

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Solid Waste**  
**June 7, 2022**  
**10:00 a.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chair Pro Tem Leslie Duncan and Commissioner Bill Brooks met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Solid Waste (SW) Director John (JP) Phillips, SW Business & Finance Manager Angela Burgeson, SW Technician Chris Hadley, BOCC Communications Coordinator Jonathan Gillham and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Chairman Chris Fillios was excused.

- A. Call to Order:** Chair Pro Tem Leslie Duncan called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business:**

**Construction Projects 2022 (Discussion)**

Ramsey Z-Walls

Solid Waste (SW) Director John (JP) Phillips reported that this project had been completed: TML Construction had finished their work and SW received a Certificate of Occupancy from the City. He said the areas were in use right now and added that some custom concrete blocks were going to be placed as an additional safety precaution in some spots.

Athol Rural Site Improvements

Mr. Phillips said that SW was working with J-U-B Engineering on ways to improve the Athol Rural Collection Site. He commented that the local Highway District was planning to shift Howard Road, which will impact their site. He stated that he planned to wait until those details were clear before SW's final plans were made, but they did plan to redo some asphalt and improve the drainage grade while they were waiting.

Details Related to FY23/24 Projects

Mr. Phillips stated that SW was working with Jacob's Engineering on the Ramsey Transfer Station improvements. He said the goal was to streamline and speed customer entry and exit. He said SW was also working on permits for the South Cell and trying to clear up questions regarding a right-of-way with the Worley Highway District and the state. He commented that they may also try to re-bid the Landfill Storage Building Project, depending on the economic trends.

Mr. Phillips said they would also be working on Landfill Phase E3; the design would be completed in FY23 and the building would begin in FY24.

## **Fighting Creed Landfill (Discussion)**

### **Operations**

Mr. Phillips reported that garbage volumes were up at the landfill. He said they were building a ten foot lift right now and he had been discussing plans with the Landfill Manager for lift sequencing, road extension, grades, storm water control and landfill gas expansion. He described some improvements underway on the gas lines.

### **Staffing Changes**

Mr. Phillips reminded the Commissioners that SW had a newly promoted Landfill Manager, Will Marks. He remarked that Mr. Marks had five years of experience with SW, having started as an Environmental Technician. He added that he hoped to promote from within to fill the now-vacant Assistant Manager slot.

### **Overtime Usage**

Mr. Phillips said that Overtime demands had been higher than normal at the Landfill. He stated that they were at about 150% of the budgeted amount right now. He assured the Commissioners that the department would still remain within its "A" Budget for the remainder of FY22, in spite of this.

## **Transfer Stations (Discussion)**

### **Operations**

Mr. Phillips commented that they were very busy at the transfer stations. He said he wanted to caution the public to watch out for heavy machinery moving during visits. He stated that SW staff would be reminded of safety needs as well.

### **Staffing Levels & Recruitment**

Mr. Phillips said that SW had experienced turnover in this area, the same as other departments in the County over the past two years. He stated that there were seven full-time positions and four seasonal positions open. He assured the Board that service levels had not been impacted, but he was watching the situation and would come to the Commissioners should that happen. He said he had been talking to Human Resources (HR) about ways to improve recruitment.

### **Overtime Usage**

Mr. Phillips predicted that overtime usage at the Transfer Stations for FY22 would probably be above normal, but the situation was under control.

## **Rural Sites (Discussion)**

### **Minimized Abuse**

Mr. Phillips announced that abuse at the rural sites had been substantially reduced. He thanked the Sheriff's Department for their help. He described some of the efforts SW had made.

### **Cameras**

Mr. Phillips said SW was working on installing live-feed cameras at more of the rural sites. He stated that Sunup Bay was the first one they were going to do, with the intent of testing out the product they had chosen. If they are pleased with it, they will install the same in other places.

## **Solid Waste Statistics/2022 Comparison (Discussion)**

SW Business & Finance Manager Angela Burgeson provided some statistics for the different sites.

- Ramsey- January through May 2021 and January through May 2022:
  - Customer visits down 12.28%.
  - Tonnage down 8.95%.
- Prairie – January through May 2021 and January through May 2022:
  - Customers down 8.99%.
  - Tonnage down 3.55%.
- Rural Sites – January through May 2021 and January through May 2022:
  - Customers up 1%.
  - Tonnage down 17%.
- Landfill – January through May 2021 and January through May 2022:
  - Tonnage up 4.46%.

**D. Public Comment:** This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. Idaho Law prohibits Board action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance. Comments related to future public hearings should be held for that public hearing. There were no public comments.

**E. Adjournment (Action):** Chair Pro Tem Duncan adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

BOCC SIGNATURE

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk