



MORROW COUNTY
SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC) Minutes
10/17/2023 Public Works Conference room, Lexington, OR – 12:00 PM

Introductions/informal discussion – Introductions around the room,
Attending: Kevin Miracle, Eric Imes, Veronica Town of Lexington, Jeff Wenholz,
Sandi Pointer, Brian Evola, Larry Hess; Town of Lexington, Rose Kylo and Jeremy
Fink. Via ZOOM, Lourie Gordon, Karen Pettigrew.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee Review – We will need to get a few alternates in the committee, Discussion continued on soliciting additional to fill alternates. So updates are needed at this time.

Meeting minutes from 07/18/2023, motion to approve, Jeff Wenholz recommends approval of the meeting minutes and Kevin Miracle seconds the motion with unanimous approval.

Report by Waste Connection, Finely Buttes, Brian Evola starts off with the Landfill Rate fees will increase about a 5.5% across the board, explaining the raise in the rate in order to actively reflect the actual expenses, committed to provide best possible solid waste services and operating costs, surrounding commodities and neighbors had increased and trying to keep things leveled out. Looking forward to Ash material to arrive in December, A tipper truck coming soon, Some items are going to be delivered on rail which helps with some of these costs. Additional tonnage is coming in. Sandi explains that the SWAC Committee needs recommend the rate increase to the Administrator Eric Imes and then he will proceed to taking to the Board of Commissioners. *Jeff Wenholz recommends the rate increase for Finely Buttes fee schedule to the Board of Commissioners and Jeremy Fink seconds the motion to recommend the fee increase.* Eric Imes asked about if the rate fee for the Maintenance section portion of the Bombing Range road if it has ever been increased as costs have been inflated since agreement has been put in place. More details will be looked into this, as Pointer expresses this was pretty much set.

Report from Sanitary Disposal, Inc. Waste Connections, Kevin Miracle mentions that they have lost two transfer trailers due to fires from lithium batteries from computers and other electronics that are causing these fires. Down seven transfer trailers the tipping floor is getting pretty crowded, having some additional help from others to get these areas cleared out. Bailer is running well and is getting cardboard shipped out and keeping inventory low. Staff is still low and actively working on hiring. No operations manager right now, a bit challenging but working through it. Waiting on pre ordered tip trucks and automated trucks, with supply and demand on these it is challenging getting these in.

Written report from Miller and Sons and read by Sandi Pointer.... My apologies for not being able to attend meeting in person. Sandi suggested I do it via email so I'll do my best. Miller and Sons disposal update.) still shopping without luck of finding a replacement truck

1)after wrecking main one in June. Patching old backups as needed to continue service. Also have borrowed another from Pilot Rock for when both of mine break down, which has happened.

2) replacement driver that took over after last one quite suddenly because it was too stressful of a job, has worked out well and seems to be doing good with the equipment and the public.

3) recently purchased 10 more 300 gal dumpsters at 150 65 gal residential cans in order to start replacement of broken and worn out equipment.

4) due to continuous increase equipment and fuel costs Miller and Sons is requesting a rate increase of between 3%-4% to keep with even dollar amount figures. Effective Jan 1 2024

- 300 gal dumpster from \$82 to \$85
- Rural residential cans from \$26 to \$27
- In town residential cans from \$23 to \$24
- Roll-off truck from \$105 to \$110 per hour
- Dump rate from \$25 to \$26
- Daily Box Rent will stay the same at \$6 per day

That kinda is a quick and dirty report. Hopefully it has all the information you want.

Thank you for your time and have a good day.

Ryan Miller

Motion to recommend the rate increase for Miller and Sons Disposal by Jeff Wenholz and Kevin Miracle seconds the motion with unanimous approval .

Laurie Gordon from DEQ, not a lot new for the Recycling Modernization Act updates. The draft rules from the first Rulemaking Advisory Committee will be voted on by the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) in November. The meeting is open to the public to attend. The Recycling Council is meeting today to discuss covered product exemption requests and timelines. Three prospective Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) have submitted letters of intent to DEQ and will be reaching out to a small group of local governments to talk about requests to help them get an idea the needs, but will not be able to start formal negotiations until March 2024. Pointer asked is she requested to much in the needs assessment Morrow County submitted. Laurie reviewed what was requested and said everything looked good. One thing the PROs will do is to see if some needs can be consolidated between cities and the county. Cities that are out of compliance will probably be the first needs to be funded.

Sandi Introduces two individuals from the Town of Lexington Valarie and the maintenance man Larry Hess they had some concerns and question about the recycling bin currently at the Transfer Station outside of Lexington. They had requested it being at City Hall as the hours of operation at the Transfer is only open on weekends, this would service the public better. Ms Pointer mentions after speaking with Finance it was recommended that it stay on County property due to liability and policy including issues as rodents, theft, and debris is always an issue. Discussion continued that maybe working with DEQ and getting Laurie Gordon in touch with the Town of Lexington and will work together in getting a solution.

- The next Solid Waste Advisory meeting third Tuesday quarterly. **January 16, 2024 Don Adams room , Irrigon OR**