

Approved at the November 24, 2009 meeting

Flathead County Solid Waste District
Board of Directors Meeting
October 27, 2009 – **5:00 p.m.**
Landfill Office

1. Roll Call

Board Members present: Hank Olson, Chairman; Bill Shaw, Vice Chairman; Greg Acton, City of Whitefish; John Helton, Member at Large; Alan Ruby, Member at Large. Absent: Nancy Askew, Board of Health and Dale Lauman, County Commissioner.

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

Attendees: Mike Cullinane, SWT Engineering, John Boucher, SWT Engineering, Debbie Rathbun, Cyndi Sweet and Mayre Flowers.

2. Introductory Remarks from Chairman

Hank Olson thanked everyone for attending and stated that he had gone out to look at the new Ashley Lake Road Container site and said it looks great. It is going to be an excellent site.

3. Comments from public

There were no comments.

4. Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes for September 29, 2009 - **Action Required**

Bill Shaw moved to adopt the minutes of September 29, 2009. Greg Action seconded. Motion passed.

5. Action Agenda

a. Opening Date for West Corridor Container Site Ashley Lake Road– **Action Required**

Schlegel and Sons, Inc. is nearing completion of the new container site on Highway 2W near Ashley Lake Road. The site should be operational by October 30th. We have the signs ready to be posted at the Kila and Marion sites to inform customers of the closing of these two sites and the opening of the new one. Staff would like to begin operations on Wednesday, November 18th at the new site. Signs would be posted at the old sites on Wednesday, October 28th giving about three weeks notice to the public. Staff will be removing the cans from the old sites on November 18th and should be able to complete the transferring of the cans that day. We would then barricade off the entrances to the

Kila site but not the Marion site since it is a lease from the Montana Department of Transportation.

Alan Ruby moved to open the new West Corridor Container Site on Highway 2W on November 18th, 2009 and post signs at the Kila and Marion sites on October 28th, 2009 of the closure of these sites on November 18th, 2009. John Helton seconded. Motion passed.

There were general discussions about dealing with litter that will most likely appear at the former Kila and Marion sites. Also discussions on signage on Highway 2 West at the new container site so people know where it is located.

Hank allowed Mayre Flowers updated the Board on the Waste Not Project at this time. She stated there will be a pharmaceutical take back workshop on January 14 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Health Department Conference Room. There will also be a new recycle container at the Flathead High School and placed in a different location so people can find it easier.

6. Director's Report

a. Presentation of Strategic Plan Prepared by SWT Engineers

SWT Engineers has been preparing the District's Strategic Plan for the past year. The draft document was provided to the Board of Directors in early October. After a presentation by SWT discussions with the Board will focus on the various solid waste management alternatives identified in the Strategic plan, which are available to the District. SWT will solicit input to rank the various solid waste management alternatives based on capital and operational costs, environmental protection, long-term liability, public interaction, ongoing control of the waste stream, privatization or other parameters as related to the overall needs of the District.

Mike Cullinane and John Boucher gave a Power Point Presentation outlining the strategic plan.

b. Container Site Consolidation Project

As directed by the Board at last month's meeting staff sent a letter to Mr. Dan Vincent, Director of the Great Northern Environmental Stewardship Area (GNESA). GNESA requested a meeting with the Solid Waste Board and the letter agreed to have this meeting. Dave spoke to Dan and we have agreed to a meeting between their Steering Committee members and staff, if the Board concurs, to explain the District's system and provided them our information regarding the District's desire to consolidate our hauling services. After this meeting occurs we'll probably be looking to have a workshop with the Solid Waste Board and their organization. Their organization consists of over 20 entities including private citizens, businesses, and local and federal government departments.

c. Accident Involving Solid Waste District Refuse Truck

One of our refuse trucks was involved in a serious accident at the entrance to the landfill on Highway 93. Our truck was turning north onto Highway 2 to go to Columbia Falls around 3:30 p.m. on September 30th. A pickup truck headed south bound was in the left lane and signaled to turn into the right lane. The pickup truck did not turn off its signal and our driver thought the truck was turning into the landfill so he pulled out to cross the south bound lanes. The pickup struck the refuse truck in the rear axle area at a high rate of speed (per the Highway Patrol Officer). The 17 year old male driver of the pickup was transported to Kalispell Regional Medical Center and had a severely broken leg and other injuries. Our driver did not suffer any injuries. The pickup truck was totaled and the refuse truck suffered significant damage. Initial estimates for repair of the refuse truck are around \$40,000. The County's insurance broker, Western States Insurance, has been working on the accident. We have not heard any more news on the young man involved in the accident other than his leg was worked on by an orthopedist and he was having some difficulty dealing with the accident. Our driver was cited for a failure to yield for the accident.

d. Disposal Charges for Mobile Homes

Staff contacted the County Attorney's Office to prepare the notices for the modification of our disposal fees for mobile homes to a flat fee. The last Legislature changed the law that allows Districts such as ours to create and modify our fee structure. The Attorney's Office said they needed some time to review the modification of the law before they prepare the notice and resolution to make sure we are complying with any new issues of the law revision.

It would be beneficial to decide the dollar amount that the District intends to charge for this waste stream. Based upon the information we have gathered and reviewing our records from previous charges, staff believes that \$300 per trailer would be a fair price based upon the airspace utilized and extra equipment time it takes to process the trailers.

e. Refuse Operations

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

	<u>September</u>
Total MSW to landfill	8,460.90
Total Appliances Collected	725
Junk Vehicles Collected	17
Truck Trips to Container Sites	498
Refuse tons/trip	7.25

The District landfilled 17.4% less waste in September, 2009 as compared to September, 2008 and our refuse trucks hauled 6.2% less waste comparing the same time frame.

f. Budget and Financials

Dave reviewed the Budget and Financials with the Board.

7. Comments from Board Members

Greg Acton stated the Bigfork site is comparable to the Kila site and we really need to consider the consolidation project with this site. It's a safety issue.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.