

**MONTGOMERY-OTSEGO-SCHOHARIE SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: July 28, 2005

LOCATION: MOSA Administrative Complex, Howes Cave

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Donald Lindberg
Edward Wesnofske
Charles Buck

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Raymond Halgas

OTHERS PRESENT:

Gilbert Chichester
Melissa Morlang
Terry Bliss
Olga Podmajersky

1. Opening

Chairman Lindberg opened the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

2. Minutes

Minutes of the June 30, 2005 were unanimously approved.

3. Proposed Changes to the Operating Procedures Manual

Proposed changes to the operating procedures manual were distributed as attached hereto. Clarification was brought to the fact that if garbage is left in the hopper at the rear of garbage compactor trucks it is considered uncovered. A change was made relative to turning compactor boxes. The prior procedure required haulers to turn the boxes at the originating site to facilitate dumping. If this procedure were followed it would create an unsafe distribution of weight on the roll-off truck. The procedure was changed to allow for the turning of boxes at MOSA facilities but only at designated areas.

All members present approved the changes.

4. Eastern Landfill Repairs – FEMA Application

Gilbert Chichester reported that FEMA has requested the Authority to go to bid to select a contractor to repair the Eastern Landfill. Mr. Chichester stated that there were not a sufficient number of MOSA staff available to perform the repairs internally. Barton and Loguidice will be preparing the bid specifications.

5. Scales at ATS

Gilbert Chichester reported that since the last Operations Committee meeting the scales at the Amsterdam Transfer Station were hit by lightning. The scale company attempted to repair the scales. The Montgomery County sealer of weights and measures did an inspection of the scale and determined that they were not certifiable. The scale company reported that they did not feel that it was worth the cost of additional repairs as they could not guarantee that scales would be certifiable.

Mr. Chichester is requesting authorization to seeks bids on replacing the incoming scale at ATS. A resolution to this effect will be presented at the Board Meeting.

6. Safety Inspections

As a result of the recent PESH inspections the Authority has remedied the items noted relative to the Northern Transfer Station. A lanyard has been installed to eliminate the possibility of a fall injury while tarping the trailers. Staff will also be informed of the Personal Protective Equipment issues.

Mr. Chichester reported that although all the current inspection issues raised have been dealt with other more difficult issues have surfaced. PESH has reported that they do not want anyone walking on top of the trailers while tarping. They had witnessed injury's at other transfer stations. An alternate tarping method needs to be developed. Mr. Chichester will be meeting with PESH representatives for four days in August to address this issue.

Terry Bliss stated that he had received a report from PESH relative to violations relating to the recycling activities at the Northern Transfer Station. The more difficult issue to deal with was the fact that the County employee has access to the transfer building where significant amount of pigeon feces is located. PESH is looking for a remediation plan. Mr. Lindberg suggested that Otsego County should provide a separate structure for the county recycling employee and not allow him access to the building. This would eliminate the need to clean the building. Mr. Bliss stated that he would report back to the Otsego County Solid Waste Committee and PESH regarding this plan.

7. Northern Transfer Station Operational Changes

Mr. Chichester reported to that at the last Operations Committee meeting it was decided not to allow dump trucks or trailers to use the Northern Transfer Station. It was felt at the time that the station is not setup to accommodate this type of vehicle and the larger quantity of waste being delivered. Mr. Chichester recently visited the Northern Transfer Station and spoke to a resident delivering waste with a trailer. He explained that the Authority would not be allowing him to deliver his waste in this manner and the resident explained that he accumulates a larger quantity of waste to make it worth his time to use the site. He felt that more people would find other more inappropriate ways to dispose of their waste if they were not allowed to use trailers.

Mr. Chichester felt it important for the committee to understand at least one resident's point of view on this issue. The committee recognized the concern but felt that it was still important to eliminate traffic and waste flow from dump trucks and trailers. The purpose of the site is a convenience station to handle bagged waste generated by homeowners and delivered by homeowners.

8. Other Business

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No other business was brought forward

9. Closing

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Morlang
Director of Finance and Administration