

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Solid Waste**  
**October 4, 2022**  
**10:00 a.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chair Leslie Duncan and Commissioner Bill Brooks met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Solid Waste (SW) Director John (JP) Phillips, BOCC Communications Coordinator Jonathan Gillham and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Commissioner Fillios was excused.

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

**Projects (Discussion)**

Athol Paving

Solid Waste (SW) Director John (JP) Phillips reported that the Athol Rural Collection paving project was going well. He said that J-U-B Engineers, Inc. had delivered the final plan and reviewed it with SW staff. He stated that the site grade and drainage would be improved. He predicted that it would be put out to bid around Christmas and that they would begin work in the spring.

Ramsay Transfer Station Efficiency Improvement Evaluation

Mr. Phillips said that SW had been working with Jacobs Engineering to improve efficiency of the Transfer Station. He explained they were focusing on helping traffic to move in and out of the site more quickly and helping small loads avoid having to wait to go through the scale house. He described their plan to increase the number of trailers that could be accommodated, as well. He predicted that a final design would be ready in about six months.

Landfill Right-of-Way Fix

Mr. Phillips said he had been working on fixing the right-of-way in front of the Fighting Creek property, along Highway 95. He explained that Jacobs Engineering had recommended that this be completed before they began seeking further permitting for the south area of the landfill. He said the plan had required input from the State of Idaho, Worley Highway District and SW. He remarked that the State appeared to be satisfied with the solution, based on information Worley Highway District had received.

Mr. Phillips provided additional details on how the project would proceed and the funding aspects. He said he would bring funding requests to the Board.

## **Fighting Creek Landfill (Discussion)**

### **Operations**

Mr. Phillips reported that garbage volumes were up and described the waste management techniques being used at the site. He said the landfill crew were doing an excellent job.

### **IDEQ 3-5 Year Inspection**

Mr. Phillips announced that the landfill had just passed through its IDEQ (Idaho Department of Environmental Quality) Inspection. He remarked that this was an important event for them and he felt it went well. He said they had not yet received the official report, but he would let the Board know when it arrived.

## **Transfer Stations (Discussion)**

### **Operations**

Mr. Phillips commented that the transfer stations were normally pretty busy at this time of year, as the leaves start to fall. He said they would do their best to expedite customer visits, but that people should expect lines.

### **Staffing Levels & Recruitment**

Mr. Phillips said they had experienced some turnover the last couple of years but they were seeing more applications come in. He stated there were about ten open positions right now but he was not too worried because he believed the increase in wages would attract more candidates. He said that SW had managed to keep service at relatively normal levels at all sites by juggling staff. He added that the employees were doing a great job, especially with the limited number of people available.

## **Rural Sites (Discussion)**

### **New Hauling Company Coordination**

Mr. Phillips reminded the Board that SW had a new hauling company, Sunshine Disposal, which took over from Coeur d'Alene Garbage as of October 1, 2022. He described their progress and expressed his confidence that things would smooth out very quickly.

### **Cameras**

Mr. Phillips said SW had been working toward getting cameras for the rural sites that experienced the most abuse, but found the cameras were much more expensive than expected. He stated they chose the Worley site as the first one and were having cameras installed there.

Commissioner Chris Fillios joined the meeting via teleconference at 10:15 a.m.

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

Mr. Phillips provided the Board with comparisons from January – September of 2021 and 2022.

- Ramsay Transfer Station - Customer count were down by 7.54%, or 22,495 fewer visits and tonnage was down 4.87%, 5,429 tons.
- Prairie Transfer Station - Customer count was down by 4.77%, or 8,000 visits and tonnage up by 548 tons, 0.77%.
- There were record breaking amounts deposited January through March of 2021, mostly as a result of the January wind storm in 2021.
- The Landfill was up 6,746 tons from the same time last year, with 6,300 tons directly hauled by contractors.
- Rural sites' customer counts were up 2% but tonnage was down 13% from same time last year. He credited the Sheriff's Office enforcement efforts preventing abuse of the sites for the reduction.

**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 Duncan adjourned the meeting at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

BOCC SIGNATURE

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk