

Bethlehem Landfill Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, August 19, 2021
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Lower Saucon Township
Attendance: **Bethlehem Landfill:** Astor Lawson & Cody White; **Members:** None; **Staff Members:** Tracie Raven; **Council Liaison:** Tom Carocci.
Guests: Donna Louder, Susan Severn and Victoria Opthof-Cordaro

Astor Lawson reviewed the monthly tonnages for July:

	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>
MSW	20,184.96	22,319.66	18,345.14
C&D	6,945.65	6,572.63	5,167.23
Residual (Total)	3,319.66	4,778.49	3,825.05
Asbestos	0.00	0.00	0.00
Alternate Daily cover	1,997.70	2,010.36	4,114.54
Sewage Sludge	406.46 (1.24%)	393.40 (1.09%)	401.68 (1.26%)
Out of State (Total)	16,634.66 (51%)	15,199.95 (42%)	15,895.02 (50%)
Recycle	7 (71%)	5 (80%)	9 (89%)
Weaver Popcorn Manufacturing	Food Waste (430)	8/10/21	
PSE&G Hudson Generating	Refractory Material (103)	8/13/21	
1150M Woodland Park, LLC	Contaminated Soil (506)	8/17/21	

Tom called the meeting to order and announced those present. Astor Lawson started the meeting by reviewing the July agenda items on the reports sent over by Dave Panucci at Bethlehem Landfill. Scott Brown visited the landfill on the mornings of 8/5/21 and again on 8/19/21 and his report was included.

Astor said there three Form U Submittals from August 10, 2021 to August 17, 2021. He said the third quarter sampling event is scheduled for August 30 through September 2, 2021. There were several correspondence/reports; Stone Crusher capacity report for July; Stormwater Annual report; Abatement Well report and Leachate report for July; and Overweight Report for July.

Astor said there were two DEP inspections with Matt Glogowski from Solid Waste on July 29 and Amy Faulch from Solid Waste on August 11, 2021. There were two Host Municipal Inspections by Scott Brown on August 5 and August 19, 2021.

Astor said for Commercial Waste vehicles in July, overweight vehicles - there were 75 overweight, with 64 warnings and 11 suspensions.

Astor said the Average Flare Flow for July was 3508 SCFM. There were no shutdowns or malfunctions during the month of July. The North Slope Road does not need any repairs, swale does not need any repairs, and the abatement systems continue to operate and are discharged to the Bethlehem wastewater treatment plant. Astor said the leachate collection flow rate continues to be monitored and reported. Astor said there were four radioactive loads for July. All these met Level I requirements and were disposed of on site. Waste operations are still in SE-2AB Phase I. The odor complaint log is attached.

Cody White said the air quality inspection was on August 4th and Amy Faulch was out on August 11th. Her report will be included in next meeting notes. Donna Louder stated that the website did not include any DEP air quality reports and DEP sends them to the Township to post for the public. Tom stated that we can pull them off the DEP website and put them on. Victoria Opthof-Cordaro said the DEP Solid Waste Inspection reports were not updated on the website since 4/28/21. These were the last solid waste reports that were posted.

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Tom stated that the percentage of overweight vehicles went up since last month and asked Astor if there were any fines that were issued and asked how long law enforcement was out there. Astor said that LSTPD were out there today for a short time, maybe about an hour. They were also out the week before the last and he wasn't aware of any fines that were issued. They were there when Scott was there. Tom said he would speak to the Chief to see if the Police Department can show more presence at the landfill to keep the percentage of overweight vehicles from going up.

Tom asked about shutdowns with the flare and Astor stated there were no shutdowns related to the flare. Tom also asked about the litigation and if the BRE arbitration is wrapped up yet. Astor said that they are done and are already going back and forth about the stormwater. Tom asked if there were any comments from the public.

Donna stated that on 7/13/21 HEA went to do the inspection. She referenced #8 on their report. She wanted to know what kind of coverage was being stockpiled. Astor said clean soil, that's what they've always used. Donna wanted to talk to Scott to add more detail to the report that would include this type of stuff because she looks at the reports and likes to know where she's at and if she has any concerns about what's being used. She wants to know what capping material is being used for Cell 4? Is it permanent or temporary? Astor said that they're working on the final cap, so it's the liner going over the final cap.

BLF increased in detection flow. After they built the cell they realized that the meter shot up, so they ran a bunch of tests, brought in leak detection company, as well as DEP to inspect the liner and it was determined that there were no open leaks in the cell and came to a conclusion that at the time it was just stormwater that was trapped. The cells are built in the winter and it was concluded that stormwater was trapped in between during the construction. No other issues have happened since then.

Victoria said the HEA reports should be included with the agenda. She asked that we could include the HEA inspection reports that are noted on the agenda. Tom said they're on the website. She said the HEA reports are scattered in the website. She referred back to Donna's issue that the DEP reports are not on the website. She said access to these reports would be helpful. She was wondering about the gallons for phase 4 PSA 2. She was curious as to why any gallons were not discharged in that spot on the report. The last line item did not change & all the others above did. Cody addressed this by explaining the reason the Phase IV PSE2, 7667 were reading 0 is because those are detection flows, so if the number is reading 0, there is no detection flow coming out of that running out of that Ph. IV pump station. That number is not a totalizer. It calculates how many are calculated through that day. If there are no flows then that would reflect 0. Victoria would like stricter enforcement on overweight trucks. Tom said the committee cannot fine for overweight trucks, the fines are set by State law, the committee doesn't set or enforce fines. He'll talk to Chief, that's all the committee can do, nothing more to address here. Victoria said she wanted a letter to go to LSTPD asking for stricter enforcement. Tom said, no, he can speak to the Chief, as he previously mentioned. Victoria said she wants her questions clarified. Astor explained further that they have little enforcement power and for the overweights there is not a clear answer. He further explained that police have been out there and they only have the authority to issue citations and fines. Victoria asked Tom again to send a letter to LSTPD and Tom responded that he said he will talk to the Chief. This was the third request and Tom assured Victoria that he would be in contact with the Chief regarding these issues. Victoria said she received a DEP response letter but also stated that DEP does not respond to odor complaints timely or properly and the Landfill would have to respond. She's asking Tom to direct another letter to follow up on the odor complaints to DEP and the Landfill. She wants the Committee to draft a letter addressing odor complaints. Tom said a request for a letter from the Committee regarding odor complaints can be discussed during the next meeting. Astor said that after DEP received Victoria's letter things have gotten better and asked Amy Faulch if they had anyone on call to come check out odors. Astor is pushing the DEP to be more involved and active when it comes to these complaints. Donna said DEP has been contacted multiple times and she reaches out to Amy Faulch when it becomes urgent. This is an on-going problem, she said. She also said that the smells in Steel City have not been nearly as bad as in the past. She said the cover on Cell 4 has contributed to this improvement. Donna said the Applebutter and Ringhoffer areas are going to have problems because that's the work site. Astor stated that the City of Bethlehem and LSTPD have been using Landfill scales and they do cite the drivers for overweight trucks, things are getting better he said. Astor is a big advocate for the residents, but DEP is truly responsible for any ongoing odor and overweight trucks issues. Tom agreed to look into the Committee drafting

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a letter to send to Milou Mackenzie and other State Reps. Donna said the Landfill is in Robert Freeman's jurisdiction. A letter can be discussed during the next meeting with other Committee members and possibly send it to the State Reps. to investigate.

Sue said she would like to know where the sewage sludge is being dumped. Are they bringing it in on slick sided trucks she asked? Astor said that it's going to a working phase and he's not sure of what she means about slick-sided trucks. Sue said it's a slick dump operation and not a regular dump truck. Astor said there's a DEP operation happening currently due to disposal of tires and that could be the reason for the larger truck traffic. They have a route on a transportation plan but it's hard to monitor who's using it. Sue said there's a radar gun that's on a tripod that's on Applebutter road. No one knows what this is. Tom asked Astor if he can find out what this is. Sue said that Applebutter is dangerous and should only really be turned into a one-way road.

Donna asked Astor why they have to use the sludge as a soil. Astor said they don't use sludge, he said the sewage is just a disposal and not being used as a fill. He said the sewage is placed in a hole dug and put where the trash is and it's not being used for any fill. He said he can't speak for what previous companies did with the sewage. Donna said that Bethlehem Landfill is very respectful to the residents. Donna wants to make sure that their operating standards are for the betterment of the residents. Tom said that that's what they all are striving for in the committee.

The meeting ended at 7:02 p.m. The next meeting will be September 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.