

**Approved at the March 27, 2012 meeting**

Flathead County Solid Waste District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
February 28, 2012 – **NEW MEETING TIME 3:00 p.m.**  
Landfill Office

1. Roll Call

Board Members present: Hank Olson, Chairman; Greg Acton, Vice Chairman; John Helton, Member at Large; Lorin Lowery, City of Columbia Falls; Wayne Miller, Board of Health and Alan Ruby, Member at Large. Absent: Jim Dupont, County Commissioner.

District Staff present: Public Works Director Dave Prunty and Recording Secretary Deborah Morine.

Attendees: Carlo Arendt and Randy Burns

2. Introductory Remarks from Chairman

Hank thanked everyone for attending.

3. Comments from public

There were no comments.

4. Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes for January 24, 2012 - **Action Required**

Hank Olson asked that the minutes be amended under item 6. b) to add John Helton's suggestion that the City of Kalispell planning for future subdivision require that garbage and recycling be incorporated in the plan.

**Wayne Miller moved to adopt the amended minutes of January 24, 2012. Alan Ruby seconded. Motion passed.**

5. Action Agenda

a. Modification of Monthly Meeting Time for Solid Waste Board of Directors – **Action Required**

Article IV. A. of the amended District by-laws allows the Board to hold the meeting on the fourth Tuesday of each month at a time and place to be determined by the Board. Since the regular meeting time for the last 11 years has been 5 p.m. the Board needs to pass a motion changing it to the desired 3 p.m. but there is no need to modify the by-laws.

**John Helton moved to change the regularly scheduled meeting time of the Flathead County Solid Waste District Board of Directors to 3 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Greg Acton seconded. Motion passed.**

b. **Contract Extension for Hydrogeologic Services – Hydrometrics Inc. – Action Required**

Hydrometrics, Inc. was awarded the hydrogeological consulting work for the District after a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was prepared in 2007. The original contract was for a three year period and then two 2-year extensions if both parties agreed. The first extension was approved and signed on March 11, 2010 and will end on March 11, 2012. Staff recommends approval of the second and last extension to this contract. Hydrometrics has agreed to maintain their current billing rate for the first year of this last extension and follow the contract language, which requires both parties agreement to a rate change, for the final year of the agreement. A RFQ will be prepared and advertised at the end of this last contract extension.

**Alan Ruby moved to authorize the Public Works Director to execute Modification No. 2 extending the contract with Hydrometrics, Inc. until March 10, 2014 to provide hydrogeologic consulting services for the District. Lorin Lowery seconded. Motion passed.**

c. **Olney Container Site - Action Required**

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) has informed staff that they are not interested in executing an easement on the property 0.7 miles north of the existing container site. This exhausts any land that staff and DNRC thought might be capable of housing a new site in the Olney area.

Last month the Board authorized the Public Works Director to execute the revised lease with MDT for the current Olney site from a ten year to a 20 year period with a 180 day termination clause. The District must improve the container site for security purposes and install bear deterrent fencing as we have done in our other areas where bears are common. The past three years in the fall a grizzly bear(s) has been in the refuse at the site. Staff has received verbal assurances that it is extremely unlikely that MDT would invoke the 180 day termination clause if the District was to proceed forward and construct the new site but they would have that right if they so choose. Also, the current site is partially located on DNRC land which they will be requiring the District to move the site as to not continue in trespass.

**Greg Acton moved to precede forward with the design documents for the eventual construction of a container site on the land currently under lease from MDT for the Olney Container Site. John Helton seconded. Motion passed.**

6. **Director's Report**

a. **Groundwater Monitoring Results for December, 2011**

With the elevated levels of tetrachloroethene (PCE) in MW-6D on the landfill's eastern boundary from the December, 2011 monitoring event staff and Hydrometrics, Inc. have proposed to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to re-sample the three monitoring wells (MW-3, MW-6 and MW6D) in March, 2012. This sampling event will allow the District to confirm the December results and also see if any increase or decrease from the previous

sampling has occurred. The DEQ has not responded to our sampling plan that we must submit before each event but we anticipate they will agree to our request to sample just the three wells on the eastern boundary.

b. Red Rocks Pit (Essex) Container Site Land Purchase

Staff has received and reviewed a draft buy/sell agreement with Martin Marietta Materials (MMM) to purchase 1.5 acres of land at \$20,000/acre. Included in the agreement is the “donation” of another 1.5 acres of land to complete the three acre purchase. The agreement has been sent to the County Attorney’s Office for review. After their agreement we can receive approvals from the Commissioner’s Office to complete the transaction. There will be an easement in the process that allows MMM utilizing the approach we will construct to the remaining land since they are unable to receive an approach permit from the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) for their remaining parcel.

*Hank asked if we should bid out the logging. Dave said it’s not a big enough job to warrant bidding. Hank asked if people could get firewood out of the slash piles. Dave said no, there are liability issues.*

c. Land Purchase for Landfill Expansion

At the January meeting the Board directed staff to organize the information meeting with the neighbors regarding the potential landfill property expansion for March 13, 2012. Since that meeting a personal issue has arisen that requires the Public Works Director to be out of town that week. The Board members responded to an email sent out that at the February meeting a new meeting date would be determined. Fortunately, the letter informing our neighbors of this meeting had not been sent out yet so a modification to the meeting time shouldn’t cause any issue.

*Dave stated that Tuesdays or Wednesdays in April are best for his schedule. The Board decided that April 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> (depending on availability of meeting facility) would be acceptable. Hank stated he would like to have the meeting location closer to the property owners. Dave suggested either Pin & Cue community meeting room in Whitefish or at the Flathead Community College.*

*Hank stated we need to guard the perception of how much money we have. Alan stated we do not want to become real estate speculators. Dave agreed, but stated that we do need to continue to look out for the future of the facility.*

d. Columbia Falls Site Greenwaste Memo

Lorin asked if staff could prepare a letter or memo on the acceptable greenwaste materials that citizens can dispose of at the Columbia Falls container site. Lorin said they could include the information in a mailing that is sent out to all the city residents. Staff has prepared and included the memo in your packet and would like to include the Board members in this internal review. It can sometimes be difficult to include all the pertinent information in a memo such as this and the extra review would be beneficial to hopefully stop any misunderstanding by the public who use the container site.

*The Board had general discussions regarding if this plan is workable for both parties. They requested that the information on dimensional lumber be removed at this point and just to concentrate on the greenwaste and decided it should be reviewed in a year to see if there need to be any adjustments or clarification. After these modifications the memo will be sent to Lorin for distribution by the City of Columbia Falls.*

e. Refuse Operations

Operations proceeded well for the month. Tonnage/Volumes are shown below:

January

Total MSW to landfill	5,587.26
Total Appliances Collected	224
Junk Vehicles Collected	2
Truck Trips to Container Sites	438
Refuse tons/trip	5.49

The District landfilled 17.0% less waste in January, 2012 as compared to January, 2011 and our refuse trucks hauled 5.5% less waste comparing the same time frame.

Gate revenue for fiscal year 2012 was projected to be \$750,000. Through January the gate has generated \$487,887.61 or 65.1% of revenue through 58% of the fiscal year.

f. Budget and Financials

Dave reviewed the Budget and Financials with the Board. Dave also stated that the preliminary budget will be presented to the Board next month. Jim Chilton will run through it with the Board since Dave will be absent next month.

7. Comments from Board Members

Alan Ruby said he had just come from a meeting with Ross Holter and stated that Ross would like to extend his appreciation to management and staff for their assistance in managing the FEC refrigerator program.

John Helton asked where the groundwater issue information is collected. Dave stated that all the reports are kept in the office.

Hank asked Dave to give letters of commendation to Shelby, Carol, Debbie and Dave Franklin for their assistance with the FEC Refrigerator Rebate Program and the preparation of the Fiscal 2011 Annual Report.

Hank also asked how the supposed “ground settling” at the West Corridor site was going. Dave stated that the drainage is well set up and there have been no issues with erosion or settling at the site.

Hank asked for an update on what's happening with the house on the Gray property. Dave said that Travis has until May to move off the property. Dave also stated that we are still looking at options to remove the house. He said the Trap Club might be interested in it for their caretaker.

Hank also asked how the anti-scavenging program is going with the employees. Dave stated we are in pretty good shape now, but it hasn't been without its challenges. He stated he shared a Notice of Violation from DEQ written to the Libby Landfill involving salvaging. He said it was a wake-up call for the employees that the State can issue violations for such behavior.

Wayne Miller stated that he has had friends tour the landfill and expressed his thanks to Jim and Dave.

Alan Ruby noted that he is going to the County mandated board training tonight after this meeting.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.