

Solid Waste Board Minutes

Park County, Montana

August 10, 2012

Attendance: Solid Waste Board (SWB) members Allen Carter, Robert Currie, Dennis Dodge, Dick Juhnke, John Kaiser, Ernie MacCracken and Bert Otis. Also present were Commissioners Malone and Taylor; Barbara Woodbury, environmental health; Warren Newhouse, refuse; Camden Easterling, Livingston Enterprise; and John Mueller, minutes clerk

Call to Order: @ 1:04:26 p.m., Chairman Dennis Dodge called a meeting to order in the Commission Chambers of the City/County Complex.

Comments from Citizens/Guests: None

Review of Minutes: The board reviewed minutes from the July 20, 2012, meeting. *John Kaiser moved to accept the minutes for the July 20 meeting as read. Allen Carter seconded the motion. Motion passed.*

Old Business

Discussion/Decision on Cooke City Community Council Request for Refuse Assessment Reimbursement and Exemption: Kaiser said the board needs to determine whether all entities such as fire departments, community centers, the Forest Service, churches and schools should be assessed refuse and needs a list of all such entities. The board decided to table the issue until time it can further research it.

Discussion/Decision on Proposal from Four Corners Recycling: Four Corners Recycling did not present a proposal and was not present at the meeting. The board tabled the issue.

Discussion/Decision on Lawsuit Settlement with Park County Concerned Citizens (PCCC): The Commission said it has not received any official correspondence from the PCCC since an August 3 meeting.

Discussion/Decision on Landfill Fees, Partial Closure and Blowables: Commissioner Taylor said Ed Janney of DOWL HKM signed a task order to close a portion (seven to eight acres) of the county landfill using funds the county has for such closure expenses. The Commission said it has not received complaints of blowable refuse from the landfill.

Discussion/Action Plan on Gardiner Airport Green Box Site/Building Design: Commissioner Malone said the Commission officially requested a variance hearing scheduled for September 5, at which time it will request the zoning officer waive restrictions of the Gardiner Airport Affected Area and propose the Gardiner refuse site remain in its current location with addition of a building.

Discussion/Decision of City/County Joint Meeting to Finalize Service Agreement:

Taylor said the county has an agreement from the city of Livingston, the same City/County Compact agreement City Manager Ed Meece drafted in June 2012, and is just waiting for the ability to sign it. Kaiser said the board wants to reiterate the agreement should not contain an escalation clause. Taylor said the City/County Compact refuse contract with the city does not require a formal request to get out of.

Report on Trial Refuse Test with City of Livingston Decision on Continued Use of City Transfer Station: No discussion

Discussion/Decision on Green Box Site Fee Collection Options and Commissioner's Enterprise Article: No discussion

Report on Envirocon/Transfer Station Long-Term Contract/Proposal: Taylor said Greg Frame of Envirocon will meet with MRL and the Helena landfill to draft bid to dispose of county refuse to include a transfer station. He said Frame will try to provide that bid within a week, and the county's next step is to give Envirocon 60-days notice to terminate the lease if it does not accept it.

Discussion/Decision/Follow-up on Board Bylaws to Discuss Date/Meeting Times:

Kaiser said the board does not want to give up its administrative authority as written in the board bylaws. Dodge said he would like to learn the pros and cons of both administrative and advisory boards. Currie asked if the Commission will have someone provide a short synopsis of what an administrative board is and does.

Discuss Master Plan with Notes from August 3 Commission Meetings: Barbara Woodbury, environmental health, provided the latest refuse master plan complete with comments made at a public Commission meeting on August 3 in which the plan was passed by the SWB.

Other Discussion Items: Dick Juhnke said the county needs to run a magnet across green box site grounds to pick up any metal that may be lying on the ground, as citizens told him they will not enter green box sites for fear of tire damage from such metal. Warren Newhouse, interim refuse manager, said refuse personal already makes such an effort.

Juhnke said he wrote up a questionnaire and asked citizens questions the previous day from 1:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. at the Chico green box site. After presenting a list of detailed options, he said 16 of 20 people would prefer a compactor at the site. Juhnke said he asked citizen preferences for fixed green box site hours. He said 14 of the people would like recycling at the site, only one would prefer a pay-as-you-dumping system, only one person thought the current site test was a good idea after he told them it was costing taxpayers \$34,000 plus the cost of new roll off boxes and 11 of the citizens said they would prefer to attend SWB meetings in the evenings if they had a complaint to make. Juhnke said the citizens commented no one had previously asked their opinion regarding desired refuse services.

Other board members said the board made a decision to go with the trial effort, so it will do so but would find a better cost-effective alternative for county citizens if the trial proves unsuccessful.

Malone read into the record an email forwarded to the county by Montana Department of Transportation in response to Juhnke explaining MDT's policy does not permit placement of a building at the Chico green box site. Juhnke provided cost quotes he said he received to install three-phase electric and other needed utilities at a green box site to support compactor units.

Bob Currie said the average dump weights of all county trucks that ran over the city scales during the July trial was a little over four tons. He said that number is disturbing and why the board is trying to improve system operations. Juhnke said he obtained a receipt from a county front loading refuse truck that was just under 12 tons. Warren Newhouse, interim refuse manager, provided a report of roll off refuse and tire disposal figures.

There was discussion about having a disposal method for brush at green box sites so it does not enter the waste stream going to the city.

Next Meeting Date: The board will meet again on August 24.

Adjourn: @2:47:24 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Dennis Dodge
Chair