

Solid Waste Board Minutes

Park County, Montana

January 20, 2012

Attendance: Solid Waste Board (SWB) members Allan Carter, Bob Currie, Dennis Dodge and Dick Juhnke. Also present were Marty Malone and Randy Taylor, commissioners; Richard Wright, refuse; Barbara Woodbury, environmental health; Shannan Piccolo, civil deputy county attorney; Philip Fletcher, community development; Clint Tinsley, city of Livingston; Courtney Lawellin, PCCC attorney; Kevin Funk, Ray Sundling and John Payne, citizens; and John Mueller, minutes clerk.

Call to Order: @1:02:16 p.m., Chairman Allen Carter called a meeting to order in the Commission Chambers of the City/County Complex.

Review of Minutes: The board reviewed minutes from the December 16, 2011, meeting. *Bob Currie moved to accept the minutes as reported. Dennis Dodge seconded the motion. Motion passed.*

The board said it will review October 21 meeting minutes at the February meeting as originally submitted, and the minutes clerk does not have to re-listen to the 150-minute meeting audio.

Election of 2012 Board Officers: Carter said John Kaiser was appointed as a new board member and Currie was reappointed to the board. Commissioner Taylor said a Clyde Park board seat remains open.

Dennis Dodge nominated Allen Carter for board chairman. Dick Juhnke seconded the motion. Juhnke and Dodge voted for Carter.

Robert Currie nominated Dennis Dodge for board chairman. Dick Juhnke seconded the nomination. Carter, Currie and Juhnke voted in favor of the motion. Dennis Dodge was elected board chair.

Robert Currie nominated Allen Carter as vice-chair. Dennis Dodge seconded the nomination. Carter was unanimously voted as vice-chair.

Comments from Citizens/Guests: Shannan Piccolo, civil deputy county attorney, said Mary Anne Keyes of MSU Extension will hold a county board training at the end of February or beginning of March to discuss Robert's Rules of Order and parliamentary procedure.

Barbara Woodbury, environmental health, said the county recently mailed out refuse tags and some citizen surveys about refuse services have already been returned.

Old Business

A. Decision on Citizen Request to Refund Home-Based Business Refuse Assessment:

Ed Schilling, citizen, read into the record a letter he drafted about his claim that his and other home businesses in Park County are being assessed accurately. Currie said the board understands there are inequities and the board is trying to modify its approach to ensure all citizens feel they are treated fairly. He said Schilling's comments are noted and should be included in the refuse master planning as a current shortfall. Schilling said he wants to board to be aware of what is happening.

Bob Currie moved to accept Schilling's letter and vote on a possible refund next month after review of bylaws. Dick Juhnke seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. Decision on Date to Commence with Trial Refuse Effort with City of Livingston:

Dodge asked if the trial will answer any questions if it is done in the lowest refuse volume month of the year. Richard Wright, refuse manager, said a February trial will not accomplish anything, as the city can handle the county's refuse in February, but both entities together will not generate the refuse in February they do in June, July or August alone. Clint Tinsley, city of Livingston, said he thinks a February trial would show that the city can handle the county's refuse and any kinks can be worked out. He said the city is willing to conduct another trial in August or July if the county wishes.

Bob Currie moved to go ahead with the February trial plus or minus a few days to ensure county railroad bottles are filled, because it simulates two-fifths of the entire load the county will receive in higher volume months. Dennis Dodge seconded the motion. Motion passed. Dick Juhnke voted in opposition to the motion.

Dodge said Enviocon will charge the county \$914 to vacate the refuse hauling contract for one month during the trial effort. Taylor said the Commission will vote on whether to go forward with the trial effort the next Tuesday. It was decided that refuse dropped off at the county transfer station during the trial period will be handled by staff as usual.

New Business

A. Review/Take Action on Citizen Refuse Assessment Requests: John Payne, citizen, said he has six businesses in the county, pays Allied Waste \$1,700 per year to dispose of his refuse and pays Park County \$2,300 for the available county service that he does not use. He said he understands businesses have to support the county service, but paying \$7,000 for refuse for one acre is excessive and he would like a refund from the county. Wright said state law states a citizen or business must pay for a local refuse service when provided by a government entity regardless of whether a private refuse service is contracted with. Piccolo said she will research the state law issue. The board said it will put Payne's request on the February meeting agenda.

The board reviewed a written request from Citizen Susan Bohleen to remove and reimburse a refuse assessment from a dwelling that has been removed from a property

with Parcel #60300 as verified by the State Assessor's Office. *Bob Currie moved to remove and reimburse the assessment. Dennis Dodge seconded the motion. Motion passed.*

B. Reading/Decision on Letter from Citizen: Carter read into the record a letter from Citizen Ray Sundling about an increasing concern with refuse blowing from the county landfill onto Sundling's property. The letter stated a minimal effort was made by the county in spring 2011 to remove refuse from Sundling's irrigation ditch. The board said it will put the issue on the February meeting agenda for further discussion.

C. Report on Possible Alternative Property for Gardiner Compactor Site: Dodge said he and Carter talked to Kelly Stermitz about a possible purchase of property for a Gardiner compactor site, but that individual now is asking \$700,000 for 20 acres. Carter said he and Dodge will look into another possible property to purchase.

Commissioner Malone said USDA Wildlife Services are currently at the Gardiner Airport to fulfill an FAA requirement of evaluating wildlife issues there, the results of which may support construction of a compactor site building if it helps rectify wildlife issues. He said the Commission would have to appeal to the County Airport Board for a variance from Airport Affected Area zoning requirements in order to construct the compactor site.

D. Discussion/Decision on Installing Compactor at Clyde Park Green Box Site: The board said the issue was brought up in the event the proposed Gardiner compactor site ran into issues and could not be constructed. Wright said the Chico site is by far the busiest site in Park County, and Clyde Park and north sites are the best kept sites in the county. He said he recommends first installing a compactor site at Chico, particularly if money is an issue. Currie said he moves to proceed with all three sites to get one online as soon as possible.

E. Decision on Commission Talking to State of Montana about Logistics of Installing Compactor at Chico Green Box Site: Carter said a building at Chico would improve aesthetics. Taylor said a building there may be more conducive to citizens dumping at that site.

F. Discuss Cooke City Compactor Site Monday Hours: Wright said a part-time compactor site employee was hired in Cooke City, so the site again has Monday hours.

G. Commissioner Taylor Report on Disposal of Tires at Landfill: Taylor said Tim Steppe with the state told him it is okay to dispose of tires in the county landfill, but he suggested cutting the tires into four pieces to eliminate floating. Taylor said he will report next meeting on a county resident in the valley who is in the process of gaining approval as a tire disposal site with Montana DEQ.

H. Correspondence: None

I. Other Discussion Items: Taylor said he would like to invite Ed Janney of DOWL HKM Engineering to the next SWB meeting to discuss landfill downsizing and post-closure options.

Taylor said the Commission's outreach presentations for the Bell and Associates solid waste alternatives report are going well. Piccolo said citizen answers to the interactive presentation's questions are being included as public comment data. Taylor said the County Attorney's Office and the Concerned Citizens attorney will have to discuss whether a citizen vote is necessary to decide on an incineration option. He said the Commission will report on the presentations at the next SWB meeting with a possible report on collected data.

Currie asked how the part-time Chico/Trail Creek green box site attendant is doing. Wright said the attendant is keeping the sites clean, and he is finding that citizens are cooperating with dumping refuse in the proper bins when he is present, but refuse is not properly disposed of when he leaves the site.

Adjourn: @2:42:04 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Dennis Dodge
Chair