



# Department Updates

January 2020

## Clerk of Court

### Sharon Millermon Clerk of Courts

#### Collection of Financial Obligations when Probation is Ordered

Prior to 2020 when a defendant was placed on probation, the Department of Corrections collected court ordered financial obligations. When the defendant completed their probationary sentence, any unpaid court ordered financial obligations were reduced to a civil judgment and certified for tax intercept. Most defendants are placed on probation for a period of one, two or three years.

Beginning January 1, 2020, the Clerk of Court Office will collect all court ordered financial

obligations when probation is ordered. Defendants will be given 60 days to pay or enter into a payment agreement. If either of those options are not complied with, a civil judgment will be taken and referred to the Statewide Debt Collection for collection with notice given to the defendant. I am hopeful this will result in a better collection process by giving the defendant an opportunity to set up a reasonable payment plan, if needed, to get this debt behind them in a timely manner rather than years from their sentencing date allowing the defendant to move forward in life quicker and put this condition of their sentence behind them.

You might wonder how the Clerk of Court Office has time to take this new collection procedure on. We are simply reorganizing our procedures and working with the debt on the front end rather than at the end of a defendant's probation sentence. Unpaid debts at the end of probation consist of clerks reaching out to the Department of Corrections cashier unit in Madison, determining balances due and if money was paid how it was applied to the many accounts that court financial obligations consist of. We are hopeful this is a positive change for both the defendants and the court.

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## 2020 County Board Dates

January 13	9:00 a.m.	July 20	7:00 p.m.
February 17	9:00 a.m.	August 17	7:00 p.m.
March 16	9:00 a.m.	September 14	7:00 p.m.
April 21	9:00 a.m.	October 19	7:00 p.m.
May 18	7:00 p.m.	November 2	6:00 p.m.
June 15	7:00 p.m.	November 10	9:00 a.m.

## Waste to Energy & Recycling

### Ray Zeman, Plant Director

#### Review of 2019

Now that 2019 is behind us let's look back and review briefly the major accomplishments / history of the past year.

- A new wheel loader was purchased.
- Major repairs performed on one of our steam turbines.
- A new ash sump was replaced on one of the two incinerators.
- Design and procurement of the water treatment equipment.
- Completion of a plan of operations and approved by WDNR.
- Discussions with WDNR and EPA regarding an alleged finding of violation.
- 2 years in a row of financial stability.
- Over \$500,000.00 of major equipment repair and capital improvements.
- Obtained additional staffing to become fully staffed.

#### Looking forward to 2020

The Waste to Energy and Recycling facility is excited and looking forward to 2020. We have several projects and upgrades that are budgeted for and ready for implementation.

A major project that has been in the works for several months and is nearing installation is our new water treatment equipment. This new equipment will replace our current 33 year old outdated equipment and allow us to more efficiently treat our boiler water. We are projecting a yearly savings of up to \$30,000.00 in chemicals alone.

A public dumping site is on the horizon for a spring installation. This will be installed on the west side of the incinerator tipping floor entrance and will provide for public dumping without entrance into the building. Installation of this site will also provide us with additional space for staging of truck traffic before entering the tipping floor. The Barron County Hwy department is assisting us on this project.

Several projects are slated for repairs / maintenance on the incinerators refractory lining. We have budgeted, planned and scheduled for a several year program to proactively rebuild the current 33 year old equipment to a near new status.

The WTE facility is in need of a replacement of our current ash hauling truck. We are currently investigating all options for replacement and will complete this task within the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. Upgrading the PLC that operates the combustion and boiler equipment has been implemented and will be installed and switched over within the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.

Measuring the outlet of our stack is very important and needs to be monitored continuously with a piece of equipment that is called CEMS (Continuous Emission Monitoring System). A portion of that system incorporates a sample conditioning unit. We are in final planning stages of purchasing a new sample conditioning unit to improve the dependability of accuracy. The data from this equipment is reported to the WDNR on a quarterly basis.

The WTE Air pollution control operating permit expires June 28, 2021. Renewal of this permit and all associated discussions with the WDNR will be in process starting the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. The current permit was issued June 28<sup>th</sup> 2016. There are many possible additional discussions that may take place during this lengthy process.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual operator certification for the state of Wisconsin utilizing the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire – Barron County will take place the last week in January. This WDNR certified course is owned by Barron County and provides us the opportunity to train and certify our operators to maintain a license to operate the combustors.

There are many other projects that will be performed during the 2020 year. Totalling a budgeted amount of \$475,000.00 for capital improvements and \$280,000.00 for major equipment repairs. Investing in the safe and efficient operations for many years to come is the WTE philosophy.