

**JOINT GOVERNMENTAL ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**  
**Wednesday, May 13, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. in the Escanaba City Council Chambers, Room C101, 410 Ludington Street, Escanaba, Michigan, Delta County.

**Present:** Escanaba Delta County Commissioners David Rivard and John Malnar, Escanaba City Mayor Marc D. Tall, Escanaba City Manager James V. O'Toole, City Clerk Robert S. Richards, William Farley, Wells Township Supervisor, Judy Trudell of Maple Ridge Township, Cornell Township Supervisor Steve Rose, Peter VanSteen of CUPPAD, John Wolf of Ensign Township, Greg Johnson of Bark River Township, Gladstone Mayor Jay Bostwick, Gladstone Manager Darla Falcon, Gladstone Electric and Public Works Director Mark Polega, Pete Brock of Masonville Township, Don Pyle of the Delta Solid Waste Management Authority, and members of the public and media.

Escanaba City Manager Jim O'Toole called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussion - Delta Solid Waste Management Authority.**

Mr. Don Pyle, Director of the Delta Solid Waste Management Authority updated the units of government on landfill operations, offerings and recent rate changes. The following was reviewed:

- Provided a brief history of the landfill, what the landfill provided, and reviewed information on the reduction in waste they were receiving which would be effecting local rates;
- The amount of waste being dumped has dropped over the years reducing revenue, an item that was not anticipated, forcing the landfill to investigate other means of revenue and cost saving methods;
- Funds were set aside for capping of the south side landfill, but other costs have not been predictable. There have been increases in fuel prices, permit costs, environmental compliance, and equipment needs that have contributed in the rise of expenditures;
- Mr. Pyle stated raising tipping fees to cover revenue losses eventually drives individuals to take their waste to other facilities, which leaves the landfill too little business to make the revenue needed to cover their expenses;
- Mr. Pyle also discussed the elimination of the recycling center facilities, which would eliminate 25-30 non-traditional workers employed through Lake States, but the Board believed morally that would not be the answer;
- Mr. Pyle reviewed a recommendation for each Delta County City and Township adopt Public Act 69 of 2005. The act allowed counties to collect fees on improved property from local units of government that have approved an agreement with the county for recycling, composting, or hazardous waste material projects;
- Mr. Pyle would like to meet with each municipality regarding adoption of Public Act 69;
- Members discussed proposing a County-wide Millage to fund the landfill shortfall;
- Mr. Pyle concluded by stating no matter what method was used, he stressed the path forward needed to be accomplished within the next 24 months.

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**Committee Member Announcements and Updates.**

Those in attendance also provided Items of Mutual Interest and Concern in their municipalities.

Next scheduled meeting was June 10, 2015.

Hearing no further public comment, meeting adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

Robert S. Richards, Escanaba City Clerk, Recording Secretary