

**Becker  
Joint Planning Board**

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June 25, 2013

**Becker Town Hall  
12165 Hancock Street  
Becker MN 55308**

**Agenda**

- 7:00 p.m.**
1. Call Joint Planning Board Meeting to Order
  2. Minutes of May 28th, 2013
  3. Veit/Vonco II Compost Presentation
  4. Comprehensive Plan Review
  5. Other Business
- 8:00 p.m.**
6. Adjourn

What type of Feedstocks are coming in?  
Pre/post consumer food waste?  
Yard waste?  
Manure?

Papers?

~~Becker~~

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Members Present: Brad Wilkening, Gary Hammer, Rick Hendrickson, Tracy Bertram, Lucinda Messman

Also Present: Mark Rask –Planning Commission, Joe Danielson – Township Board, T. VanderEyck – Township Engineer, Richard Schieffer – Township Attorney, Amanda Fielder – Planning and Zoning, Jamie Johnson – Township Board, Kelli Neu – Planning and Zoning, Frank Kasowski – Planning Commission, Curt Hoffman - Veit, Doug Johnson - Veit, Max Milinkovich – Full Circle Organics, Bruce Rehwaldt – Full Circle Organics

*Note: Veit made a presentation at this meeting regarding the permit modification from a 5 acre compost site to a 20 acre compost site. Regular business (after minutes) was completed after their presentation*

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Motion to accept the minutes as presented by Hammer, second by Bertram. Motion carried, all voting for.

Veit/Vonco II Presentation/Q & A

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Regarding their source separated organics (sso) compost facility, this is a permit modification to increase from a 5 acres facility to a 20 acre facility.

Introductions by Kelli and Permit Modification concerns were presented. Curt Hoffman is the Environmental Compliance Officer for Veit/Vonco. He used to work for Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

CUP issues: RW Farms did composting for 2-2.5 years. Now Full Circle Organics wants to come in. Vonco/Veit has Demolition site, industrial site, composting site and trucking companies.

Q: Permit now – is this an amendment?

A: Yes. MPCA permit amendment because volumes have changed. They have already applied both to county and state.

Max Milinkovich, Full Circle Organics owner. He managed restaurants previously (has his masters degree). He handled Waste Management's Food and retail accounts for several years, then moved onto Target's waste recycling. Noticed no real infrastructure to handle organics in the area, so started Full Circle Organics (FCO) three years ago. Good Thunder facility has been open for 4 months right now. Started the process to open it 2 years ago. Right now they are doing 80-90 tons per week of organics recycling.

Needed a compost facility 'expert', so brought in Doug Johnson from Creekside/Hutchinson with 17 years experience. Doug has experience with Biosolids, SSO, Food Waste and Industrial waste handling. He started back when they were still figuring out contamination issues. Facility on 24 acres, 3,000 tons per year from homes. MN Compost Council asked him to be on their

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Board of Directors helping in the education area. He now is a consultant, helping owner/operators set up SSO facilities.

He mentioned there are four compost facilities he helped turn around (names were not given at the meeting).

Bruce works with permits. He is an engineer with 30 years of solid waste experience from the Mississippi Topsoil Facility.

Feedstocks will be coming in from the Tri-county region. Paper and food wastes mixed with wood chips and grass, food waste mix with carbon source (wood, grass, leaves) and woodchips

Odor Control – Mixing building will be totally enclosed with biofilters and a reverse flow air system. Mixing building 94.25' x 72.75'. Five mixing bays – one per day of the week. All composing to be done on asphalt so no issues getting it handled the day it comes in.

In-floor heat for frozen materials

20,000 gallon liquid tank for water run off

Use large mixer to homogenize the mix for the windrows

Maintain 55-65% moisture

Q: how much asphalt?

A: Phase I – 4-6 acres, then 10-12 acres later. All is currently fenced and has a sloped asphalt pad that will send water into a holding basin. That water will be used to keep everything wet and at the right moisture levels for composting.

There is a sister facility in Good Thunder that is very similar to what is planned here. They would be willing/like us to tour the Good Thunder Facility.

The Cold Springs facility had hiccups at first and is now doing great. They take turkey sludge from Golden Plump

Q: Why extended permit when just want to try?

A: Any changes require new permits, so ask for foreseeable changes now. If Full Circle Organics would leave, they are required to keep a closure bond in place, so the permit leaves when they leave. Most food scraps/yard debris would be from Sauk Rapids, St. Cloud, Sartell, Becker. Much discussion occurred regarding permit changes and state requirements.

Q: When is there to be Public notices/comments to take place?

A: After reviewal at MPCA, state and county. They make their recommendations to the board and they are anticipating the first Tuesday in August to hear. The township will get a notice of this. Check the MPCA website for a copy of the permits.

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Q: Storm water requirement?

A: have to capture water from the pad. The windrows should absorb most. Non-contact storm water picks up through the Vonco II permit.

Carve County Study sited – it took 18 inches of continuous rain to collect before any came out of the windrows.

FCO is planning they will need to use all the liquid that they collect to maintain the appropriate moisture content of the windrows.

Q: Control for non-compost materials?

A: there is chemical testing for these materials required. As far as glass/plastic – best option is to educate at the source. This helps to get clean materials. Materials are spread on the floor when dumped, so they are looked at before being incorporated into the mix. If there is greater than a 7% contamination rate, the load is rejected and the sender has to pay for its landfilling. At 7%, it doesn't hurt anything because the materials are screened out before the final product is sold.

Q: Rodents – will they increase?

A: not if materials are processed correctly. They hire in someone to check and see and why there would be an increase in rodents in the area. There is a 12-24 hour window of maximum order. If it is longer, something is wrong as that shouldn't happen.

75% of odors are from turning. They will have windsocks and check weather stations daily to be sure they turn on the right days. They will not turn on high humidity days.

Q: Good Thunder levels of composting?

A: Good Thunder is currently at 90 tons per day, permitted for 110 tons per day

Q: What are triggers regarding odor complaints to bring new public comment period?

A: If there are a lot of complaints, there are triggers. All complaints will be checked within three days. There will be enforcement actions, they could go so far as to pull the permit, however huge fines are usually the first actions. If there are complaints, FCO wants to hear about them and know so they can be pro-active.

Q: If operator changes, is that a minor change?

A: Vonco/Veit holds the permit, not the operator. They hire an operator.

Q: Permit renewal times?

A: 10 years. Checks at 5 years, renewals at 10

Q: Will sludge from waste water treatment facilities be accepted?

A: No

Q: Storm water from contact area to a 41 degree slope? How is it constructed?

A: Bitumus can handle this type of slope/be used to create.

Q: The runoff from the contact area is to be directed to an asphalt lined holding pond. The plans indicated the holding pond is to be constructed to a 4:1 slope. Can asphalt be placed to that steep of a slope?

A: Yes

Statement to the Board. 137<sup>th</sup> Street was constructed to a seven ton design in 1993 by NSP with approval by the Board. We do not know the actual pavement design. It was overlaid by the Township in 2008 with a 1 ½ inch lift of bituminous. Based on estimated current traffic conditions, we believe the existing roadway will provide a 20 year service life. However, with the projected increase in heavy commercial traffic generated by the proposed compost facility, it will not.

Q: inspecting material?

A: all dumps are to be flat on the center floor so they can be fully seen/inspected

137<sup>th</sup> Street projected traffic – right now that road has a service life and is a 7.5 ton road design with an overlay in 2008. Discussion regarding the amount of traffic and road stability.

Q: What is liquid food waste?

A: examples include creamed corn, beer, ice cream. Those items are managed better through a grinder pump. That is why they are considered liquid food waste.

Q: Bedding from farms? How can this be low manure?

A: it is mainly bedding from county fair cleanup. It is just an idea, not something they are counting on for this project. FCO decides the materials coming in. Ex: horse show at the State Fair, they hauled out the manure – it was mostly woodshavings and straw as animals being shown are kept very clean. The material is rejected at 40% manure. They do not take liquid cow manure.

Blue Earth County – Liter Township (double check spelling) – is where the Good Thunder Facility is located.

Kurt handed out cards to the board members

Veit/Vonco and Full Circle Organics were thanked for presenting and left.

Comp Plan Review – Amanda

Demographic section was drafted by Veronica at SHE.

School/Education – need to add Foley to the township

Edit/Fix the commuting to work portion as most people do not walk to work here

Other business:

- July 8 is a Public Hearing for the Hubbard Variance Request.

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- County sent a Notice of Violation to Russel Lumley on 102<sup>nd</sup> street regarding junk vehicles
- Pallet business update: still doing it? Neighbors report yes. There isn't to e any exterior evidence of the pallet business.

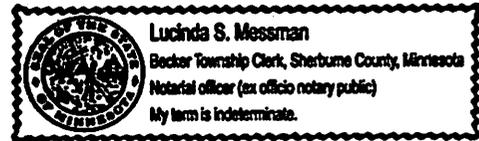
Motion to adjourn by Hendrickson, second by Bertram. Motion carried, all voting for.



Brad Wilkening, Chair



Lucinda Messman, Clerk



My term is indeterminate.

Notarial office (see office notary public)

Becker Township Clerk, Sherburne County, Minnesota

Linda S. Messman

