

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

October 25, 2023

8:45 A.M.

Attendees:

George Haynes
John Kosier
Patricia Valente
Lisa Henderson
Tyson Robb

Joe Cetta
Bill Layton
Jerry Vernold
Jared Boice
Elizabeth DeFalco

GENERAL

- Review of Previous Meeting Minutes
 - The minutes of the October 11, 2023 meeting were approved as presented.
- Authorization to Fill Vacancy - Weights & Measures
 - LH, Lynn is selling his house and moving. We do have a person who is interested in the job. Lynn is willing to stay and work with him for a couple of months to get him trained. I just need authorization to bring the new person on.
 - Committee approved filling the vacancy.
- Safety Officer's Report
 - Report was distributed - copy attached.
- Safety Days Report/Summary
 - A copy of the summary was given to each supervisor - copy attached.
 - BL, Was this made available to the Towns?
 - LH, Yes. Each Town was able to send two people if they wanted. We also discussed opening it up completely so they could send as many as they want as we have the space. The biggest concern would be the cost of feeding everyone. Also, it is a commitment and if they say they are sending people, they need to send them. They can't just say they are coming and not show up.
 - PV, How were the Towns notified of this?
 - LH, Tawny sent emails, she sent a letter in the regular mail, she announced it at a Highway Superintendent's meeting.
- 2024 Drug and Alcohol Testing Contract
 - LH, I'm going to table this until the next meeting as we don't have all of the rates yet. It does look like some things are going up but it's not out of control.

SOLID WASTE

- Update on Regulations
 - TR, I am a director at large for the NYSASW so I was able to get some comments in front of the legislation for the bottle bill and the epr bill for packaging. This might be helpful locally as I think all the solid waste managers are in favor of extending the bottle bill to cover glass as there is no market for it. That would be very helpful. We are also in favor of not including those items we do have a good market for like hdpe, pet or aluminum or other valuable products as that's where we make money. We would also like to increase the UA stuff and we do not want to see the fee for stuff going into the landfill. Nobody is in favor of that. What they came up with for wording for that was if you have a plan that is accepted by the State you will be exempt so they would really be going after the private guys.

- TR, We need to increase the money for the epf, that would help us as there is currently a 3 to 5 year waiting period for that funding for capital projects. I was also able to get some comments in about the tire fee so that the fee you are charged actually covers the disposal of the tire.

- C&D cell

- TR, so it turns out that there is this thing called DMM3 that I just became aware of. It is designed for C&D cells under 3 acres that were built before the new regulations. It is meant to bring those old landfills into compliance with the new regulations of having a double composite liner. We have two options. For whatever reason, I just became aware of it, it is up to the individual regions to notify facilities and I was just notified on Friday. Our permit runs out in June of next year. We can operate until then. We can put a landfill liner over the top of the c&d cell, that's not structurally a sound idea. I'm evaluating our options. Can we there's two foot of clay under there and then we can just throw some composites and synthetics on top? Than would be much easier and cheaper.

- PV, What would that cost?

- TR, About a million an acre if I had to guess. Or we stop taking C&D, we only take concrete and brush which is not very helpful for our operation. More than likely we just move our C&D processing, where we make alternative operating cover, which is a good way to recycle c&d and keep the heavy stuff on site, on to the liner we just built. That is probably the best way forward for the County.

- GH, So we would grind all the c&d and not export anymore?

- TR, We would still need to export the bulky stuff. We are space limited, we are kicking export down the road. There are some operational issues as far as getting the larger haulers with walking floors into the new cell we just built. It has a 15 foot berm around it so it's hard to get to. So we need to work out the kinks, with the bulky stuff, do we load it into rolloffs and then onto a walking floor somewhere else? I think slow export is a long term strategy to kick full export down the road.

- GH, Isn't that what we do now? I mean the cell is pretty full.

- TR, Yes, that cell never gets full. We are basically using it as a processing area, however if we say we are just a processing facility we would have to put a roof over the entire thing. Not sure that's a good option either. I just want you to know this is an adjustment we will have to make soon. Several of the permits expire in June so the renewals are due in November so I am working on those. We did get the compost permit last week, that is good for 5 years. We have discussed combining the landfill permit and the compost permit to ease up the administrative work. That would be a facility permit that lasted 10 years. It would tie all of them together.

- PV, Is there any reason not to?

- TR, As long as we have some separation language in there so that issues like the c&d cell don't shut the entire facility down I don't see why not. It's how everyone else in the State is operating. We are the only ones with separate permits for everything. It would be easier for the DEC.

- Cell 4s

- TR, we are required to dig into this and take some destructive samples that they missed. We marked out the panels yesterday and they will be doing that testing maybe Monday. I think this is a bad idea but we really don't have option at this point. I have been asking around how often this happens and everyone says never.

- TR, Last time you asked how many tons we generate per year in regards to the proposed disposal fee. Overall we are around 50,000/year so at \$5/ton it would be \$250,000/year. What goes into Cell 6 is about 25,000 so that would be \$125,000/year so that would be a substantial amount added to our budget. That also relates to capacity. Again there are several ways to calculate capacity. So long story short we have about 1.2 years in cell 4s without compost.

Maybe 7 years when we piggyback onto cell 4. Cells 5 and 6 have about 300,090 yards remaining, Cell 1 has about 300,000 yards in it so we are trying to take that and use up the capacity on 5 & 6. Trying not to move into the new cell until we start the reclamation process.

- Compost

- TR, We are currently in shutdown until November 8th. We are putting in some insulation today. Will be doing the shell thickness testing on the 30th. AC equipment is coming in to do some inspection of the components around the drum after we are done with shutdown. Hoping to get MATCO back in while we are shut down to address some of the issues they found with their inspection.
- GH, So they drum will be repaired and operational by the 8th?
- TR, Yes. The fissure is stitched back together. We are doing maintenance as if this drum will last for two more years while we get the new one. It is definitely fatigued but they are doing the best they can.
- TR, We don't have really good drawings of what we have so there will be some design involved. I'm not sure exactly how to proceed with the procurement. I have a email out to Amy and Jeremy and I haven't heard back yet. There are several components that could be bid separately but I'm trying to figure it out.
- GH, So you want to bid it as one project?
- TR, Ideally. That would leave a lot less room for finger pointing if/when problems come up. I am currently trying to find companies that could even do it. Several companies were mentioned.
- TR, I am also looking for a structural engineers who know what they are looking at as far as reusing the ancillary components. With the amount of money we are investing in this I feel a third party engineer is in our best interest.
- TR, I have also been in touch with Belen regarding the actual structure that will need to be disassembled and reassembled when the new drum goes in. They have the expertise but not a crew so that's another thing to navigate. Skip is on board with what we are looking at.
- TR, I have been looking into grants and such for funding. There is epf which ties back into the advocacy of expanding the bottle bill to get them more money because there is a 3 to 5 year wait list, it's a good fit. There is \$4,000,000 max available with a 50% match. The obstacles are that they are changing over the grants gateway and DEC has staffing issues but it is our best option. There are infrastructure bills coming from the Feds that should be out soon that we can look at.
- Committee agrees we need to keep this moving.

ROAD

- Delaware South

- LH, Getting ready for winter.
- LH, Not quite done with the City yet. The post pounder was down for a few days but is up and running again so they should wrap that up by the end of next week.
- LH, Catching up on routine maintenance, doing some tree/brush cutting, ditching etc...

- Delaware North

- LH, same stuff as the South. Catching up on maintenance and getting trucks ready for winter.

BRIDGE

- BR 32

- LH, Still making good progress. They were having a meeting yesterday and I was hoping to have a report for you. Basically everyone but two of the higher ups at the construction company is on board to shut down for the season and leave the traffic on the old bridge for winter. It just

makes good sense at this point. The project has been going smoothly and we hope that continues. If they try to start earth work now, there's a good chance it will turn into a mud hole.

- BR 136

- LH, Working on getting this out to bid this fall so it can be done next year.

- BR 7-3

- LH, In design. Working on getting things to the State, should be heavily in design next year. This would hopefully go to bid late next year to be built in 2025.

- Bovina catch basins - finishing up this week

- JB, We should be out of there today.
 - PV, And you left the sidewalks to Bovina.
 - JB, Yes. Anything that wasn't near a catch basin.
 - GH, And you'll have more next year?
 - JB, I hope not. We got to everything that we had found. We didn't touch all 53 but we got to the bad ones.

- Sidney Demos

- JB, We should be taking down the last house we can today. Then that just leaves 70 River. They did come get the windows out that were the issue this weekend, so now we just need final sign off from SHPO and that can come down. That will be it for us. Hopefully that happened quickly but I'm not holding my breath.
 - JB, Gorick is scheduled to come in the week of November 19th, should be out by the 30th. With any luck the demolitions should all be done by the end of November. We will have some backfilling to do, we will get to that slowly because I'm about to lose most of my people for a few weeks.
 - GH, Do you have a full crew now or are you still short?
 - JB, We are still about half staffed. And in a couple weeks I'll be down to two guys on one and three or four on the other.
 - JB, The mechanics are getting a little behind because we are finding things that didn't get fixed in the Spring but the new guy starts Monday so that will help.
 - GH, Will you being short hurt what you usually get done in the winter?
 - JB, No. We'll get things done.

DPW BLDG PROJECT

- Construction status report

- JB, They poured half the floor at Neale Road on Tuesday, will pour more tomorrow. That should be all the floor inside there.
 - JB, Doing grading at Bloomville. Hopefully the paving company shows up in the next couple weeks to at least get the base down.
 - GH, That looks good. They are even coming along good inside. But it is the little things that drag it along.
 - JB, Office building, we found some ceiling tiles on the floor yesterday. My guess would be from the HVAC leak they had. You can see the water stains on the tiles that are still up.
 - GH, I thought they said they tested and everything was fixed.
 - JB, It may be but they haven't cleaned up yet. And they still need LG to come test it. LG wants it to run first, they are going in circles. So until they get that work certified we can't get the CO.
 - LH, We are slowly working on some small things. The blinds are there, Pete is getting them up now.

- GH, So once they get that tested and we get the CO we can move.
- LH, No, because they don't have the software for the door locks. Apparently what they installed isn't compatible with what IT has so they need to order new stuff so that it is compatible and will be the same as what was installed at the Behavioral Health facility. There was some sort of server issue.

LH, On the resolutions, for the road fund and solid waste it is 100% a result of the raises and upgrades being more than what was budgeted for. On the Road side there is some money that could be moved from Capital but there isn't enough to cover it all so it was just easier to do it this way. We have done a lot of work this year.

LH, The Capital money, we have just done a lot of work this year. We budget conservatively and usually have a few projects that serve as a place holders and if something comes up they get pushed back.. We got to all of those this year.

GH, Was there big projects that caused this?

LH, One big one I can point out is that for Flood Buyout we had bids out last year but the work didn't get done. We only budgeted \$95,000 and we will have well over \$600,000 in that by the end of the year. We also weren't really planning on 7-3 to go anywhere, we had a little bit in there for design but when the State came out with the next round of BridgeNY funding that got pushed to the front. We may not spend all of the \$3,000,000 but it's easier to do this once than to keep coming back.

GH, Where does that leave the fund balance?

LH, Right around \$12 million. I'm good with that.

GH, Does any of this but your fund balance in a bad spot?

LH, The road fund will be below \$5 million which is not ideal.

PV, On solid waste what are the two different numbers?

LH, The first (8162) is administration so that would be Tyson, the second (8160) is all the other workers.

RESOLUTIONS

Appropriation of Surplus - Fund 34 Capital Road & Bridge

Appropriation of Surplus - Fund 24 Road Fund

Appropriation of Surplus - Fund 22 Solid Waste Operations

**DELAWARE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
PO BOX 311 DELHI, NY 13753**

**JAMES D. THOMAS P.E.
COMMISSIONER**

**MAIN OFFICE & YARD
PAGE AVENUE
DELHI, NY 13753**

To: File
From: Tawny Meres
Safety & Training Manager
Re: Safety Office Report
Date: 10/25/2023

The following is an update to the activities of the Safety Office from 9/27/2023 to 10/25/2023.

1. Accidents

- 11-23. 10/11/2023. While traveling on State Route 10 in the town of Walton with vehicle #128, a 2023 Ford F-250, a deer entered the roadway striking the right side of vehicle. Minor damage was observed just underneath the passenger's side door.

2. Spills

- 11-23. 10/12/2023. NYS DEC #2305958. SWMC. Blown hydraulic line on backhoe #817, a 2003 Case. Hydraulic line failed near receiving wall, operator drove backhoe across yard to mechanics shop, leaving a trail of oil.
- 12-23. 10/23/2023. NYS DEC #2306259. A backhoe sat at the storage lot on CR 18 near the intersection with CR5 in the town of Stamford over the weekend. On this date, crews noticed oil underneath equipment #691, a 2009 John Deere 410J. It was discovered that while sitting, oil was being lost from an area near the swing frame. Due to weather conditions over the weekend, lost oil traveled across a small area of the storage lot. Contaminated soil was excavated and transported to the SWMC for proper disposal.

3. Facilities

- 10/11/2023. Chainsaw training was conducted with Francis Wilbur from Washington County. 17 DPW employees attended the training.
- A Safety Committee Meeting has been scheduled for 11/1/2023.
- FA/CPR/AED training has been scheduled for 11/9/2023 and 11/16/2023.
- 2024 contract for services from Emerson Testing has been received, awaiting approval.
- Sweatshirts have been received and distributed to all winners from the 2023 Safety Days event.

4. Near Future Objectives

- Run annual NYS DMV drivers license abstracts.
- Run annual FMCSA clearinghouse queries for CDL drivers.
- Begin conducting annual hearing tests.

Safety Office Report 10-25-2023.docx

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Solid Waste Management Center: 607-865-5805 Fax 607-865-2216*

DELAWARE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



4th ANNUAL SAFETY DAY'S 2023

HELD ON

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

AND

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

**DELAWARE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
PO BOX 311 DELHI, NY 13753**

**JAMES D. THOMAS P.E.
COMMISSIONER**

**MAIN OFFICE & YARD
PAGE AVENUE
DELHI, NY 13753**

To: File
From: Tawny Meres
Safety & Training Manager
Re: Safety Days 2023 Summary
Date: 9/26/2023

On Wednesday, September 20, 2023 and Thursday, September 21, 2023 the Delaware County Department of Public Works held its fourth annual Safety Day's training event. The event was scheduled to include all personnel employed by the Delaware County Department of Public Works. In addition to DPW personnel, a letter of invite went out to all towns and villages inviting two participants from each municipality to attend the event. In total, four outside municipalities sent personnel from their departments to the event.

The event was once again held at the Delaware County Fairgrounds, Fair Street, Walton, NY. There was no fee charged to DPW for the use of the venue for the two-day event. The Delaware County Fair further provided all tables, chairs and waste receptacles for the event.

For the event, attendees were divided into two groups. One group attending on the first day with the remaining participants attending on the second day. This is done to avoid removing all personnel from duty at the same time.

On each day of training, six training stations were set up. Each training station covered a separate topic of training.

In addition to the training stations, a snowplow challenge course and a skid steer challenge course were constructed to offer attendees a hands-on competition. Attendees who were not properly licensed to drive the snowplow, were scheduled to participate in the skid steer challenge.

The following is a brief description of training topics and instructors:

Station A: Safety

Trainer: Mark Rossley
Delaware County Emergency Services

Station B: Spill Response

Trainer: Rob Poprowski
Emergency Spill Response
Division of Environmental Remediation
NYS DEC

Safety Days Summary Report 2023.docx

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Station C: **Distracted Driving**

Trainer: Roger Cuva
Team Leader, Risk Management, NYMIR
Wright Public Entity

Station D: **Pre-Trip Inspection**

Trainer: Mark Miller
NYS DOT

Station E: **Tire Safety**

Trainer: John Douglas
Supervising Safety & Health Inspector
NYS DOL
Mine Safety Training Program

Station F: **Universal Hand Signaling and Site Hazards**

Trainer: James Tyczka
Associate Safety & Health Consultant/Trainer
NYS DOL
Mine Safety Training Program

Snowplow Challenge

The obstacle course included sections that would require both the driver and the wingman to complete various tasks. Tasks included maneuvering around barrels, stopping and backing exercises, raising and lowering the wing over obstacles and knocking softballs off of cones with the wing blade, without knocking cone over.

Skid Steer Challenge

Participants could choose between a hand lever control or foot control skid steer. The obstacle course included stacking pallets and placing stack back on target. Course further included a metal triangle that participants would have to take off of a rack and place in wooden triangle cutout, then return the triangle to the rack without losing any of the rubber ducks that had been placed on top of the metal triangle.

Training Stations

Attendees were broken down into 6 groups with each attendee receiving their own personalized schedule to follow during the event.

Training sessions were scheduled 40 minutes in length. At the end of each 40-minute increment, a blow horn was utilized to signal groups on to their next training station. Attendees rotated through all six training stations, receiving training on each topic.

On the first day of training 42 DPW personnel and 4 personnel from two outside municipalities attended the event. Additional DPW personnel was on location each day to work at obstacle courses, oversee food and refreshment area and assist where needed, this included DPW Safety Committee members and supervisory personnel.

For the snowplow challenge course, 13 teams participated in the challenge. There were 11 teams from DPW and 2 teams from outside municipalities. A team from DPW won first place and was awarded a free sweatshirt.

For the skid steer challenge course, 16 attendees participated in the challenge. All participants were DPW personnel, with the winner being awarded a free sweatshirt.

On the second day of training, 41 DPW personnel and 4 personnel from two outside municipalities attended the event. Again, additional DPW personnel was on location each day to work the event, this included Safety Committee member and supervisory personnel.

For the snowplow challenge course, 14 teams participated in the challenge. All teams were from DPW. Winning team was awarded a free sweatshirt.

For the skid steer challenge course, 12 attendees participated in the challenge. There were 10 participants from DPW and 2 participants from outside municipalities that competed in the challenge. Winner was a DPW attendee. Winner was awarded a free sweatshirt.

During the event, attendees were provided morning refreshments which included coffee and donuts. At the conclusion of training, participants were provided lunch which included Brooks House of Bar-B-Q chicken dinners. All food and refreshments were sponsored by NBT Insurance.

At the conclusion of training each day, participants were asked to complete a training evaluation form. Completed forms would be reviewed to gather information and suggestions for future training events. The first half of the evaluation form asked participants if they would agree, disagree or remain neutral with statement. The second half of the evaluation form asked participants for personal opinion on proceeding questions. 35 completed evaluation forms were returned on day one, with 29 completed evaluation forms being returned on day 2. In all, 64 completed forms were received. The following is a summary of the completed and submitted evaluation forms for both days of the event:

Item 1: Participation and interaction were encouraged:

- 19 Strongly Agree
- 31 Agree
- 13 Remained Neutral
- 0 Disagree
- 1 Strongly Disagree

Item 2: The topics covered were relevant to me:

- 15 Strongly Agree
- 39 Agree
- 8 Remained Neutral
- 1 Disagree
- 1 Strongly Disagree

Item 3: Trainers were knowledgeable on topics covered:

- 26 Strongly Agree
- 32 Agree
- 5 Remained Neutral
- 0 Disagree
- 1 Strongly Disagree

Item 4: The Training will be useful in my work:

- 19 Strongly Agree
- 35 Agree
- 9 Remained Neutral
- 0 Disagree
- 1 Strongly Disagree

Item 5: Time allotted for training was sufficient:

- 28 Strongly Agree
- 26 Agree
- 8 Remained Neutral
- 0 Disagree
- 1 Strongly Disagree
- 1 None Selected

Item 6: Participant schedule and training locations easy to follow:

- 32 Strongly Agree
- 26 Agree
- 5 Remained Neutral
- 0 Disagree
- 1 Strongly Disagree

The following items found on the evaluation form asked for personal opinion:

Item 7: What did you like most about this training:

Some responses included:

- Truck Course
- Spill Response
- Information
- Hands on
- Accurate information regarding work
- Everything
- DOT inspection
- Topics were covered that pertain to work and everyday life
- Duration of classes not too long
- Nice group of people
- Food and getting to talk to others
- Very well organized
- Tire Safety
- Topics were about our day to day operations
- Moving around, not being stuck in a class all day
- Getting out for the day
- Refresher
- Sessions were short enough to hold attention but long enough to give adequate info
- Topics were covered in depth
- First Aid
- Food
- Good looking teachers

Item 8: What topic of training did you find most informative:

- (18) Pre-Trip Inspection
- (3) Distracted driving
- (3) Safety
- (3) Spill Response
- (4) Hand Signals
- (6) Tire Safety
- (2) Trainings were all informative
- (1) Chicken

Item 9: What aspects of today's training could be improved:

Some responses included:

- More interactive and less slide shows
- (4) None
- Different competition courses
- Wider variety of topics
- Half hour classes with possibility of doing 8 classes
- Restrooms
- Possibly do earlier in the month to avoid cooler weather
- More food (2 chicken halves, more salad)
- Steak
- Shrimp

Item 10: What additional topics of training would you like to see in the future:

Some responses included:

- DOT
- CPR/First Aid
- Topics on Engineering
- Chainsaw/ tree felling
- How to deal with public/traffic
- Blind Spots
- Slips/trips/falls
- Power tool safety
- Load securement
- Mining
- All trainings were sufficient enough, helpful
- All went smoothly as always

Item 11: Please share other comments:

- Thank you
- Very nice
- Doing a great job
- More donuts
- Lunch was not served with a smile
- I demand Clark's chocolate milk for morning snack

At the conclusion of the second day of training, a closing meeting was held. Those who attended the meeting included trainers, Safety Officer, General Foreman, Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and Sr. Auto Parts Clerk. The meeting was held to facilitate discussion on recommendations and/or concerns that trainers may have encountered during training sessions. Some of the items tabled included:

- Mechanic sign-off on DVIR
- Next time DVIR books are ordered, it was suggested that books which include pre and post trip inspection on same page be ordered rather than just pre-trip.
- Driver concerns if trucks aren't loaded properly. (Ex: at gravel yard)
- Plow course as a training rather than a break-out competition
- Opening event to additional number of attendees from outside municipalities