

Minutes of Meeting
Solid Waste Recycling Fees
October 17, 2014
11:00 a.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Todd Tondee and Commissioner Dan Green met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Solid Waste Director Cathy Mayer, Coeur d'Alene Garbage Owner Phil Damiano, and Deputy Clerk Brandie Bradley. Commissioner Jai Nelson was excused.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Tondee called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m.
- B. Introductions:** There were no introductions made.
- C. Changes to the Agenda:** There were no changes made to the agenda.
- D. Old Business:** There was no old business discussed.
- E. New Business:**
Coeur d'Alene Garbage Owner Phil Damiano came before the Board to discuss the acquisition of Blue Bird Recycling by Waste Management and how this acquisition has impacted his business. Mr. Damiano explained that he disposes of residential recyclables at Blue Bird Recycling and has done so for several years at no cost. Now that Blue Bird Recycling is under new ownership and he is no longer under contract, they have informed him that he will now be charged seventy-seven dollars (\$77) per ton. He added that he receives monies for the hauling of these items, but receives no compensation for the disposal. Mr. Damiano stated that the County receives taxpayer dollars to pay for the disposal and he shared his belief that as he diverts these items from the County landfill, the County should pay for these new fees.

The attendees discussed that Mr. Damiano is not under contract with the County and that he is not required by the County to recycle the items that he receives. He has the option of bringing these items to the landfill and disposing of them at no charge. Mr. Damiano agreed that he made the choice, but further explained that he made this choice in an effort to support Solid Waste's comprehensive plan to divert waste from the County landfills. Mr. Damiano advised the Board that he would not be paying to dispose of these items and would begin bringing them to the landfill and the County could determine how they want to dispose of the items.

Solid Waste Director Cathy Mayer advised the Board that there are potentially several business owners that will also be assessed these new fees by Waste Management and that if the County agrees to pay for one (1) they may be asked to pay for all of them. She further explained that currently the County is not charged by Waste Management to recycle, as they have a contract that remains in effect until 2016. Once that contract expires Waste Management has advised that they will also begin charging the County. She suggested that the County needs to review the our commitment to recycling and determine how the County will adapt to rising costs.

The attendees considered the available options and advised Mr. Damiano that they would have a discussion with Waste Management to explore the option of Mr. Damiano acting as an authorized agent of the County and disposing of these recyclables under the County contract. They explained that if Waste Management refuses to let Mr. Damiano dispose of this waste until he enters into a new contract with them, he can bring the waste to the landfill and the County will recycle the items under their contract with Waste Management. The Board also directed Ms. Mayer to provide information about the impact to the County for processing the additional recyclables if Mr. Damiano is forced to bring them to the landfill rather than take them directly to recycling.

- F. Staff Reports:** There were no staff reports.
- G. Public Comment:** This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

TODD TONDEE, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Brandie Bradley, Deputy Clerk
