

Approved at the February 27, 2007 meeting

Flathead County Solid Waste District
Board of Directors Meeting
January 23, 2007 – **5:00 pm**
Landfill Office

1. Roll Call

Board Members present: Mike Eve, Chair; Nathan Sande, Vice Chair; Nancy Askew, Board of Health; John Helton, Member at Large; Dale Lauman, County Commissioner; Hank Olson, City of Kalispell and Bill Shaw, City of Columbia Falls.

District Staff present: Director Dave Prunty, Foreman, Larry Bellmore and Recording Secretary Deborah Morine.

Attendees: There were no attendees

2. Introductory Remarks from Chairman

Mike Eve thanked everyone for attending and welcomed newly elected County Commissioner Dale Lauman to the Board. Dale stated he was happy to return to the Solid Waste Board after an absence of 13 years. He said it is great to be back and involved.

Mike stated that there is an addition to the Action Agenda tonight. Dave will be attending a training seminar during the time when the June 2007 meeting is scheduled. The June meeting needs to be changed to the week previous.

3. Comments from public

There were no comments.

4. Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes for November 28, 2006

John Helton moved to adopt the minutes of November 28, 2006. Nathan Sande seconded. Motion passed.

5. Action Agenda

a. Award of Refuse Truck Bid

The District solicited bids for the purchase of a replacement refuse truck for our hauling fleet. Bids were received from three companies. The bid results are shown below:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>TRUCK COST</u>	<u>TRADE-IN</u>
KANN Manufacturing	\$220,700.72	\$29,500
NW Peterbilt	\$208,660.00	\$35,505

Transport Equipment

\$207,226.00

\$35,505

The apparent low bidder is Transport Equipment. Both NW Peterbilt and Transport Equipment bid the same refuse body. However, Transport Equipment bid a Mack chassis and NW Peterbilt bid a Peterbilt chassis. There are a few specifications that the Mack truck did not meet. Their engine is a Mack engine, we asked for the 2007 EPA compliant Caterpillar engine. Their supplied fuel tank will have an 80 gallon capacity, we asked for 100 gallons. Both vendors had a few other minor specifications that were not met that we can accept. We have tested driven the Mack chassis last year and the drivers did not like the ergonomics of the cab. We believe that the Peterbilt will be a better truck for our operation. Transport Equipment also had to revise their bid after opening. They incorrectly supplied a higher trade-in value and had to revise that number or withdraw their bid.

We believe that we will be able to obtain a higher value for the trade-in truck than was supplied by the vendors. We will have to hold an auction to sell this truck with a third party giving an independent value of the truck so we have a starting price (90% of appraised value) for the auction.

Hank Olson moved that the purchase of one new refuse hauling truck be awarded to NW Peterbilt in the amount of \$208,660.00 with no trade-in and authorize the Director to execute the contract documents. Nancy Askew seconded. Motion passed.

b. *Change the June meeting date to June 19, 2007*

Dave stated that he will be attending a training seminar in San Diego the week of June 25, 2007 and will not be here for the scheduled Board meeting. He asked the Board if they could move the meeting date up one week to June 19, 2007.

Hank Olson moved to change the meeting date to June 19, 2007. Bill Shaw seconded. Motion passed.

6. Director's Report

a. Groundwater Request for Proposals/Qualifications

There are two respondents to our Request for Proposals/Qualifications for groundwater consulting services with the District. Proposals were received from Applied Water Consulting and Hydrometrics. Applied Water has teamed up with Geomatrix and Hydrometrics has teamed with PBS&J, who currently has been performing this work. Roger Noble is the principle with Applied Water and Scott Mason is the project manager for Hydrometrics. Both of these consultants are previously Land and Water/PBS&J employees. These firms have strong qualifications and since the main personnel that will be performing the work have intimate knowledge of the landfill hydrogeology, we will be having meetings will both firms to discuss their proposals and discuss their associated costs for their services. I have asked our landfill engineer, Mike Cullinane with BAS, to help with the interviews. We will be returning to the Board in February with a recommendation for your consideration.

b. Operations Assessment performed by Blue Ridge Services

Staff asked Neal Bolton of Blue Ridge Services to perform an operational audit of the FCSWD refuse system. Neal is known throughout North America as an operational expert in solid waste operations and safety. He has been in the solid waste business for over 20 years and has authored countless articles and books on solid waste issues.

We have copied Neal's report for your review. All-in-all, Neal believes we are operating a highly modern and efficient landfill. He provided some recommendations in multiple areas including landfill access, waste handling and compaction and covering issues. He also evaluated our container site program and came up with multiple recommendations, first and foremost being consolidation. Neal believes that we have provided a very high level of convenience to our customers, but that has come with a higher price tag.

Neal also reviewed the long and short range planning of the landfill, equipment usage and maintenance and our shop facility. Many of the recommendations in Neal's report have been implemented over the last few months. Staff believe there is still more efficiencies that we can implement to streamline our operations.

c. Flathead County Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Flathead County received a grant last fall to be used to have a consultant help the County prepare a County wide 20 year CIP. Mr. Miral Gamradt of MDG Consulting from Bozeman was hired to help prepare the plan. Late last fall, all County departments submitted a draft CIP to Miral. He created a spreadsheet for each department and then prepared the plan using the previous five years of financial data as a forecast tool for the next five years and input the capital requests. Each year there was a 3.4% increase in cost of new capital items and the revenues and operating expenditures for each year were increased about 4.7%.

As anticipated, the District capital requests were one of the largest for the County. Our liners, closure requirements and equipment needs drive our high capital requirements. For the next couple of years, our reserves are adequate but start to decline rapidly. By FY 2010, we are showing a deficit of \$633,414. It compounds quickly thereafter due to the next liner installation occurring in FY2010 and 2011. After Miral, Mike Pence from the County Commissioners office and Dave reviewed the numbers, they presented them to the County Commissioners on January 10th.

For the District to maintain our adequate cash reserves for our intense capital requirements, we will need to consider raising our landfill assessment and tipping fee. We last increased rates in the fall of 2004. At that point, there had not been an increase for 10 years. We may need to look at rate increases for the next few years to meter the amount of the increase. We will need to complete this work by the end of the summer to have the information to the County Auditors office for the fall run of the tax bills.

d. Container Site Rules and Regulations

At our November meeting, we reviewed the statistics generated by our container site educator work performed this past summer. One of the issues that we looked at was the need for rules and regulations at the sites that can be enforced to help control the out of county and commercial use of the sites. After discussing this with Jon Smith of the Flathead County Attorneys Office, he said that the District can create and impose rules at our container sites (MCA 75-10-112, subsection 20) by resolution.

Dave asked Jon to prepare a Draft resolution for our review. We have included the items that are important to look at for the resolution and have included it in your packet. Dave has included some items that will be difficult to enforce until we are able to man the container sites. We may not want them in the resolution until that time.

The Board decided to hold off on any container site rules and regulations until the District is closer to streamlining container operations and manning the sites.

e. Refuse Operations

Operations proceeded well for November and December. Tonnage/Volumes are shown below:

	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
Total MSW to landfill	9,611.83	8,000.33
Total Appliances Collected	959	697
Junk Vehicles Collected	27	19
Truck Trips to Landfill	487	492
Refuse tons/trip	7.64	6.48

f. Annual Landfill Airspace Utilization Report

BAS has calculated our density in the landfill comparing the July 30, 2005 topographic survey to the July 11, 2006 survey. The calculated effective density, which is the total tonnage received in this time period divided by the gross airspace used, was 1,156 lbs/cubic yard. This is a 5% increase in the effective density from the two previous topographic surveys. Due to the large volume of soils moved throughout the time period for the liner construction work, we were unable to effectively calculate a refuse to soil ratio. Effective density is an excellent measure of how the landfill is performing. We are meeting or exceeding industry standards. It also takes into account the consolidation of the previous placed refuse, so that all attributed to our 5% increase.

The average monthly tonnage for the time period increased approximately 8% from 9,648 tons per month to 9,869 tons per month. We have approximately 1.9 million cubic yards of available airspace in our currently lined area and 4.2 million cubic yards to complete the North Landfill Area. There are 18.1 million cubic yards in the recently licensed South Landfill Area.

g. Election of FCSWD Board Chair and Vice-Chair

The Board is required to annually elect a Board Chair and Vice-Chair. This must be done by the February meeting each year. After discussing the election with the Board Chair he asked that the elections occur in February so that the Board members can prepare for next month's elections.

- h. Budget
- i. Financial Reports

Dave reviewed the Budget and Financial Reports with the Board.

7. Comments from Board Members

Nancy Askew stated she was glad Dave included the update on the Headwaters Cooperative glass pulverizer in the Board packet.

John Helton asked why the trash is included in the recycling summary. Dave said they sort through each recycle load and deduct the weight of the trash.

Hank Olson stated he would like to see the public better educated on the location of the public recycling bin location.

Nathan Sande suggested adding signage on the containers at the sites as to where the recycling bins are located.

Dave stated that the Waste Not project is actively educating the public on recycling.

Nancy also asked about the Highway 93 construction project and was concerned that previously the Dept. of Transportation hadn't allowed for an acceleration lane when you turn north out of the landfill. Dave said in the latest plans that he saw, there was provision for a north bound acceleration lane.

Bill Shaw pointed out that timing is key if the District is projecting site closures as well as fee increases. He said we don't want to project them on the public at the same time.

Mike Eve thanked Dave for starting off the year with an assertive program. In 2007, we need to embrace change and our system needs to keep up with those changes. Mike also thanked the Board members with 100% turn out tonight.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.