

**Minutes of Meeting  
Solid Waste Update  
February 3, 2020  
10:00 a.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Chris Fillios, Commissioner Leslie Duncan and Commissioner Bill Brooks met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Solid Waste (SW) Director Cathy Mayer, SW Operations Manager John Phillips and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business (Discussion Item):**

**Project and Equipment Updates**

Solid Waste (SW) Director Cathy Mayer reported on their ongoing construction projects:

- Household Hazardous Waste Facility—Ms. Mayer stated that they had just had a change order approved for this project that changed the contract date to March 6, 2020. She noted that there would probably be some finish work to complete after that date, such as paving and curbing. She predicted there would be another change order from Great West Engineering in the amount of about \$25,000 that should close out the project.
- Landfill Project—Ms. Mayer said they had finished negotiating with Earthworks Northwest for the final change order on this project. She remarked they had experienced some problems with the contractor and had to disallow about \$60,000 of his charges. She stated that the final change order would be for about \$112,000, which should close out the project with the exception of some retainage that would be held until summer.
- Landfill Compactor--SW Operations Manager John Phillips reported that they had decided on the Al-Jon model at a price of about \$845,000. He explained this was the primary piece of equipment they used to compact the refuse into place. He said they did not plan to trade in the old machine; they would keep it so they could rotate rebuilding and new purchases in the future.
- Misting Basin—Mr. Phillips explained this was used to evaporate leachate that ran out of the landfill. He noted that it had evaporated about 5.7 million gallons of waste water annually, since they had begun using it in 2013. He stated that it had been being operated under a self-exemption, but the DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) had informed them that it must be operated under a Tier 1 Title 5 Air Operating Permit in the future. He said SW would work with Parametrics to collect data on what was actually being released into the air and proceed toward getting the permit.

Mr. Phillips remarked that they had planned ahead in case they were not allowed to operate the basin this year and had already contacted HARSB (Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board) to make the necessary arrangements to transport wastewater to the plant if it became necessary.

Ms. Mayer predicted that she would have the 2019 SW statistics for the Board at their next meeting. She commented that preliminary numbers showed that they were up about 30% over the past five years in the amount deposited into the landfill. She added that there had been about 727,000 customer visits to the landfill last year, 92,000 more than there had been five years ago.

Commissioner Bill Brooks inquired about their efforts to cut down on people bringing ineligible loads to the landfill.

Ms. Mayer replied that, whenever possible, such loads were identified and turned away. She said one benefit of having regular scale house staff was employees recognized past abusers and turned them away unless they had valid work orders. She added that there was concern that some entities had begun fabricating work orders and said they were planning on monitoring the approaches to the sites in order to discover whether loads were coming from a questionable direction. She stated that they had the right to refuse service to offenders or make them pay for their loads on the spot, rather than paying on account.

Ms. Mayer reminded the Commissioners that her staff attended a management workshop once a year in which she, SW Principal Planner Laureen Chaffin and Mr. Phillips met with Transfer Station Managers to review procedures, set new goals and brainstorm for efficiencies. She said their meeting was this Wednesday and they hoped that Commissioner Brooks might be able to stop in and speak to the group.

Commissioner Brooks thanked her for the invitation and said he would make every effort to attend.

#### **Department Status Update**

Ms. Mayer thanked the Commissioners for their efforts in updating job descriptions. She noted that SW Spotters were difficult to categorize properly because there were really no similar jobs to use for comparison. She said she was prioritizing the SW Auto Mechanic next because they functioned as heavy equipment mechanics but were currently considered the equivalent of regular vehicle mechanics.

Ms. Mayer reported that Ms. Chaffin had taken her former place on the Idaho Solid Waste Association Board.

Ms. Mayer explained that they tried to use and contribute to in-state training sessions as much as possible. She said they had cut back on out-of-state training to concentrate on in-state, online and specialty courses.

Ms. Mayer closed with the news that she and her staff were already working on their FY2021 Budget.

- 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):** Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 10:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk

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