

**Minutes of Meeting
Commissioners' Debriefing Continued
November 16, 2015
8:00 a.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Dan Green, Commissioner Marc Eberlein, and Commissioner David Stewart met to discuss the following agenda item. Also present were Solid Waste Director Cathy Mayer, Principal Planner Laureen Chaffin, Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Jamila Holmes, and Deputy Clerk Alicia Lynch. Also present was citizen Carla Woempner.

A. Call to Order: Chairman Dan Green continued the Commissioners' Debriefing from November 10, 2015, at 8:03 a.m.

B. Business:

Solid Waste Issues

Solid Waste Director Cathy Mayer resumed her presentation regarding the changes to the language in the upcoming Request for Proposal (RFP) for recycling. She gave a detailed summary of the seven current agreements, all of which expire by July of 2016. She answered the Board's questions regarding the exclusion of Post Falls, stating they had their own agreements.

Ms. Mayer also added that it is the current practice of the County to exchange the processing of leaves for the City of Coeur d'Alene in exchange for the City doing the billing for Solid Waste. She asked the Board to consider a flat fee instead of an exchange of services. She stated that the City was agreeable to \$10,000 per year for the billing service; this amount was a median number of the cost of the service to process leaves.

Principal Planner Laureen Chaffin detailed three available recycling options to the Board. In Option 1 she stated the process would remain the same as it is today with the exception that the cities would "own" the materials and therefore pay all processing fees. She added that this option gave the County less leverage for a local brokerage site due to the loss of economy of scale and that it could potentially encourage cities to discontinue recycling programs. Ms. Chaffin cautioned that the City of Coeur d'Alene was not amenable to this option at this time.

Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Jamila Holmes added that in her opinion this option could open the County to litigation.

Ms. Chaffin said the current ordinance states that the fees being paid for Solid Waste do not include recycling. She added that no city within the County mandates recycling. Option 1 would put the responsibility on each City to handle their recycling themselves. Ms. Mayer added that the City of Coeur d'Alene requesting that the County pay for their recycling is unusual within the state of Idaho.

Ms. Chaffin explained Option 2 would continue to allow the Cities to dispose of materials at County sites and the County would pay a subsidy to the Cities for recyclables as an incentive for not dumping at the landfill. She stated this option still leaves the County in a weak bargaining position for a local brokerage site and that the Solid Waste budget would need to be increased to cover the subsidy. She added that the subsidy would be based on the estimated savings of not dumping materials in the landfill. Ms. Chaffin explained the Cities would own the material and pay the fees for the single stream programs but would receive the revenue return if there was any. She added this option would ease friction between the County and Cities as the County would not be managing or controlling any City programs.

Commissioner David Stewart suggested the contract should include penalties and fines for inappropriate dumping and Ms. Mayer agreed.

Ms. Holmes added that regardless of which option the Board chose, the contract would need to define what the County considered recyclables.

Ms. Chaffin explained Option 3 would make the County the owner of all materials; a change that would mean the County was responsible for all fees but also would potentially receive any revenue generated from the materials. She stated this option would give the County the best leverage for brokerage and give the County flexibility to increase or decrease recycling programs as needed. She added this took control from the Cities and could cause political ramifications, as well as increase the Solid Waste Budget.

The Board discussed the three options at length.

Commissioner Eberlein moved to approve Option 2 corresponding to the language provided – City vests ownership of single stream in vendor who must properly dispose of the materials- in the upcoming RFP. He stipulated “subsidy” be replaced with the term “rebate” and accepted the \$10,000 billing fee. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Lynch called the roll:

- Commissioner Stewart: Aye
- Commissioner Eberlein: Aye
- Chairman Green: Aye

The motion carried.

- C. 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.

Chairman Green adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

DANIEL H. GREEN, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Alicia Lynch, Deputy Clerk
