrett need to go to ESSA bank to sign these cards. Stanley Whittaker stated that would let John Sivick know.

New Business

Mike Dwyer made a motion to accept and attach Lehman Township's letter as per their request, dated January 27, 2015 to the March 16, 2015 minutes. Dick Vollmer seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Mike stated that the Scottsdale Insurance renewal is due in May. About a year ago the Board spoke about adding the pollution liability insurance and everyone agreed that that it is not necessary. Even Engineer Michael Gable agreed it's not necessary. We have insurance for operations and it may be an additional cost of \$12,000 per year to add the pollution liability.

Mike Dwyer reconfirmed with the Board, especially with Consultant Pat Calpin present, that we do not need to purchase the pollution liability insurance. Pat Calpin added that our ponds are far enough away. Even some pollution was to get in there it would only decrease oxygen, we are not running a landfill. Cory Lyon stated as long as it's monitored there should not be a problem. Michelle Clewell stated that last year's policy cost us \$774.00 for the year.

Mike spoke about the packet from PSATS Magazine in which Michele Clewell found a compost turner being sold by Londonderry Township and she has been corresponding with them. Londonderry Township bought this piece of machinery with a grant for \$80,000.00 and was asking \$35,000; however, after further discussions with Londonderry Township it can be purchased for a net cost of \$8,000 dollars which was the amount Londonderry expended as part of their grant matching funds at the time of their purchase. We would eventually be looking for this type of machinery, and this is a good deal, so why would we pass it up.

Consultant Pat Calpin added that they have two options they have to sell it outright and DEP gets 90 percent back, or if they sell it to another municipality they can only sell it up to the price of the match that they put in. As Mr. Dwyer stated we can put that in a subsequent grant and we would get 90 percent of \$8,000.00 back.

Pat Calpin added that it would be a huge asset as it would be the most valuable piece of equipment. Eventually, we would have to borrow this machinery. The cut plates fail will mature the material in more space area. The more space the quicker we have a product, with less time put into the work.

Dick Vollmer asked if it hooked up on the front of the loader. Cory Lyon replied, yes it's a cat quick taps.

Pat Calpin stated that we could hook up to a front end loader, but it will take more machine time, more personnel time, and energy.

Mike Dwyer asked Pat Caplin if he was concerned about the 245 hours on the vehicle. Pat Caplin stated there are not a lot of hours on that machinery and suggested he would like to see the machinery and have a demonstration. He has previously worked with Londonderry Township. Mike Dwyer stated that we will contact Londonderry Township in order to schedule a date and time to inspect the machine.

Mike Dwyer stated that since this is a major purchase he would like to make sure that Smithfield Township looks at this and make sure they are okay since they were not present at today's meeting. If we receive the okay from Smithfield in writing we will proceed.

Mike Dwyer asked Michele Clewell to contact Smithfield Township and provide them with all the information and ask for their consensus to be returned in writing.

Mike Dwyer made a motion subject to receiving Smithfield Townships' consensus to purchase the composting aerator for \$8,000.00 and that it will be part of a future grant we will get. Stanley Whittaker seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Mike Dwyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 a.m. Annette Atkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Stapleton
Public Works Assistant