

Solid Waste Board Minutes

Park County, Montana

March 2, 2012

Attendance: Solid Waste Board (SWB) members Allen Carter, Robert Currie, Dennis Dodge, Dick Juhnke, John Kaiser, Ernie McCracken and John Schuler. Also present were Marty Malone and Randy Taylor, commissioners; Richard Wright, refuse; Lani Hartung, finance; Mark Westenskow, CTA; Ed Janney, DOWL HKM; and Jim Hunt, citizen.

Call to Order: @1:00 p.m., Chairman Dennis Dodge called a meeting to order in the Commission Chambers of the City/County Complex.

Comments from Citizens/Guests: Jim Hunt said he thinks the county needs an alternative location to take its own refuse to even if it has a contract with another entity.

Old Business

A. Discuss Plans for Green Box Site Improvements: Mark Westenskow, CTA Engineering, said CTA has been asked by the Commission to provide possible design plans for a green box site improvement at Chico complete with z walls. Richard Wright, refuse manager, said he supports the improvements as long as sites are manned, as liability issues will increase.

Allen Carter moved to try a minimum of one-month experiment of a roll off box and z wall for the public to use for refuse to be compacted and get accurate weights at the Chico green box site to see what weights can be gotten into roll off boxes and how well citizens can access the boxes. He said the site should be monitored by a county employee. Robert Currie seconded the motion. In discussion, Dick Juhnke said the county will need to inform citizens if the site is closed. Motion passed. John Schuler voted in opposition to the motion.

B. Discuss Issues with Gardiner Airport and Proposed Green Box Compactor Site: Westenskow said a site plan was submitted to the Airport Board on the previous Tuesday. He said the plans have the site in its current location.

John Kaiser moved the county proceed with a compactor design with a bear-proof fence. Robert Currie seconded the motion. An amendment was made to use a large enough compactor and pre-crusher to accept all types of garbage and the end product is suitable to be transferred to an end destination. Motion passed.

New Business

A. Discussion on Trial Refuse Effort with City of Livingston: Wright said the trial with the city will end the following Monday, and another trial ought to wait until July when a high volume of refuse will be experienced. Juhnke said he thinks the county should wait to try another trial with the city so as not to waste money. He said the city has lied to the county in public meetings about the \$53 per ton rate the city has quoted for county refuse. Schuler said local money goes with refuse when it is shipped elsewhere for disposal, so he thinks it would

behoove the board to consider incinerator costs to keep money here as a result of the multiplier effect.

Allen Carter moved the Commission explore all options of getting out of the contract with Envirocon. John Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion passed. Juhnke voted in opposition to the motion.

Finance Director Lani Hartung said the county would have to terminate three employees from its refuse department in order for the county to save \$500,000 by releasing handling and disposal responsibilities of its refuse under the predicated understanding the county landfill and transfer station would both be closed. Hartung said she thinks expenses that will actually be transferred into different funds should have been added to the city's \$53 per ton rate listed in the Bell and Associates study. Juhnke said he expects the Park County Concerned Citizens will view the Bell study as an incomplete study because it does not include the alleged transferred expenses. Currie said the study will not resolve the incinerator argument, and that needs to be resolved before anything else is pursued.

B. Discussion of Refuse Survey Results: No results available.

C. Report on Coordinating County Board Training Session with MSU Extension: Carter said the MSU Extension agent has invited the board to attend a four-hour county board training session. Currie said he attended a training before he was the chair of the Planning Board so he does not need to attend the proposed training. The board scheduled the training for April 6 at 8:30 a.m.

D. Other Discussion Items: Ed Janney, DOWL HKM, reported on costs Park County would incur to close its landfill. He said the county has about eight acres of Class II landfill to close with estimated costs of \$200,000 to \$250,000 per acre. He said Montana has regulations to cap landfill cells, the work of which is signed off on by Montana DEQ. Janney said contamination experienced by the landfill from Burlington Northern and subsequent monitoring requirements will increase the county's closure costs.

There was discussion about the option to have DOWL HKM provide a services contract to move forward with closure construction efforts.

Robert Currie moved the commissioners consider taking up the closure item for Class II eight acres of landfill at least to the 35-percent level to begin presenting information to the public. John Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Discussion of Next Meeting Agenda Items: The board will review solid waste survey results and Chico green box site progressions.

Adjourn: @3:50:54 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Dennis Dodge
Chair