

**Town of Waldoboro, Maine**  
**Transfer Station Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Municipal Building - 1600 Atlantic Highway**  
**Thursday, August 25, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.**

1. **Call to Order** – Bob Butler, Waldoboro citizen, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with a quorum present. Other committee members present were:

Terry Gifford, Waldoboro Waste Hauler  
Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board  
John Higgins, Waldoboro Citizen  
Monika Magee, Cushing Citizen  
Will Payson, Cushing Select Board  
Bruce Prior, Cushing Waste Hauler  
Randy Robbins, Cushing Citizen  
Ted Wooster, Waldoboro Select Board

John Meyn, Friendship and Cietta Miller, an observing student, were also present.

2. **Minutes** – The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting (Ted moved; John Higgins seconded). Committee members signed those minutes and the minutes of the August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.
3. **Transfer Station Manager Job Description**

Ted Wooster informed the committee that the Waldoboro Select Board had accepted the Committee's recommendation that Waldoboro re-advertise the position of the Transfer Station Manager. The Select Board action was taken as a direct result of John Daigle's concern that current applicants do not meet all of the requirements.

The Committee then had a general discussion concerning the job description for the position of Transfer Station Manager. Will Payson, who along with other committee members had visited the Camden/Rockport and Rockland Transfer Stations, said that the Rockland Transfer Station Manager, David St. Laurent, was willing to share both his job description and his evaluation with him. Will pointed out that the Rockland manager had accepted the position at a lower salary because his contract with Rockland provided financial incentives tied to job performance. Will added that when David St. Laurent started his job, Rockland's Transfer Station was \$600,000 in the hole and had nothing set aside for closing their landfill. Five years later, they are at break-even, and this year the transfer station will be off the tax assessment.

Bruce Prior talked about Pine Tree. Pine Tree does not use the Rockland Transfer Station. They haul directly to PERC and save the tipping fee.

Terry Gifford wants to know how much money the Waldoboro Transfer Station receives as a "credit" for all the recyclables it sends to Wiscasset/Lincoln County Recycling and whether the numbers Lincoln County provides are accurate.

Monika Magee has written a report summarizing the information obtained during the visits to Rockland and Camden. The committee agreed to append that report to these minutes. The report is contained in Attachment A.

The report established the context for the committee's ensuing discussion concerning the job description and compensation package of the Waldoboro Transfer Station Manager. The general consensus is that the current description does not address all pertinent issues.

The Committee voted unanimously (Will Payson moved, Ted Wooster seconded) to appoint Randy Robbins and Will Payson to the task of reviewing the present job description for the Waldoboro Transfer Station Manager in light of information received from the Rockland and Camden visits and other sources. Will and Randy will submit a proposed revision of the job description for the Committee's consideration at its next meeting.

Terry Gifford spoke about her granddaughter stating a recycling program at the Middle School in Waldoboro. She's trying to interest other children. Terry's granddaughter, Cietta Miller, was in attendance. Terry's comments, paraphrased by Terry, herself, follow:

"When Cierra was in the 7th. grade (2009) she was in the Green Thumb (garden club). Her teacher encouraged the class (around 6 or 7) to compost for their gardens. This is when the class began a recycle program. The students put recycling posters in all the hallways. Other schools came and learned how they could recycle in their own schools. Also this summer the Green Thumb went to the UMA and showed them how to recycle. This only goes to show how a few kids can have an impact on the environment."

John Meyn talked about the recycling he does and mentioned that he cleans up 1 mile of Finntown Road. He received a "round of applause" from all committee members.

#### **4. Discussions About Draft #15 of the Transfer Station Ordinance**

The Committee reviewed Sections 1.1 through Section 2.3.5 and then continued the review process through Section 2.4

During the discussion, the committee agreed by consensus to remove the definitions for "Commercial Waste" and "Residential Waste". The discussion around the elimination was both detailed and extensive. The committee determined that the distinction did not serve a useful purpose for the following reasons: (1) solid waste is solid waste, irrespective of the source; (2) waste haulers would be unreasonably imposed upon by a requirement to keep the two types of waste separate; and (3) the distinctions the draft ordinance currently makes among the various types of Solid Waste provide more than sufficient tools to Transfer Station staff and Committee to determine whether a Permitted User--whether Commercial or Residential-- is meeting the requirements of the ordinance.

The Committee, by consensus, agreed to add a definition for "Scale".

Section 2.3.4 The Committee discussed whether to permit the Solid Waste Residents generate to be deposited outside the confines of Waldoboro and the Partners. Terry pointed out that the advantage is that Solid Waste hauled to other transfer stations means less tonnage to be hauled from the Waldoboro Transfer Station. Others pointed out that there's a potential loss the Waldoboro Transfer Station incurs. For example,

Waste Haulers could end up separating Recyclables from other Solid Waste and hauling it to buyers outside of the area the Transfer Station serves. The net result is that the Waldoboro Transfer Station would receive only municipal waste with no offsetting revenue source or "credit" for Recyclables.

By consensus, the Committee decided to leave the wording of Section 2.3.4 "as is", requiring ALL Solid Waste to be hauled to the Waldoboro Transfer Station.

By consensus, all committee members understand that the discussion concerning the draft ordinance remains "fluid" and that any and all parts of the ordinance may be re-visited while it is being discussed.

The committee will continue its review of draft No. 16 at its next meeting, commencing with Section 2.4

5. **Meetings Schedule, Agenda for the next meeting and Adjournment**

The Committee will hold its next meeting on Thursday, September 1st at 7:00 p.m. Subsequent meetings will be held on September 8<sup>th</sup> and September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Randy moved and John Higgins seconded that the meeting adjourn. All were in favor.

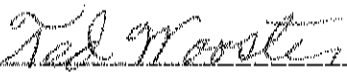
Respectfully Submitted: Liz Dinsmore/Bob Butler


Approved:

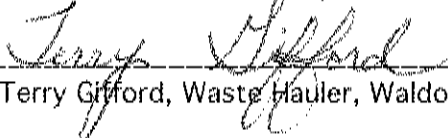
Transfer Station Committee:

Town of Waldoboro, Maine

  
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Bob Butler, Chairman

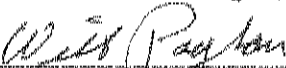
  
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Ted Wooster, Vice Chairman

  
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Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board

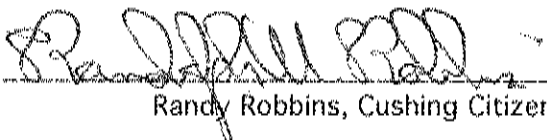
  
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Randy Robbins, Cushing Citizen

ATTACHMENT A  
to  
August 25, 2011 Transfer Station Committee Minutes

**Monika Magee's Notes on 8/16/11 visits to Rockland Transfer Station  
and Camden/Rockport Transfer Station**

Rockland Transfer Station

Dave St. Laurent, Mgr. 594-5630: " You need top-down support to make your facility work."

5 yrs ago Rockland's PAYT was overturned by referendum vote, before it was implemented. Legally, they cannot revisit this for 5 years.

The station was \$600,000 in the hole and they had nothing set aside for the Landfill closing.

They have separate buildings for: recycling, municipal solid waste, universal waste, swap shop, and landfill (to be closed in 6 years). The cost to close landfill is estimated to be 3 million dollars.

They generate 30,000-40,000 ton MSW (municipal solid waste) per year.

Last year the facility ran at a break-even point, and Dave could see that it could run on its own. This year it will be off the tax assessment.

\$105 to get rid of 1 ton of solid waste trash; all labor costs and running of station is wrapped into this figure.

Dave broke this figure into 75% trash from haulers and 25% from public.

# of stickers needed divided by public's share (25%) of waste cost arrived at \$65 per sticker for single family household.

PAYT bags are optional (because referendum vote and consequent 5 year restriction on mandatory PAYT).

Single Family Households can do one or the other: sticker or buy PAYT bags. If a

household is a super-recycler, its annual cost can be low.

Bags cost 50¢, \$1, \$1.50. They are sold at city hall, transfer station, grocery and hardware stores in Rockland. Bags are from Waste Zero and cost between 17¢-19¢ each. They are 1.5 years into this system.

Haulers are either weighed on scales and pay per ton or, if their load is only PAYT bags, then they can dump free. The hauler is providing a service, so that's a premium the homeowner chooses to pay to have his trash picked up. Dave says haulers must be competitive to stay in business.

3 types of Stickers to enter the facility:

RED SQUARE: \$65/ year to a single family dwelling taking their own trash to the center.

RED CIRCLE: if commercial hauler, who then goes either to get weighed or dumps only PAYT bagged waste. Commercial haulers are charged \$105/ton to dump waste.

TRIANGLE: (??Sorry, didn't get info on that...)

At first commercial haulers were angry. But, Dave said he follows the 80/20 rule and focuses on the 80%.

They have \$450,000 budgeted for closure, based on estimated volume going into landfill. This year they will put \$135,000 toward closure.

"The gatehouse job is the most important job at the station." The station's gatehouse is a 1.5 person job on busy days. Attendant must not leave gatehouse unattended.

Seven people work at the Rockland facility: 1 trucker, 1 landfill, 1 transfer station, 2 gatehouse, 1 recycling plus station manager.

They truck their own to PERC. Dave says that there's "no way that two people could do the WTS job!"

It's important to know what percentage is public waste and what is commercial waste. Handling public waste is more time consuming.

They use SMS Turbo software to weigh, generate ticket, and emails bill

directly to hauler. There is a fee they must pay each year to use this software, but it includes upgrades and customization.

City Hall also sends bills to haulers. Their accounting software is MUNIS or Quickbooks. Each truck gets its own ID number. Software generates slip pertinent to each truck, and hauler is invoiced at the end of each month.

They plan to tie a cash register into this system. "\$2 million goes through the gate every year."

They don't charge anything to deposit recyclables, nor are they weighed.

They are going to add security cameras to the station and will call Police Dept. if issues arise.

They are adding a composting operation (received a \$25,000 grant) and will pave an area for this material.

#### MCSWC CAMDEN/ROCKPORT TRANSFER STATION

Manager: Jim Guerra 236-2467

Manages PAYT system for this station (8,000 winter, 12,000 summer population) and Tri-County (1992). Six towns

Suggests: hold lots of informational meetings before instigating any new system to get all questions answered and all opinions aired.

Order 100,000 bags at a time (10 pallets) 17-21¢ per bag. Call him to get info on BEST places to order.

Get bags that have HEXENE additive because it adds stretch-strength. "PAYT" solves a lot of problems. Camden-Rockport charges \$1.50/bag which covers the tipping and handling fees.

12.9 tons is the average load of the small-can compactor. WTS's is 20 ton/compacted load.

Randy or Will or John: "18-\$22/ton to haul WTS loads".

Camden started PAYT 10 years ago but ignored it for the first 8.

Tri-County fills its bags to an average of 29.5 pounds per 33 gallon bag

and Camden-Rockport fills it with 25 pounds on average.

They sell their recyclables through Bangor Marketing Cooperative MMRA.

Camden bales its own and this year earned \$115,000, \$60,000 above the budgeted amount of \$62,000.

MMRA oversees the mills and brokers that accept the baled recyclables.

Jim Guerra's opinion on Single Stream: "it works better in an urban area. Here the loads are light and it doesn't work economically to ship light loads. Single Stream appeals to the lowest human attribute: laziness. We're not being told the full costs of Single Stream. Single Stream takes revenue away from towns."

Camden-Rockport pays \$31,000 to \$33,000 to its employees. Full time employees receive about \$16/hour and part-time received \$14/per hour. Health care is at 100% except that new employees will get only 80%. The station has 9 employees.

Scales: Compactor trucks pay \$120 per ton. They have 4 large and 6 small commercial haulers who charge about \$4/week for a pick up.

Software: They use "QuickBooks Point of Sale"

They don't charge sales tax because they are "selling a permit" which is now printed on the bag. They are getting a refund from the state for sales tax they paid in years past.

Jim suggests offering an option: either get weighed on scales or dump only PAYT.

Camden has a 2 million dollar budget, Tri-County has a \$400,000 budget. Tri-County's site is in the shape of a donut...a good design, Jim says.

Their waste budget is 60% paid for by bags and 40% by tax base.

Consider user fees vs. tax assessment. Try and reduce waste to keep budget from rising too quickly.

They also have an annual fixed cost of \$120,000 to pump leachate from the quarry.

Swap shop is free and manned by volunteers.