



## **Special Meeting Agenda**

### **City Council**

7:00 p.m. Special Meeting

Monday, June 29, 2015

City of Yankton Community Meeting Room

Technical Education Center

1200 W. 21<sup>st</sup> Street S Room 114

Yankton, South Dakota 57078

### Joint meeting of Vermillion City Council/ Yankton Board of City Commissioners

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Introductions**
3. **New Business**
  - a. Review of Joint Powers
  - b. Idea Sharing/Future Partnerships
4. **Adjourn**

**Access the City Council Agenda on the web – [www.vermillion.us](http://www.vermillion.us)**

**Meeting Assistance:** If you require assistance, alternative formats and/or accessible locations consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact the City of Yankton at (605) 668-5221.

**Council Meetings:** City Council regular meetings are held the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. If a meeting falls on a City holiday, the meeting will be scheduled for the following Tuesday.

As a courtesy to others, we ask that cellular phones and pagers be turned off during the meeting.

## *Council Agenda Memo*

### *Joint Vermillion / Yankton meeting*

**From:** John Prescott, City Manager  
**Meeting:** June 29, 2015  
**Subject:** Joint Powers review  
**Presenter:** Bob Iverson, Solid Waste Manager

**Background:** One topic for the meeting of the two governing bodies is the Joint Powers arrangement. Joint Powers was formed in 1994. There is an operating agreement that has had four amendments over time. The agreement was entered into by the City of Vermillion, Clay County, City of Yankton and Yankton County.

The members of the Joint Powers Board are:

Vermillion City Council member	Yankton City Commissioner
Vermillion city resident	Yankton city resident
Clay County Commissioner	Yankton County Commissioner
Clay County resident	Yankton County resident
Vermillion City Manager	Yankton City Manager

The Vermillion and Yankton Finance Officers serve as the secretary-financial advisors for the Board.

Without creating a new entity, the purpose of the agreement is to establish a system to jointly operate a solid waste disposal and recycling system. There are currently three main facilities for the Joint Powers operation. A transfer station in Yankton collects trash from the Yankton City collection and private haulers for transportation to the landfill. Recyclables are also collected at the Yankton transfer facility. Most recyclables are transported to Vermillion for processing. However, some recyclables are processed and sold directly from the Yankton transfer station. Individuals employed at the transfer station are City of Yankton employees.

The City of Vermillion operates the remaining two Joint Powers facilities. The current landfill on Bluff Road is a Joint Powers facility. The previous landfill which is now closed but must still be monitored was not a Joint Powers facility. The recycling center on N. Crawford Road is also a Joint Powers facility. The curbside recycling program is

not a Joint Powers operation. These two facilities are staffed by City of Vermillion employees.

**Discussion:** The 2012 landfill fire significantly impacted operations at this facility. Other than the purchase of some equipment lost in the fire, the landfill has largely recovered from the fire. Last year the Joint Powers operation began using cell 5 of the ten planned cells at the landfill. Not all of the previous cells are completely closed at this point and the remaining cells (6-10) have not been opened for use at this time. The current landfill is anticipated to last at least 50 more years.

Renovations at the recycling center to improve working conditions and provide more efficient use of the space have been discussed for several years. At this point in time, the plan has not yet been determined.

Yankton is planning improvements to the transfer station. A new scale is needed. Other improvements include additional concrete paving and an addition to the scale house building. Yankton is in the process of applying for a DENR grant/loan package to help finance the improvements.

**Financial Consideration:** The Joint Powers budget has been very tight for several years. A landfill rate increase was effective October 1, 2010 and again on December 1, 2014. The cost to develop landfill cells and equipment along with decreased recycling revenues has driven some of the cost increases.

Vermillion has historically had higher expenses with the operation of two facilities vs. Yankton. For several years, a flat amount was transferred from the Yankton side of the operation to Vermillion. About five years ago, a formula was developed based on actual numbers to adjust the transfer to more closely reflect expenses. The 2016 transfer amount will be based on the 2014 financials. In 2015, the transfer amount is \$ 398,000.

With the 2009 addition of curbside recycling in Vermillion, a second formula was developed. All of the recyclable product collected through the curbside collection routes in Vermillion goes to Joint Powers for processing and sale. A base annual tonnage was selected. Proceeds above the base tonnage are split 50/50 so that the curbside recycling program in Vermillion receives some revenue for the cost expended to bring in the additional material.

**Conclusion/Recommendations:** Administration recommends the City Council have a discussion with the Yankton City Commission on Joint Powers operations.