



Minutes approved 08-14-14

Health Services Committee Meeting

Tazewell County Health Department
Monday, July 21, 2014 – 5:30 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Chairman Carroll Imig, Sue Sundell, Nick Graff, Brett Grimm, Mike Harris, Seth Mingus, John Redlingshafer, Greg Sinn, Jerry Vanderheydt

Chairman Imig welcomed new member, Seth Mingus and introductions were completed with non-Board member staff in attendance.

MOTION **MOTION BY VANDERHEYDT, SECOND BY SUNDELL** to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2014 meeting.

On voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION
HS-14-16 **MOTION BY REDLINGSHAFER, SECOND BY GRAFF** to recommend to County Board to approve the City of Pekin residential recycling collection program.

Melissa Goetze, Supervisor of Solid Waste Planning, advised the Committee this was the same amount as last year as a new location had been found.

On voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED.**

ANIMAL CONTROL Director Sanders had provided the Committee members his June 2014 report.

Sanders had provided the Committee with his FY15 budget preview. Sanders initially wanted to include an update on computer software but after speaking with IT, the server requires an update before it would be able to handle the software. Sanders stated he will instead budget for a new truck in capitol. He stated other line items remained almost the same as last year.

MOTION **MOTION BY GRAFF, SECOND BY MINGUS** to recommend to County Board to approve the Animal Control bills as presented.

On voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED.**

Chairman Imig introduced Dr. Arthur Herm to the Committee. Herm stated this County has been blessed with a lack of human rabies exposure. The latest positive rabies was found in brown bats the last few years. Imig stated Herm does an excellent job and the County appreciates it. He is in our Animal Control facility three days a week and has been serving with the County for 26 years.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Administrator Fox reported to the Committee their next step in the accreditation process. Fox and her assistant will be attending training in Virginia in August. The training must be completed prior to an assessment team coming. There are approximately five counties in Illinois that are accredited.

Fox reported they are finishing their evaluation cycle.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Director Neavear reported they had a public hearing on the septic ordinance. Changes were recommended by septic contractors and realtors. It is back on the website for additional public comment.

The fees are going back to the Finance Committee this month. They went to Finance last month but some wording changes were made so the issue had to go back to Board of Health.

SOLID WASTE

Supervisor Goetze reported applications are out for curbside recycling grants. She hopes to have resolutions for the August meeting.

MOTION **MOTION BY GRIMM, SECOND BY HARRIS** to recommend to County Board to approve the Solid Waste bills as presented.

On voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION HS-14-17

MOTION BY SUNDELL, SECOND BY HARRIS to recommend to approve the low bid for the Pekin Landfill project.

Chairman Imig expressed his appreciation for all that has been completed and turned the meeting over to Mike Harris. Harris also expressed his appreciation to all that have worked on this project.

Harris provided the Committee with some brief history as to why we were trying to cover with documents back to 2003 when complaints were filed with the Attorney General. Attorney Crane provided the Committee with a report explaining that the landfill is not stagnant and one day the tests are within standards does not mean they will remain there. She identified potential risks posed by an unlined and uncapped landfill. She stated that it is important for the protection of public health to stabilize.

Grimm asked why the State was not involved. Crane stated that at this time, conditions are not bad enough for their involvement. They have more pressing concerns that they must focus on. Crane does not advise waiting for action until it becomes a real issue. Grimm stated he does not disagree, but 3.5 million is too much money as it is not a huge issue. If it became such the State would get involved. Crane stated once it is a huge problem there will be citizens injured or harmed.

Redlingshafer asked if funds are expended what assurances does the County have. Harris stated he has more information to provide. Harris stated that the Landfill Sub Committee was formed and has taken this to the Board. Patrick Engineering set up the specifications and the Auditor developed a bid packet. Only one bid was received. Other contractors wanted to use a liner. Patrick Engineering did some checking and have advised that the bid by UCM is a legitimate comparative bid.

Mingus inquired if this was on private land. Crane stated according to title it is but has a lien by the County. Harris stated it went up for tax sale at least three times and no one wants the responsibility. Mingus inquired if the property owner or heirs could benefit from the County's 3.5 million. The fear is there could be danger in the future with run off and fumes. Crane advised some areas have already been capped and some still have exposed garbage. Goetze stated that of the 42 acre landfill 29 acres are not yet capped. Mingus inquired why it was our responsibility. Harris stated it is not. The company dumping garbage went bankrupt and left it uncapped. The owner cannot do it. The County does not want ownership and that is why the Attorney General will provide documents that prevent the County from liability. Multiple tests have been done underground. IEPA does surface testing yearly and conditions are currently within the standards of industry. Mingus inquired why the County is footing the entire bill even though it sits in a township, in a State and even in a Country. Harris stated the County is taking initiative.

Sinn inquired about financing and if we take care of it correctly could there be a value to the property in the future in which the County could recoup. Burress stated at any time it could be put back in for tax sale. Sundell asked if we could put a lien against the property if in the future it could have a value. Burress stated if that kind of a lien it would then be titled to the County and not sold to a tax buyer. If sold through an auction all liens

are washed away. Mingus inquired if there are other properties in which there is contamination that would set precedence. Burress stated we have other areas that have asbestos but they are covered.

Crane stated the difference with this landfill and other contaminated areas is this was once a landfill for the county. Graff stated there are four taxing bodies over this so taxpayers will pay, but from which pool. Tazewell benefited from the landfill at one time. He does not want to spend the money but it is time for something to be done. He inquired if our State or Federal representatives have been contacted regarding this recently. Harris stated not recently. Grimm stated it is worth doing again.

Redlingshafer asked again would this proposal work. Harris stated he has more information. Have asked why it's the County responsibility for years and no answers or help from the State. He does not want to spend the money but wants to protect the citizens. Vanderheydt stated it has been an ongoing problem for years and it needs to get done.

Harris stated he hoped to have a total package; however, there is an issue. An email was received from the State that they have selected their contractor for gas venting and they are assuming that cost. That will drop \$316,000 from the bid. Patrick Engineering is to monitor the project and that is at a cost of \$188,700. Harris stated there are three changes to make to the existing resolution: 1. Remove the gas vent cost. 2. Compaction of dirt specifications were requested to be 95% with 10 to the negative 6 for permeation. UCM tested at 98% instead. When compacted it will be 10 to the negative 7 which is higher than wanted. If bid up to the 98% it will cost more. The change to the resolution will state we will accept this if 95% gives us 10 to negative 6 or contractor agrees to do 98% at the same cost as bid. 3. The total cost on the resolution will change.

Harris stated that tonight the decision to accept the bid and cover the landfill, if approved, will then go to Finance Committee for options. Sinn inquired if another landfill in the county could be used for a funding source.

Treasurer Burress provided handouts to the Committee and stated she is not recommending any option, just providing information. The options are municipal bond to fund in full or partial, business loan to fund in full or partial or to fund from the County General Fund Reserves. Burress provided information from Bernardi Securities and Herget Bank. There are costs with both the bond option as well as the business loan. Redlingshafer inquired if a bond would have to be on the ballot and Burress stated no as there is no tax against it. Burress also stated the County has investments earning interest. The only new source of revenue is from video gaming and that is minimal.

Fox explained the tipping fees. When the host agreement was renegotiated the County was aggressive. An additional dollar per ton was added as revenue for the County. That revenue has been coming in for several years and going into the General fund. It has not been earmarked.

Harris stated this Committee was only going to do a recommendation to Finance if this issue is approved. Graff inquired what the Health Department position was. Fox stated she could not provide anything official from the Board of Health but her recommendation as the Health Department is to prevent, promote and protect. She compared it to having insurance. Premiums are paid even though nothing major is needed, but the potential for insurance need is always there. She stated this is the 3rd time in her tenure this was brought to the Board to consider. This is an ongoing concern and not a new effort. It needs a major look for the protection of our citizens.

Crane stated the State and or Federal government will never pay until there is a crisis. Sinn stated that dilution is not the solution and this is a tough call. Redlingshafer inquired of the testing completed on the capped portion. Goetze advised they are testing wells that still have water. Testing is needed where garbage is exposed which allows rainwater to infiltrate into wells. It is dry on the side that is capped.

Harris advised that the specifications include pulling all the trees that are causing problems, covering the entire landfill with vegetation. Ongoing maintenance is not included. Graff stated this issue is too important to allow to die in Committee. It needs to go to the full Board for decision.

Steve Harenberg of PDC stated this has been a huge endeavor and involves a lot of money. If it is let go it will eventually expose all of the garbage and create methane. Methane travels and the neighbors need their interest protected.

Sundell pointed out her concern after seeing the aquifer sensitivity map. Contamination of the aquifer would affect a lot of people.

MOTION **MOTION TO AMEND BY HARRIS, SECOND BY GRAFF** to reflect the following change: 1. Remove the gas vent system. 2. Compaction percentage and 3. Total cost.

Harris pointed out that Patrick Engineering has talked to UCM about the compaction issue.

On the amendment: On voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED.**

Graff inquired if there was something that needed to be incorporated into the Resolution about a lien on the property without assuming ownership. Mingus asked what other privately owned property does the County maintain. That is his struggle and he will vote no. He wants to protect and prevent but also believes this exceeds the scope of

MOTION **MOTION BY HARRIS, SECOND BY SINN** to amend the Resolution to correct the spelling of "WHEREAS".

On the amendment: On voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED.**

On the original motion as amended: On voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED.** Opposed were Grimm, Mingus and Redlingshafer.

Harris asked if there were any recommendations on finance options. Burress advised that the bond company and the bank would be willing to come and present.

Chairman Imig recessed the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

(transcribed by S. Beeney)