

## **MINUTES ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**

**MARCH 9, 2017**

Vice Chairperson, Neil Herzberg called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Members present were Harry Thielen, Mike Jensen, Chuck Koshiol, and Brandon Michaelis. Also present was advisory member Ron Mergen, Public Works Director; and Jeff Bertram. Don Williamson, West Central Sanitation; Bev Aas, and Duane Olmscheid were absent.

**Motion was made by Jensen to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2016 and April 7, 2016 Environmental Committee meetings. Seconded by Thielen and unanimously carried.**

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Motion was made by Thielen to elect the following officers:**

**Chairperson – Bev Aas**

**Vice Chairperson – Neil Herzberg**

**Secretary – Ron Mergen**

**Seconded by Michaelis and unanimously carried.**

### **MEETING SCHEDULE**

**Motion was made by Koshiol to set the meeting dates for the second Thursday in March and the first Thursday in April at 6:00 p.m. Seconded by Thielen and unanimously carried.**

### **SPRING CLEAN UP & HHW COLLECTION**

The date for the cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 8 to 11 a.m. The site has been confirmed with the school and the County is on board with the HHW Collection. Members reviewed the flyer and pricing on each category and item. Tire prices went up \$1.00 and all other prices for computers, TV's, appliances, and general garbage remained the same. Staff has confirmed that the ROSE Center will assist the senior citizens and handicapped with bringing items to the cleanup. Flyers will be ready to distribute at the next meeting. The HHW flyer was reviewed, no changes were noted.

The Bank of the West will no longer sponsor the cleanup day shredding services. Members suggested contacting the other financial institutions to see if they will support the shredding.

### **CURBSIDE SCAVENGING**

Members discussed Scavenger Days and noted that as long as the only cost to the City is the advertising the City should continue the event.

## **PERMITTED OPEN BURNING**

Koshiol reiterated the minutes from April 2016 and members reviewed the exiting ordinance noting that the burning of leaves was eliminated in 2004 and Koshiol feels strongly that we need to take it to the next level and eliminate all fires within the City limits. The reasoning is the smoke pollution from the fire pits is detrimental to people's health, especially people with asthma. Under our current ordinance anyone in the city limits can burn within 15 feet of a structure and if someone is burning 15 feet from a neighbors open window it is a nuisance. After a lengthy discussion, members suggested the City contact other communities and see what they do and Koshiol would conduct a survey in the Press and bring it back to a fall meeting. Koshiol commented that he did not complete this task before and would like to do it now.

**Motion was made by Koshiol to recommend that Koshiol conduct the survey.  
Seconded by Michaelis and unanimously carried.**

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 6, 2017.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.