

# CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD

Cherry Island Landfill

April 20, 2009

## Notes

The April 20, 2009, meeting of the Citizen's Advisory Board (CAB) commenced at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Delaware Recycling Center, 1101 Lambsons Lane, New Castle.

Attendees:

### CAB

Thomas Mitten  
Marvin Thomas  
Vince D'Anna  
Deborah Deubert

### DSWA

Richard Watson  
Robin Roddy  
Michael D. Parkowski  
Pam Williamson

### DNREC

Bryan Ashby  
Robert Hartman

### ***Introductions***

Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

### ***Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) Updates***

Mr. Hartman presented DNREC's update on their activities at Cherry Island (see attached).

### ***Cherry Island Landfill Update***

The yard waste ban is continuing at Cherry Island. Mr. D'Anna suggested that DSWA calculate the volume savings the yard waste ban has produced. Mr. Mitten wanted to know if DSWA kept a count of yard waste bags that were received. Mrs. Roddy said that DSWA keeps tracks of the tonnage of yard waste that is coming. All Recycle Delaware loads are weighed coming in. DSWA also keeps track of other haulers bringing in yard waste. Those numbers will be counted toward the total yard waste amounts for the year. Mrs. Roddy pointed out that there are a lot of costs associated with handling and recycling the yard waste. Mr. D'Anna said that it was important to know what those costs are. Mrs. Roddy updated the Committee on landfill activities. The expansion project construction commenced on March 6 after a planned winter shutdown. The wall building portion of the work should be completed this summer. The contractor will then proceed with all of the other components of the construction. This will give Cherry Island approximately

15,000,000 million cubic yards of capacity. Bids for the operations of Cherry Island operations were just received. The apparent low bidder is Cherry Island LLC, the current operator. The new contract price is \$15,000,000 for operations plus some construction on the landfill gas system. The contract is for a two year period, with option to renew for a third year, beginning October 1, 2009.

### ***Wilmington waste water sludge disposal at Cherry Island***

Mr. D'Anna noted that the City of Wilmington (COW) has made no provision for the disposal of the waste water sludge. He suggested that DSWA provide incentive to the COW to find another means of disposal, besides the landfill, by raising the tipping fee to dispose of the sludge. Mr. Watson said that before the sludge could even be considered for disposal it would have to meet certain criteria. Mrs. Roddy told the CAB that DSWA had met with the COW several years ago to discuss what plan they had for the disposal of their sludge. Mr. Mitten said that the CAB's concern is that the COW's lack of action would void out the whole yard waste ban from a capacity standpoint. Mr. Thomas asked if there were any other reasonable alternatives for the COW. Mr. Watson said that there were alternatives but any of them would take several years. Mr. Thomas wanted to know if any suggestions have been presented to the COW. Mr. Watson said that he had told the COW they should investigate a fertilizer production process like the one Kent County Waste water Treatment plant successfully uses.

**MOTION A** – Moved by Mr. D'Anna

“The Citizen’s Advisory Board suggests that the Delaware Solid Waste Authority Board of Directors do what they can to incentivize the City of Wilmington to come up with a solution that doesn’t involve disposal of the City of Wilmington’s waste water sludge in the Cherry Island Landfill.”

**Second** – Mrs. Deubert

**Vote** – Unanimous

(Mitten, D'Anna, Deubert, Thomas) (Unanimous)

**MOTION ADOPTED**

Mr. Mitten asked for Mr. D'Anna to draft a letter to DSWA's Board of Directors.

### ***Invitation to sponsors***

Mr. Mitten would like to again invite the sponsors to come to a CAB meeting.

***Resignation of Mr. Robert McWilliams***

Mr. Mitten noted that Mr. McWilliams has resigned from the CAB. Mr. Mitten sent a letter to Governor Markell asking for a new appointee from his office. Mr. Mitten will also send a letter to Alfonzo Plant to inquiry about his attendance at the CAB meetings.

***Signature of Citizen's Advisory Board Charter***

Ms. Deubert signed the Charter that was approved in January 2007.

***Approval of Citizen's Advisory Board Annual Report, July 2008***

**MOTION B** – Moved by Mr. D'Anna

“Accept the Citizen's Advisory Board Annual Report.”

**Second** – Ms. Deubert.

**Vote** – Unanimous  
(Mitten, D'Anna, Deubert, Thomas) (Unanimous)

**MOTION ADOPTED**

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

DSWA Cherry Island Landfill Summary for the Citizens Advisory Board  
Prepared by Robert Hartman, DNREC Solid & Hazardous Waste Management Branch  
April 20, 2009

1. During the first quarter of 2009, there was one odor complaint made about the Cherry Island landfill. On Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, a resident on Vandever Avenue called the DNREC Environmental Complaints line (1-800-662-8802) and reported that he smelled a strong odor at his home and along 12<sup>th</sup> Street. There was no DNREC enforcement officer available at the time of the call, and the DNREC was not able to confirm the odor or its source on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Solid & Hazardous Waste Management Branch staff continued to inspect the landfill during the week following the complaint and did not find any violations for odors.
2. The DNREC on-site inspector continued to inspect the facility and 12th Street for litter and dust. Overall, inspectors found the DSWA to be satisfactorily controlling litter and dust both on site and off.
3. DSWA reported no fires or spills during the first quarter of 2009.
4. DSWA continued to find excessive amounts of methane in some gas probes along the western side of the landfill. Interim report pending.
5. DSWA reported the receipt of prohibited wastes once during the quarter. On February 25, 2009, DSWA discovered suspected asbestos material in a load of demolition waste brought to the landfill's general working face. The material was removed from the working face and disposed of in the asbestos area.
6. DSWA remains in compliance with the conditions of the Yard Waste Ban. During the first quarter of 2009, DSWA issued no yard waste citations or warnings to haulers at CIL. In 2008, DSWA issued 43 warning and 11 citations to haulers for attempting to landfill excessive amounts of yard waste at CIL.