

**Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District
Board of Directors Meeting**

October 24, 2022

Adams County Commissioners – 215 N. Cross Street, West Union Ohio

Members in Attendance

Adams County	Clermont County
Ty Pell	David Painter
Diane Ward	
Barbara Moore	

Attendees:

Hannah Lubbers, Doug Snyder, Jennifer Haley, Tracie Braun, Tom Eigel; Clermont County
Dan Wickerham, Dee Edge; Adams Brown Recycling

The meeting was called to order at 10:32 AM by Mr. Pell.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Moore moved to approve the minutes from the 07/11/2022 meeting. Ms. Ward seconded and the motion passed without dissent.

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Lubbers reviewed the financial report.

- Ms. Lubbers noted that \$240,000 had been transferred from the reserve fund into the operating budget in order to cover expenses associated with the July 6th tornado clean-up in Clermont County.
- Ms. Lubbers explained that the District keeps a large reserve fund in place in order to cover the cost of unexpected emergencies such as natural disaster clean-ups or a dramatic decrease in the collection of waste disposal fees.

Mr. Painter moved to approve the financial report. Ms. Ward seconded and the motion passed without dissent.

3. 2023 BUDGET

Ms. Lubbers spoke on the 2023 budget.

- Ms. Lubbers explained that the revenue projections are based on information included in the 5-year solid waste plan, as well as potential grant revenue. Ms. Lubbers added that she estimates there will actually be more grant revenue than what is stated.
- Ms. Lubbers noted that because expenditures are projected from the 5-year solid waste plan, the budgeted expenses for 2023 will be higher than the projected revenue, historically the District only spends around 60 percent of the actual budget.
- Mr. Pell expressed concern about submitting a budget that exceeded the projected revenue, and asked if this has happened in the past. Ms. Lubbers responded that it has happened in the past, before the most recent generation fee increase.

- Mr. Painter asked for clarification about specific major items that are causing the budget to be exceeded. Ms. Lubbers stated that approximately \$80,000 in expenses budgeted for 2023 can be postponed or eliminated, and listed the following items and explanations:
 - o Skid steer replacement at a cost of \$40,000 for AWAR. This capital expense will be postponed and potentially covered in the future with anticipated grant funding that will be available for transfer stations and recycling infrastructure.
 - o A recycling drop-off contamination project in the amount of \$20,000. If this project proceeds it will be funded by a grant that was not included as revenue in the budget.
 - o An illegal dump survey to be conducted in Adams County in the amount of \$10,000. Ms. Lubbers may confer with a consultant and decide that the survey may not need to be conducted.
 - o Large item drop-off site in Clermont County in the amount of \$25,000. This capital expense will most likely not be necessary due to private industry filling the need instead. The proposed Winding Creek Recycling facility in Union Township is currently in the Ohio EPA permitting process.
- Mr. Painter and Ms. Ward instructed Ms. Lubbers to amend the proposed budget to include expected carry-over balances as funding for auditing purposes, thus balancing the budget.

Mr. Pell moved to approve the financial report as amended. Mr. Painter seconded and the motion passed without dissent.

4. GRANTS

Ms. Lubbers requested authorization for the District Director sign an application for the Ohio EPA Drop-Off Recycling Quality Improvement Grant, to provide up to a \$10,000 cash match with ACSWD funds, and to utilize funding that was previously allocated for the Recycling Specialist position in Adams County to fund a temporary contractor or intern position.

- Ms. Lubbers explained that the proposed Ohio EPA Drop-Off Recycling Quality Improvement Grant project involves a collaboration between the Recycling Partnership to reduce contamination public recycling drop-off locations. The Recycling Partnership has previously funded similar projects in urban areas for curbside recycling and are now expanding funding opportunities to target rural drop-off recycling sites. This project would target several recycling drop-off sites in Brown County and Adams County.
- Ms. Lubbers explained the issues regarding illegal dumping and contamination at the recycling drop-off locations in both counties. This project primarily involves an educational/promotional campaign as well as pre and post campaign audits.
- Ms. Lubbers explained that the grant is a 3-to-1 match up to \$75,000 in funding and involves two Solid Waste Districts. The Brown County Solid Waste Authority will be contributing funding to this project on a pro-rated basis determined by population.
- Ms. Lubbers stated by partnering with the Brown County Solid Waste Authority to include Brown County, the population requirement of 75,000 households for full funding will be met when included with the Adams County population. The likelihood for being awarded grant funding is higher due to the rural designation of both counties, and because the recyclables from both counties are processed at Adams Brown Recycling.
- Ms. Lubbers explained that a similar contamination study project had been done in the past in Clermont County utilizing Ohio EPA funding and all parties were pleased with the success of the project.

Ms. Ward moved to authorize the District Director sign an application for the Ohio EPA Drop-Off Recycling Quality Improvement Grant, to provide up to a \$10,000 cash match with ACSWD funds, and to utilize funding that was previously allocated for the Recycling Specialist position, if that position remains vacant, in Adams County to fund a temporary contractor or intern position. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pell and passed without dissent.

5. POLLUTION PREVENTION (P2) INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Ms. Lubbers requested authorization for funding for a Pollution Prevention (P2) Internship Program at a selected industry in Adams County or Clermont County.

- Ms. Lubbers spoke about participating in a Pollution Prevention Program Internship, similar to the programs that several surrounding solid waste districts offer. A college intern would be matched with a partner in private industry to work at their location for 12 weeks on a pollution prevention, recycling, or waste reduction project. The District would provide \$4,000 to \$6,500 in funding, which would cover 75% of the internship.
- Ms. Lubbers stated that Solid Waste Plan requires the District to provide programs to private industry. The District offers industry waste audits, but those have not been requested by businesses very often. The Pollution Prevention Internship would provide a service to the industrial sector which pays the same \$4.00 per ton waste generation fees as residents but might not benefit from many of the other services the District offers.
- Ms. Ward asked if the District has any particular industry in Adams County that they are considering for this program. Ms. Lubbers answered that she would consult with the Board if they have any specific recommendations.
- Ms. Lubbers stated that Butler, Hamilton, and Montgomery Counties have participated in this internship program for several years with positive results.

Mr. Painter moved to authorize participation in the Pollution Prevention (P2) Program as requested. The motion was seconded by Ms. Moore and passed without dissent.

6. PEEBLES RECYCLING COMPACTOR

Ms. Lubbers and Mr. Snyder spoke about the issues with the recycling compactor located at Peebles.

- Mr. Snyder explained that the compactor has been having mechanical issues for several months and will require a motor replacement to remain operational.
- Mr. Snyder gave a brief overview on the compactor, stating that it was manufactured in 1996 and the District purchased it used in 2003. It is one of the District's few remaining compactors in service that has a smaller 2-yard hopper.
- Mr. Snyder stated that the compactor at Peebles gets cycled more than any compactor in Adams County. 309 tons of material has been ran through the compactor since 2019, whereas the Engineers site cycled 367 tons during that same time period with two compactors.
- Ms. Ward noted that she has visited that site several times to deposit her recyclables and was unable to do so because the hopper was full.

- Mr. Snyder recommended that the District replace the old compactor with a new 4-yard unit, similar to the unit that was installed at the Cherry Fork location earlier this year. The hopper on the new unit will have more than double the capacity of the current unit, helping to eliminate overflow issues.
- Mr. Snyder noted that Jimmy Tadlock, Wayne Township Trustee, has been very pleased with the newly installed unit at Cherry Fork and it eliminated the overflow issues at that site. Ms. Moore added that she uses the Cherry Fork site frequently, and the new compactor there was a big improvement.
- Mr. Snyder stated that after the trade-in of the old compactor, the cost for a new unit will be \$40,000. The electronic keypad will be removed from the old unit and installed on the new unit to save on costs, since the keypad is only around a year old.
- Ms. Lubbers was asked by the Board if this purchase is already budgeted in this year's capital outlay, and she replied yes.

Mr. Painter moved to authorize the trade-in of the old compactor and the purchase of a new 4-yard compactor for the Peebles site for \$40,000 as requested. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pell and passed without dissent.

7. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Director's report was given by Ms. Lubbers:

Annual District Report

Ms. Lubbers gave a brief overview of the required Annual District Report that was submitted to the Ohio EPA on May 24, 2022.

- Feedback was received from the Ohio EPA and they were complimentary of the level of detail that was submitted by Mr. Snyder.

Recycling Drop-Off Sites

Ms. Lubbers gave an update on the newest public recycling drop-off sites at East Fork and Stonelick State Parks in Clermont County.

- Public recycling drop-off dumpsters were placed at both parks on May 5, 2022 at the camper check-in parking lots.
- These containers were placed there at the request of park staff. Ms. Lubbers explained that there used to be a public drop-off container at East Fork State Park many years ago but it was removed due to lack of use. Now, the container is being used frequently.
- Originally the containers at both sites were emptied on an on-call basis, however the containers are now being emptied on a monthly basis due to increased usage.

Grants

- **Ohio EPA Recycle Ohio Community and Litter Grant**
 - o Ms. Lubbers stated that the District was awarded funding from the 2022 Ohio EPA Recycle Ohio Community and Litter Grant.
 - o Ms. Lubbers gave a brief overview of how the awarded grant funds would be used. These funds will be used towards the 2023 Spring Litter Clean-up Event and have already been used to purchase several outdoor recycling containers that are currently being placed in shelters at the public parks around Clermont County and at the Lions Club Park in Adams County. Adams Lake State Park did not receive a recycling container because they did not have staff able to

service the container. Additionally, two outdoor trash containers were purchased and delivered to the Village of New Richmond to use at the public boat ramp.

- **US EPA Food Waste Diversion Grant**

- Ms. Lubbers stated the District has been working with CET who received a grant from the US EPA on behalf of the Warren County Solid Waste District and the Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District.
- Ms. Lubbers gave an overview of this grant and its objective to get businesses engaged with food waste and organics diversion practices.
- Ms. Lubbers explained that CET will be offering technical assistance to generators, service providers, landscapers, and haulers, as well as end-users such farmers that could potentially host an organics compost site.

- **USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Grant**

- Ms. Lubbers stated that the Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District wrote and submitted the application for the USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Grant in July since the Solid Waste District was fully engaged in tornado clean-up activities at that time.
- Ms. Lubbers gave a brief overview of the project involving Valley View in Milford, which operates the only local food composting facility, and explained some of the technical aspects of their operation. Valley View currently operates their composting facility under an exemption, and is working on obtaining licensing and permits.
- The grant application was seeking funds to be used towards the purchase of a screener as well as improvements to their haul road. The road improvements are necessary in order to use the facility year-round.
- Ms. Lubbers explained that the ultimate goal is for Valley View to be showcased as a demonstration site to prove that a large scale composting facility is feasible when constructed and ran properly.

Tire Events

Ms. Lubbers spoke about the two tire disposal events for scheduled for 2022.

- No grant funds were received for tire collection events in 2022, so both events are being fully funded by the District. Minimal advertising was placed in order to limit the amount of tires collected. Increased advertising will be used for future events when additional grant funding is secured.
- The Adams County tire collection event was held at the AWAR transfer station on October 19 and had 71 customers.
- The Clermont County tire collection event will be held at the Neville Public Boat Ramp on Friday November 18 and Saturday November 19, and attendance is expected to be less than the last event held in Clermont County.
- Ms. Ward asked if everyone who disposed of tires at the Adams County event paid for the disposal. Ms. Lubbers responded that everyone was charged a fee, and this year a tiered pricing structure was used. The District charged residents \$1 to dispose of regular passenger vehicle tires, \$10 to dispose of semi tires, and \$20 to dispose of tractor tires.
- Ms. Ward commented that she disposed of tires at the Adams County event and was pleased that there was no waiting and her tires were unloaded quickly.

Tornado Clean-up

Ms. Lubbers spoke about the District's response to the July 7th, 2022 F2 tornado that caused significant damage in Clermont County. Ms. Lubbers gave updates on the cleanup efforts:

- The District provided several roll-off trash dumpsters for use by Goshen and Wayne Township residents, but overall they weren't as heavily used as the dumpsters that were deployed in Moscow

after the 2012 tornado. The District also paid Rumpke to run an extra curbside trash collection route and to provide a packer truck at the staging site for waste collection during a scheduled weekend. The total cost paid by the District for the trash removal was \$12,533.

- Rumpke donated portable restrooms for the volunteer staging area for the first couple of weeks and also for the Goshen Township debris staging area for around a month.
- An estimated 43,000 cubic yards of woody debris was accumulated at three staging areas, with the 3-story tall Goshen site being the largest at 40,000 cubic yards. The Goshen pile has been grinded and some of the grindings has since been hauled out. The remaining approximate 3,000 cubic yards at the Stonelick Lake site and the small pile staged at the Miami Township site haven't been worked on yet.
- BZAK was contracted to grind the woody debris and haul away the grindings. The District paid one invoice from BZAK for grinding and some hauling at the Goshen pile for \$148,000. It is estimated that the total cost for all grinding and hauling will be anywhere from \$200,000 to \$240,000.
- A total of \$240,000 was pulled from the Solid Waste District reserve fund to pay for the debris removal. The District has been working closely with Clermont County EMA to apply for reimbursement through the State of Ohio, which may cover up to 75% of the expenses incurred by the District.
- Mr. Painter explained that although it was a State declared disaster totaling \$5.1 million dollars in damages, there is currently zero dollars in the State Disaster Relief Program line item. He has been in contact with the Ohio House Representatives who will be meeting with Governor DeWine to advocate for emergency appropriations to fund that line item.
- Ms. Lubbers explained she was hopeful that the District would receive partial reimbursement from the State, but if no reimbursement was received the District may have to re-evaluate how it responds and assists with future disaster events.

Winding Creek Recycling Facility

Ms. Lubbers spoke about the Winding Creek Recycling facility that was being constructed in Union Township, Clermont County.

- Winding Creek Recycling has filed a permit-to-install application with Ohio EPA to operate as a waste transfer facility.
- The District is looking forward to working with the new business to offer large item disposal to Clermont County residents, as well as electronics recycling.

Staff Updates

Ms. Lubbers reported on staffing updates:

- Bill Mellman retired after 16 years employed at Clermont County. He was instrumental in the redevelopment and improvements of the District's website.
- Laura Lair returned from maternity leave in mid-September.

8. AWAR TRANSFER STATION, ADAMS COUNTY RECYCLING, AND ADAMS COUNTY EDUCATION/OUTREACH REPORT

AWAR Transfer Station & Adams County Recycling Report

Mr. Wickerham gave an update on the AWAR Transfer Station and Adams County Recycling:

- Mr. Trefz was not able to attend this meeting due to lack of staffing at Adams Brown Recycling.
- Waste collection at the AWAR transfer station has been trending downwards. Although fixed operating costs remain the same, there should be a decrease in expenses for waste removal from the facility.

- Cohen is closing the Sardinia and Washington Courthouse locations within the next week or so. They cited rising fuel prices, labor issues, and falling scrap prices as factors that contributed to their closings. However, Cohen is not currently planning on selling the locations, so the closures may be temporary.
- It is anticipated the closing of the Cohen facilities may drive business to the AWAR transfer station or to other scrap metal buyers in the area.
- BZAK has been limiting the amount of yard waste that is being accepted into their Georgetown facility, mainly due to the large influx of woody material resulting from the tornado clean-up.

Education/Outreach Report: Adams County

Ms. Edge gave an update of various environmental education projects in Adams County.

- Ms. Edge was not able to attend the last Board meeting as she was presenting at the Adams County Fair with the Green Machine. She engaged with a total of 543 children in collaboration with a nearby archery presentation from ODNR.
- Ms. Lubbers stated that she would like the Green Machine to be displayed at the Clermont County Fair next year. Mr. Snyder added that there is a week between the end of the Adams County Fair and the beginning of the Clermont County Fair, so it should be easy to coordinate the pick-up and delivery of the display. A site for the display near where the Conservation Day events are held has already been identified.
- On 09/07/22 and 09/08/22 she participated in the Adams County Soil and Water Conservation Days at North Adams School, which reached 253 students.
- Ms. Edge was not able to present at the festivals held in Peebles and Seaman due to the death of her husband, but is planning on participating next year.
- Several Adams County schools have been contacted and offered recycling containers for their hallways and other public areas.
- Several Adams County schools were contacted about grant funding that would cover refillable bottle water fountains, but not much feedback was received. It is assumed that the schools already have those types of water fountains, but it will be looked into further.

9. PUBLIC INPUT

No public input was received.

10. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT

The next board meeting of the Adams Clermont Solid Waste District will be held at 10:30AM on Monday, December 19th, 2022 at the Clermont County Commissioners Building located at 101 East Main Street, Batavia.

Mr. Painter moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion as seconded by Ms. Moore and passed without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26PM.