

**MINUTES OF THE DECATUR COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD**

Tuesday, May 28th, 2024, at 5:00 pm

The meeting of the Decatur County Solid Waste Management District Board was called to order by Mayor Josh Marsh on Tuesday, May 28th, 2024, at 5:00pm at the Decatur County Solid Waste Office.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Josh Marsh, Commissioner Tony Blodgett, City Council Vietta McKenzie, and City of Westport Town Council Jennifer Hryb

MEMBERS ABSENT: County Councilman Kenny Hooten, Commissioner Jeremy Pasel, Commissioner Mark Koors

OTHERS PRESENT: Director Stephanie Westbrook, Rumpke Representative Dean Ferrier

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Tony to approve the March 2024 meeting minutes. Vietta seconded and motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Motion was made by Tony to approve March & April 2024 claims. Jennifer seconded and motion carried. Bank Reconciliations were signed by Josh.

APPROVAL OF OUTSTANDING CHECKS: Four outstanding checks in the total amount of \$661.11 should be receipted back into the general fund after an unpaid period of two years. Motion was made by Tony for cancellation of warrants on old outstanding checks. Vietta seconded and motion carried.

APPROVAL OF INVESTMENTS: Four CDs matured on 05/01/24, and one CD matured on 03/20/24 with Napoleon State Bank. Rates have decreased from APR 5.12% to 4.97%, which they will back rate from date of maturity. NSB will waive any prepayment penalty fees on these CD's since they do not offer money market accounts at a competitive rate. The motion was made by Tony to combine the 5 CDs into one with the new APR rate of 4.97% for 182 days. Jennifer seconded and motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Stephanie received notice of approval for a \$10k tire grant from IDEM that terminates Nov. 12, 2025. Board agreed funds should go towards our tire collection fees during our Tox Away Day. Discussed setting a limit on the amount of tires per vehicle, possibly charging residents a per tire fee if over the limit. Stephanie will work with vendors and prepare a proposal for the board to agree upon.

Stephanie changed the vendor for the medical sharps waste with the board of health program. We will now use Medical Waste Solutions, a local company out of Indianapolis, and it will save \$50 each month.

Stephanie recapped the April 20th event in Westport and the May 18th event at the Fairgrounds. Meals on Wheels collected \$593 in donations. The board agreed after reviewing the numbers only one event per year at Westport is needed. We will not have an electronic event in October in Westport this year, we will still have the October event at the Fairgrounds as scheduled. We would also like to change the location to a more visible street in Westport and advertise more with flyers at local businesses in Westport for next year's event.

Recap had 25 residents attended the April 16th Rain Barrel event, had a second event on May 16th with 8 residents. Tree Give Away was a success on May 1st gave away 1,000 trees. Earth Day event was a community clean up event had 75 people participated at Rebekah Park, Community Park, and Main Street.

Discussed having a community garden and partnering with summer interns from Board of Health. Concerns about keeping it looking nice and having enough volunteers. The parks department did not approve the location next to side of building. Could use the Rain Barrel and promote composting with garden. Food could be donated to Bread of Life. Must have enough volunteers to execute the plan.

The Citizens Advisory Board met on May 14th and selected the Norma Bainbridge Scholarship winners. No applications from South Decatur this year. 5 applicant's total. The 3 winners are Arden Muckerheide from North Decatur, Addie Gauck from North Decatur, and Addison Barnes Pettit from Greensburg. Each recipient will receive \$500.

Stephanie ordered recycled lumber items from Vinyl Solutions to raffle off at the fair this year will share a booth with WTRE. Ordered 2 planter boxes with bench, side table and 2 chairs for around \$600. We will also be in the fair parade with the truck promoting recycling, need volunteers to participate.

Stephanie has partnered with the Arts Council and has created a Recycled Art Show Contest. Artwork must be made of 90% recycled materials, can be 2 or 3 dimensional. Artwork will be on display at the Art on the Square Gallery from September 1st-September 24th. Four different age groups with 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners. The Arts Council received grant money to award artist stipends. Winners will be announced during Tree City Fall Festival. SWMD paid for booth rental in front of Gallery during festival to showcase artwork, with artist name, title of piece, and what recycled materials were used.

Stephanie is working with Circular Indiana to use \$25k grant money from Honda to promote recycling in Decatur County. Some plans could be around food waste options for residents and businesses. KB offered a tour of how they preserve food waste, if any board members want to attend let her know.

Stephanie visited Shelby County recycling facility that just opened their new site last November. Their executive director has a lot of helpful information on contractors and possibilities. If anyone is interested in visiting her site or having her come to a board meeting to discuss further plans for our district let Stephanie know.

LOOKING AHEAD:

June 11th Environmental Day Camp 120 kids signed up, the most we have had, kids get t-shirts, recycling bag.

June 22nd Electronic & Paper Shred Day donations for New Directions

June 30th Budget for 2025 is due, Stephanie requested help submitting final numbers.

July 23rd Next Board meeting

August 21st Kova Fertilizer Pesticides Clean Sweep, this could save us cost for our Tox Away event.

No other public comment.

Motion was made by Josh to adjourn the May meeting. Viette seconded. The motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm

Kenny Hooten, Chairman

Stephanie Westbrook, Attest