

## Approved at the February 22, 2011 meeting

Flathead County Solid Waste District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
January 25, 2011 – 5:00 p.m.  
Landfill Office

### 1. Roll Call

Board members present: Hank Olson, Chairman; Bill Shaw, Vice Chairman; Greg Acton, City of Whitefish; Jim Dupont, County Commissioner; John Helton, Member at Large; Wayne Miller, Board of Health and Alan Ruby, Member at Large.

District Staff present: Public Works Director Dave Prunty, Operations Manager Jim Chilton and Recording Secretary Deborah Morine.

Attendees: Mayre Flowers, Aubrey DeLane and Bob Morrow.

### 2. Introductory Remarks from Chairman

Hank Olson thanked everyone for attending the meeting and noted that all Board members were in attendance. He reminded everyone that Target offers glass recycling. He also expressed his thanks to Wayne Miller in getting the Sheriff's Department to commit to enforcing Ordinance 8.

### 3. Comments from public

Mayre Flowers updated the Board that the Commercial Hazardous Waste Event will be held on May 21<sup>st</sup> and the E-waste event will be held on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. They would like to hold the Prescription Take Back Event at the same time. Bob Morrow is going to check into safety issues to see if it is possible to combine. She stated that North Valley Hospital would like to participate in the event as well.

Mayre introduced Aubry DeLane as the new WasteNot coordinator.

Hank asked Mayre to discuss the Litter Campaign with the Board at this time. She distributed literature and asked the Board for direction as to a theme for the campaign. Direct and to the point or more of a positive spin.

Wayne stated he would like to cover two important issues regarding littering which are covering loads and the implementation of the fine. The Board directed her to create a brochure that is short and to the point.

### 4. Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes for November 23, 2010 - **Action Required**

**Greg Acton moved to adopt the minutes of November 23, 2010 meeting. Bill Shaw seconded. Motion passed.**

5. Action Agenda

a. Election of Board Chair and Vice-Chair

The District's By-Laws require the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair in January or February each year.

**Wayne Miller moved to nominate Hank Olson to serve as Chairman and Bill Shaw to serve as Vice Chairman. John Helton seconded. Motion passed.**

b. Rescheduling of the March Board Meeting for the District

The operator of the Landfill Gas to Energy Plant, SCS Energy, is presenting a paper at the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Landfill Gas Symposium in Dallas on March 22, 2011. The paper is a case study on "Small Landfill Gas Projects" around the country and our project, being the first of its kind in Montana, was proposed for the conference. Representative(s) from Flathead Electric are not going and Dave would like to be at the conference to answer any questions. He hasn't attended this conference in six or seven years and the knowledge and networking will be beneficial.

**Alan Ruby moved to reschedule the March meeting of the Flathead County Solid Waste District to March 15, 2011 at 5 p.m. at the District Office. Jim Dupont seconded. Motion passed.**

6. Director's Report

a. Cat Trapping

Five cats have been trapped so far at the landfill. There has been little activity the last month with the cold weather but we have called Paul Charbonneau from Animal Control to see about his time availability to place and monitor the traps again now that the weather is better. Paul recommended and staff agrees that trapping during the evening and night is required to be successful in this project. We will follow Paul's recommendations and implement as he sees fit through the rest of the winter months.

b. Phase 4A Excavation and 2010 North and East Slope Phase 1 Landfill Closure Project

Noble Excavating and their surveying subcontractor have provided us their final invoice for the project. The final payment to Noble for the project has occurred and the project expense totaled \$1,920,376.84, which is \$4,123.16 less than the bid amount of \$1,924,500.00. There were four change orders for the project that totaled \$141,662.86 or 7.4% of the project expense. Change order three, the largest, dealt with the need to excavate more soils that met the permeability specification. Some of the material was too sandy and had to be hauled to stockpile instead of hauled directly to the closure area. "Unconditional Waiver and Release of Lien Rights" have been signed by all subcontractors and the retention has been released to Noble.

Engineering expense is not included in the above figures. SWT Engineering is nearing completion of their work and the total for design, soil testing, construction management and oversight will total approximately \$250,000 or 13% of the total construction costs which is within industry standards for a project of this size.

c. County Ordinance No. 8

The Bee Broadcasting radio stations have continued to run our ads on their stations reminding citizens to cover or secure their loads when traveling to the landfill or container sites. Staff attended the City/County Health Board meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Sheriff Chuck Curry was in attendance so the discussions were centered on the enforcement on Ordinance No. 8.

Mayre Flowers has been researching possible litter campaign ideas to roll out this spring. The non-profit organization, Keep America Beautiful, has teamed up with Keep Cincinnati Beautiful to start a litter campaign in Cincinnati that centers on the idea of "Littering is Wrong Too". Mayre will be at the meeting to discuss this approach to a program with the Board.

*Part of this discussion took place during the public comment portion of the meeting.*

*Jim Chilton suggested adding signs at the container sites reminding the public of the Ordinance and associated fine.*

*Mayre will create some slogans and provide them to staff so that at the February meeting the Board can review and comment on the theme.*

d. FCSWD Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan has been placed on the District's website for download. It is broken into segments, the main report and appendices. It is a sizeable download so may take some time to complete. We have placed a note on the website telling citizens if they are interested in viewing it and can't download please come to the District Office to view it.

Staff needs to contact the media outlets (most likely the Daily Interlake) and ask if they will run a story about the document so citizens know it is available for their viewing.

e. Container Site Consolidation – Highway 2 East

Staff has contacted Kyle DeMars with the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) to find out if Martin Marietta Materials has responded to their email request to discuss the Red Rock Pit site. Martin Marietta responded that they are interested in a lease with MDT. The negotiations are on-going but there is the potential that MDT would entertain a sub-lease with the District for an area for the container site. Initial discussions have the cost around \$2,500 to \$3,000 per year. Martin Marietta has also stated they may be interested in selling the property. We do not know if MDT has any interest in a purchase. Staff will need to investigate this option if it becomes viable.

Our other option will be to start discussions with Brian Kelly, owner of the Issac Walton Inn at Essex. We currently lease the area from him for the current site at a cost of \$110/month. It is not large enough at this point to install the needed cans to allow for once per week service in the summer. It also does not have any bear fencing but does have our “bear cans” which really are not the best solution to potential bear issues but may be the option considered due to cost constraints. Brian has indicated a willingness to discuss options with the District about a lease or purchase of ground in the area. It would be prudent to remove the sites at Nyack and Denny’s no matter where the improved site is located.

*Dave updated the Board that he has been in contact with Martin Marietta this afternoon. The Board directed Dave and Jim to visit the site to see if it would be a viable spot to put a container site.*

f. Olney Container Site

Discussions have been occurring between the MDT and Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) regarding the land just north of the current access road to the Olney site. The land is owned by DNRC but MDT has the perpetual lease on the property for a gravel pit. All the material has been removed from the pit and the DNRC is interested in gaining back control of the area so they could enter into an easement with the District as was done for the Ashley Lake site. Discussions are occurring at the headquarters of each department in Helena.

As soon as there is a decision from MDT and DNRC staff will begin the process of determining the required parameters for the DNRC to determine the expense of the easement option. Three to four acres of land will be adequate for our desired container site configuration and available land to enlarge the site if needed in the future. DNRC has told staff that the cost per acre in this area is more expensive than what the District paid for the Ashley site (~\$5,800/acre).

g. Refuse Operations

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

	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
Total MSW to landfill	6,864.71	6,447.13
Total Appliances Collected	495	339
Junk Vehicles Collected	7	5
Truck Trips to Container Sites	395	420
Refuse tons/trip	7.28	6.07

The District landfilled 0.8% less waste in November, 2010 as compared to November, 2009 and our refuse trucks hauled 8.3% less waste comparing the same time frame. December was 5.7% MORE than December, 2009 in the landfill and the trucks were UP 1.7% in December, 2010.

Gate revenue for fiscal year 2011 was projected to be \$850,000. Through December, 2010 (50% through the year) we have received \$423,256 (49.8% of budget). The gate represents approximately one quarter of the District's revenue stream.

Pacific Steel and Recycling was the high bidder on the appliance crushing. The District will receive \$208/ton. This is the highest value we have every received from the recycling and we are hopeful this will result in up to \$150,000 in revenue, depending on the amount in the pile. The District continues to lose an unknown but sizeable amount of revenue at the container sites to scavengers in the metals pile.

*Bill Shaw asked if there was any verification that having an attendant at the Columbia Falls site has had any effect on tonnages from the site.*

h. Budget and Financials

Dave reviewed the Budget and Financials with the Board.

7. Comments from Board Members

Hank stated he would like to look into creating a video tour of the landfill so people know what their refuse assessment is paying for.

Alan Ruby invited everyone to Cabin Fever Days in Martin City.

Greg Acton stated he would like to be sure to get the littering signs up at the container sites soon. Dave stated that they would be up soon.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.