

**Minutes of Meeting  
Solid Waste Update  
July 19, 2021  
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 Director John “JP” Phillips and Deputy Clerk Ronnie Davisson. Chairman Chris Fillios was excused.

- A. Call to Order:** Chair Pro Tem Leslie Duncan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- B. Introductions**
- C. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- D. Business (Discussion):**

**Rural Site Abuse**

Solid Waste Director John “JP” Phillips provided an update about some of the rural sites. He said they had been recently receiving reports about garbage on the ground, like appliances, furniture, and even overflowing refuse, at numerous rural sites. He said they had installed stickers encouraging residents to help keep the area clean and that there should be no commercial dumping or dumping on the ground.

Mr. Phillips continued, stating that residents have started turning people in, which has led to Solid Waste sending letters to the abusers or giving a verbal warning to cease before getting the Sheriff’s Office involved. Mr. Phillips said that there would be a Five-Year Plan coming forth that would include ways to mitigate the problem – camera installation, fencing, limiting hours and police patrol. He pointed out that there was an employee that had been assigned to visit these sites each day to pick up large, bulky items. He also mentioned two patrol deputies he had been working with to come up with ideas on how to control these issues.

Commissioner Bill Brooks asked which sites were the having the most issues, to which Mr. Phillips said they were Wolf Lodge Bay, Mica Kidd Island, Sun Up Bay and Worley.

**Construction Project Updates**

Mr. Phillips said that the Z-Walls project at Ramsey Transfer Station was currently running behind, but due to the increase in construction costs, it may be better to wait until the fall or winter. He said they should receive 100% bid documents by the end of the week, with the bid being awarded in August and project completion by December 28.

He said there was a 40x60 storage building at the Fighting Creek Landfill which was also falling behind. He said it would go out to bid in August, with the bid award in September and project completion also by the end of December. Mr. Phillips also mentioned that a

flyover of the landfill had occurred, which would allow them to determine when the other cells of the landfill would need to be developed. He said it would also help them to determine how much dirt would need to be moved for the next cell and that he should have the data from the flyover at the next meeting.

**Solid Waste Personnel**

Mr. Phillips explained that they were having difficulties filling their open positions. He said there was a lack of qualified applicants and interviews were being cancelled because of non-livable wages. Further, they had had nearly zero applicants for their seasonal positions all summer and even out of state applicants that had been interviewed turned the position down because of the low wage.

He pointed out that their Safety and Environmental person had recently departed and their Business and Finance Manager was planning on retiring in October. He said that there was a good internal candidate to step into the Business and Finance Manager Position, which would be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

**Operations & Solid Waste Statistics**

Mr. Phillips outlined some statistics, explaining that wood waste had greatly increased, as had tonnage at both Transfer Stations. He also said that due to the hot weather, they had been able to evaporate 2.15 million gallons of leachate from May 26 to July 16, 2021, which puts them on track to possibly meet their goal of 5 million gallons this year.

- E. **Public Comment (Discussion):** 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.
  
- F. **Adjourn:** Chair Pro Tem Duncan adjourned the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

LESLIE DUNCAN, CHAIR PRO TEM

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ronnie Davisson, Deputy Clerk

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