

MINUTES
ADA COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 a.m., In Person or WebEx

Rollcall- Steve Cory (chair), Richard Llewellyn (vice), Peter McCullough, James Pavelek, Sayard Schultz, Tracy Osborn.

Also Attending: Bruce Krisko, Tom Otte, Rebecca Weeks, Robert Amieva, Rachele Klein, Catherine Chertudi, Bob Bennett.

Action Items

Agenda approved

January 25, 2023, Draft Minutes approved

Welcome: Steve

New Business

- a. Updates on daily operations of landfill: Tom Otte.
 - i. Concrete diversion is going very well, 12,000 cubic yards have been accumulated. Concrete pieces as large as 8 X 10 foot and down to paving stones. We have an RFP that is ongoing. The diversion RFP will include processing.
 - ii. Solid rubber tires or tracks are now on loaders, face compactors and dozers. This saves us 18 to 20 days a year in tire changes. Solid rubber tires are an industry standard.
- b. ARPA has approved funding for a third leachate storage pond. ARPA will pay for the construction. New pond capacity will be 7 million gallons. A third pond will help with evaporation of leachate and will allow for rotation of the ponds to conduct settled solids clean up and maintenance. The new pond is being engineered by Jacobs Engineering Group. Construction will commence once construction documents are received. This will not have any effect on our rates.
- c. Z-wall/ RFP Diversion is in process. Looking to budget for the design for the Z wall in upcoming fiscal year. In terms of safety and efficiency, we would like to keep the public off the active working face and make it easier and safer for the public and our commercial customers to dump.
- d. Point & Pay has been installed and went live over a week ago. The public now pays for using credit cards. Prior to this, the landfill absorbed the \$125,000 a year expense for credit card services. P & P simplifies the billing process. Customers can still pay in cash or with check just like all other county departments.

Old Business

a. Landfill rate structure

Recent explosive growth and explosive inflation, that we've all experienced have led to rate increases. Boise City has asked for a 46% increase over time for their sewer bills.

The water service is asking for a 24% increase. Idaho Power is asking for an increase between 8% and 16% depending on the type of account.

The landfill is experiencing the same pressures as many others however, it did not benefit as many in the public sector did, from the growth. We are an enterprise fund which means that our expenditures cannot exceed our revenue.

Saving for future cell development, CAP and closure of this facility and the purchase of a new landfill, is a must. Savings account of \$3.6 million which comes off the top, from our current intake.

After reviewing the budget, we're proposing a 25% increase for our tipping fees from \$29 to \$36.25 a ton.

For the landfill to survive and be sustainable, this 25% increase is needed.

How the increase compares to the national and regional rate; the national average is \$53.72 a ton. Regionally, it's \$47.83 a ton.

Coeur d'Alene is charging \$67.70 a ton for their municipal waste, as they experience explosive growth also.

A rate of \$36.25 is reasonable. The new rate would go into effect the new fiscal year, October 1, 2023.

b. Hangar demo update

The old Aircraft hangar at the west of NRC4 will be removed for our LFG effort. The current hangar is full of asbestos, so part of the demo is a lot of asbestos abatement. The area will be used by LFG when their skids are placed there to start taking our gas. It will be the connection point to Intermountain Gas for the sale of renewables.

RNG update –Demolition is already contracted for the hangar. LFG is continuing to move forward with plant design and getting all the permits pulled and approved. Anticipate the 25% drawings will be ready in May. Once operational the hope is that we can use that revenue to reduce those costs too.

c. Foam update –

Foam update - Pilot program for the foam has ended. On the 20th of April, we stopped spraying foam. The foam is 85% efficient in capturing the gas emissions only dirt is better. Far more effective and lasted longer than anticipated. Shared with ATMOS that equipment suffered constant failures during cold temperatures. Hoping we can add foam to normal landfill operations plan with the approval of DEQ. Foam in lieu of dirt will save quite a bit of airspace. Currently working on an after-action report and our recommendation for DEQ.

d. Deck operations-

Doing everything we can to improve deck operations right now, efficiently. Improve efficiency with moving to use more tracked vehicles and metal tire vehicles to keep our dozers on the face more time to do more work.

Trying to remove the use of scrapers, they're not efficient and not great at driving on trash. Up use of our articulated dump truck with dirt moving and having the dozers spread that dirt on the active working face to operate safer.

In terms of wet weather, looking to move from just using wood chipping. Currently exploring getting some steel bridge decking used in bridging vehicles in the military.

Constructing an adverse weather pad out of aggregate material on top of stage 2 to dump into stage 1 in bad weather.

Other Business

- **Additional topics** - No comments

- **City Updates**
- Boise- Accepting applications for Organic collections; three applications received thus far, excited about prospects to divert waste. Partnering with JUMP for the Repair Fair on June 8th with the purpose of showing the community how they can save money. Second fair in August.
- Meridian- City of Meridian Trash or Treasure starting on May 1 and 2, we will have this rewarding scavenger hunt throughout the city. A map is available online and hunters can just go around and collect what they would like. 400 plus customers signed up on the 25th of April. Spring Cleanup will take place starting from May 3-7, on your regular service day, you can place extra trash out for collection. Partnering with Boise for the Repair Fair.
- Garden City- No new information.
- Eagle- 200 turned out for Spring Fling to work together as a community to prep Eagles Parks before they open.
- Star- No Representative.
- Kuna- No Representative.

Contractor Updates

i. Republic Services- Looking good going into the spring season. Starting to see those volumes pick up. Our big focus over the next couple of weeks is dealing with the volume increases. Also, a lot of upcoming clean up events like Earth Day. Yesterday, we lost someone who's been an icon in our business and been in this market since 1981. Bob Olson, who managed the Meridian Transfer Station, unfortunately succumbed to cancer. His passing was unexpected. We are saddened by his loss.

ii. Hardin Sanitation- No one on the call.

iii. J&M Sanitation- No one on the call.

iv. Timber Creek Recycling- No one on the call.

v. Western Recycling- No one on the call.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, July 26, 10:30 - 12:00

Note: There is the potential need for a special meeting before the regular quarterly meeting in relationship to rates.

Adjournment: