

Regional Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

June 6th, 2018. 5:30 pm

County Board Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rader called the June 6th, 2018 Regional Leadership Council to order.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Deferred to next regular meeting-July 25th.

III. Introduction of Guest Speaker

Chair Rader welcomed all the mayors and thanked them for attending the meeting and asked County Board Member Greg Stumpf was asked to discuss the update of the Sangamon County Solid Waste Management Plan. Stumpf stated that the group was trying to get an understanding of the current situation in the county in regards to recycling and waste management strategies. The committee believes the input of towns and mayors are vital to understanding and improving waste management in Sangamon County. Stumpf introduced Walter Willis of Solid Waste & Recycling of Lake County (SWALCO).

IV. Walter Willis (Solid Waste & Recycling in Lake County)-Consultant for Sangamon County

Mr. Willis discussed the coming updates for the Sangamon County Solid Waste Plan. Willis deliberated the concept of franchising a waste-hauling company, and that counties and municipalities have a legal right to franchise one waste hauler to a specific municipal entity. Willis mentioned that there are pros and cons to this scenario. Pros included: increased productivity and efficiency for the waste hauler. This can lead to lower prices for residents and may also include additional services (i.e. recycling) with no additional costs. Another benefit is less “wear and tear” on roads which can increase the longevity of the road by having less garbage trucks driving on streets. Cons included: residents feeling upset with the removal of their original waste hauler by no longer providing service to them. Another issue is that local, smaller waste hauling businesses can be threatened and cannot compete with larger companies that have the capability of providing service to an entire town or municipality.

Willis discussed survey results that pertained to villages’ waste management operations. Towns reported back with answers related to: who hauls waste in their town, what is the current rate for service for a resident, and what services are offered to their residents. Willis

mentioned that it appears public input is a priority for the county plan and that “speaks volumes” in his opinion. Willis mentioned true and accurate data on household garbage is practically impossible to obtain, but accessible data on garbage collection can still be valuable for the waste plan. Willis explained other models of hauling waste. Drop-off recycling can replace curbside pick-up and is an efficient option for smaller towns as opposed to having haulers venture throughout a village. The ordinance model is another option Willis proposed which sets a rate or service for all waste haulers that collect garbage and recyclables in the town or village. The ordinance states that waste haulers have to provide a specific service(s), or have a set rate for residents and/or businesses. This is beneficial to municipalities because it avoids the pressure of choosing one waste hauler and promotes a competitive market to lower prices for residents.

V. Questions & Discussion

Patrick McCarthy (Chatham) asked Willis if any town has incorporated free leaf bag pickup into their contract or similar services. Willis replied yes, and that towns can insert such interests in a Request for Proposal (RFP). Some companies and towns incentivized leaf bags or stickers to increase such service.

McCarthy asked if the county ever approached franchising one waste hauler. Willis responded by saying it would only affect the unincorporated areas of the county so they haven't yet.

Trish Wilson (Leland Grove) asked if there are restrictions on what can be recycled at drop-off centers or with curbside recycling. Willis responded with a definitive yes and that education is best way to teach residents on what can or cannot be recycled.

President Rogers (Illioopolis) asked the group what towns charge for yearly waste hauling licensures. Chair Rader (Riverton) stated that the Village of Riverton's rate is \$250.

Chair Rader posed a question to Stumpf by asking if they have selected persons to be involved in the Sangamon County Solid Waste Management Plan. Stumpf replied that they have not yet begun their selection process, but will be there soon. Brian McFadden (Sangamon County) mentioned that part of the purpose of tonight's meeting was to see if there was anyone interested in having a part with the waste plan.

Jim Stone (Sangamon County Public Health) asked the members of RLC if setting time to discuss the waste plan during RLC meetings is preferred or if it is more feasible to schedule special meetings pertaining to the waste plan. The group agreed to discuss the waste plan during regularly-scheduled RLC meetings.

President Mulcahy (Buffalo) requested background information and other waste plan-related documents before July's meeting. Willis agreed to offer such information and documents.

President Rogers asked if businesses are under the same rules and regulations as residents are in regards to deciding a waste hauler under a licensure or ordinance model. Willis answered that towns can enact commercial waste hauling licensures, but this can be a difficult process for towns and the waste hauler(s).

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Rader adjourned the meeting.