

## **Payne Retires after Long Career with City of Muscatine**

*April 2007*

Lavene Payne, Solid Waste Director for the City of Muscatine, retired on March 30, 2007, having served the city for 29 years. For him, these are interesting times. As he leaves his long-time post, he is looking forward to retirement. It will be filled with part-time work managing the pro shop at the golf course, gardening, and running with friends. He intends to play some golf, too.

When asked about the highlights of his time with the city, he replied “the people I worked with – the city employees, the people at FOX; they were my friends. I’ll miss the camaraderie of the ISOSWO group, too. I’ve enjoyed operating the facility. We learned to operate it on the fly. There was some trial and error.”



The recycling and transfer station was built in the early 1990’s to receive and process recyclables and transfer haul all municipal and industrial solid waste to the County landfill. Lavene spearheaded the construction of the \$ 6 million facility. Prior to his appointment as Solid Waste Director, Lavene served as Laboratory Supervisor at the City’s Wastewater Treatment Facility.



*Lavene with the FOX “crew”, l to r Todd Whipple, Glenn Hunter, Lavene, Les Wolfe, and Doug Luzbetak*

Lavene will be missed – the staff at FOX has had the pleasure of working with him since 1994. Asked for his parting thoughts, he commented that “I’m pleased and proud and I have good memories.” That sums up our feelings at FOX; we’re pleased and proud to have known and worked with such a fine individual and we have lots of good memories of him, too. We wish him the best that life has to offer. Happy Retirement Lavene!



*Lavene with Rick Heller, Director at the Iowa County Landfill*