

**Minutes of Special Meeting
Solid Waste
February 1, 2019
9:00 a.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chair Pro Tem Leslie Duncan and Commissioner Bill Brooks met to discuss the following agenda item. Also present were Treasurer Steve Matheson, Solid Waste (SW) Director Cathy Mayer, SW Operations Manager John Phillips, SW Principal Planner Laureen Chaffin and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Chairman Chris Fillios was excused.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Pro Tem Leslie Duncan called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business:**

Historical Information, Budget and Strategy Overview (Discussion)

Solid Waste (SW) Director Cathy Mayer introduced SW Operations Manager John Phillips and SW Principal Planner Laureen Chaffin to the Board. Ms. Mayer began her presentation with SW's properties: the Fighting Creek Landfill, The Ramsey Transfer station and closed landfill site, the Prairie Transfer Station, the closed Granite Landfill site, and twelve rural residential collection sites. She explained that Idaho State Law required Kootenai County to provide a solid waste disposal system to its residents. Ms. Mayer stated that residential fees funded the SW system, with these revenues paying for all expenses. She added that it was considered an Enterprise Fund, so it operated through restricted funds that could not be used for other purposes.

Ms. Mayer described some of the complex structure of permits and regulations within which SW must function. She said there were services that SW contracted out, such as hauling trailers, household hazardous waste collection, battery recycling and wood waste recycling. She added that SW tries to use local vendors as much as possible when they need to make purchases.

Ms. Mayer provided a history of Solid Waste in Kootenai County from 1986 to the present. She explained what happened at the two transfer stations, Ramsey and Prairie, and at the landfill. She listed the various materials that were separated to receive special handling at the transfer stations: wood waste, electronics, batteries, household hazardous waste, tires, metal and recycling. She also described their efforts to improve the rural collection sites and cut down on people and businesses from outside Kootenai County inappropriately using SW services.

Mr. Phillips took over the presentation and outlined the structure and operations of the Fighting Creek Landfill, including their efforts to protect surface and ground water and manage leachate.

Mr. Phillips moved on to explain gas management and monitoring at the landfill. He said that they are required to constantly monitor gas production at the landfill, to see what is being released into the atmosphere. He added that SW had never been fined for excessive emissions. He explained how gas lines were installed in the landfill and how the methane gas was captured, then transferred to a gas-to-energy plant owned by Kootenai Electric.

Ms. Mayer described plans for construction projects at the landfill. She told the Board about the 2017-2018 Phase 4 Closure of sixteen acres of the original landfill and the 2018 North Borrow Development and Perimeter Road Construction Project. She said that in 2019 they planned to develop the next lined cell and entry area, to include unattended entry and low-profile weigh scales for direct landfill discharge of waste. She also shared some projections for projects through 2062.

SW Principal Planner Lauren Chaffin discussed the County's long-term responsibilities to its landfill. She pointed out that federal regulations require that the County be able to demonstrate it had the assets immediately available to close any open landfill and ensure its monitoring and maintenance for thirty years afterward. Ms. Chaffin said that post closure services include managing leachate and gas production. She stated that SW dedicates a portion of what every user pays toward the future closure expenses as part of the fee structure.

Ms. Chaffin touched on their budget and the long and short-term needs of the department, including their equipment replacement plan. She said that their residential fee was \$93 per household per year and had not been increased since 2010. She added that residential customers were allowed to dispose of up to 2,000 pounds of acceptable waste per trip and were not limited in the number of trips they could make. Ms. Chaffin described the Accounts Receivable portion of their operations also, which includes billing over 2,500 commercial waste accounts. She closed with a brief description of their financial planning strategies.

D. Public Comment (Discussion): This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County-related issue. Idaho Law prohibits Board action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance. Comments related to future public hearings should be held for that public hearing. There was no public comment.

E. Adjournment (Action): Chair Pro Tem Duncan adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

LESLIE DUNCAN, CHAIR PRO TEM

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk
