

Town of Waldoboro, Maine
Transfer Station Committee Meeting Minutes
Municipal Building - 1600 Atlantic Highway
Thursday, May 8, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

1. Sign in and Call to Order

Determine presence of a Quorum (at least 5 of the 7 Committee members or their duly appointed Alternates must be present).

The following Waldoboro Transfer Station Committee members were present and constituted a quorum:

Robert Butler, Waldoboro Resident
Elizabeth Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board
Monika Magee, Cushing Resident and Alternate
John Meyn, Friendship Resident
Randolph Robbins, Cushing Resident

John Daigle, Director of Waldoboro Public Works, Ronald L. Miller, Waldoboro Selectman, and Alan Magee, Cushing Resident, were also present

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

John Meyn moved that the committee approve the minutes of the March 26th meeting. Randy Robbins seconded the motion. The committee approved the motion unanimously.

Subsequent to the motion, Bob Butler noted: (i) legal counsel had confirmed to the Waldoboro Select Board that Waldoboro's Solid Waste and Required Recycling Ordinance is legal and (ii) the Waldoboro Select Board approved Attachments A and B of the Ordinance at the Waldoboro Transfer Station Committee's recommendation. The complete Waldoboro Solid Waste and Required Recycling Ordinance, as amended, is now posted on the Town of Waldoboro Website.

3. Review of Haulers' License Application in light of changes to Attachments A and B

John Meyn moved that the committee approve the suggested changes to the Waste Hauler's License Application Form. Randy Robbins seconded the motion. All committee members present voted in favor of the motion. The amended Waste Hauler's License Application Form is attached to these minutes.

It was suggested that the Waste Hauler License Application be posted on the Town of Waldoboro website for downloading

It was also suggested that the complaint forms be posted on the Town of Waldoboro Website for downloading.

4. Review draft of proposed letter to Lincoln County Commissioners

The committee discussed Bob Butler's draft letter addressed to the Lincoln County Commissioners. The draft requests that Lincoln County make more complete information available to the Town of Waldoboro in order that the town can better evaluate whether Lincoln County Recycling is collecting and disposing of the Transfer Station Partners' recyclables

more efficiently and more cost effectively than other options available to them.

During the ensuing discussion there was general agreement on the draft letter's goals. The question is how to get Lincoln County to move on the request.

Ron Miller said that Carl Cunningham, as Waldoboro's Select Board representative on the Lincoln County Budget Committee, had brought up the issue with Lincoln County.

Bob Butler added that he had discussed the issue with John Connolly, Lincoln County Administrator, during the MRRRA conference. There was no apparent willingness to move forward.

Monika Magee moved that the committee ask the Waldoboro Select Board to request, from the Lincoln County Commissioners, a detailed accounting of Lincoln County Recycling's operation for the fiscal year 2013 and the first 6 months of Fiscal Year 2014, all as outlined in the attached draft letter.

Liz Dinsmore seconded the motion. All voting members present voted in favor of the motion.

5. LCR Composting Program. Up-date from John Daigle

John Daigle reported that Lincoln County is continuing to implement its pilot composting program. Waldoboro is too far away to be in the program. Lincoln County Recycling will take the Transfer Station's compostable waste if the Transfer Station transports it to LCR.

Further to the composting topic, Daigle reported that Morris Farm wishes to sell one of the three Earth Tubs it purchased from Green Mountain Technologies. The Earth Tub is a fully enclosed composting vessel featuring power mixing, compost aeration, and bio-filtration to minimize odors. Its overall height is 68"; its diameter is 90". The augur motor is three-phase, 2 horsepower, 230/460 Volt. The aeration blower's capacity is 80 cfm at 100 watts. The unit is foam insulated (R-12) to operate during winter. It has a 3-cubic-yard capacity and no leachate requirements because leachate can be recycled back into the compost. The estimated annual power usage is 1,080 kWh.

The Transfer Station could operate an Earth Tub without DEP pre-approval. A lot of universities and hospitals use the system.

Monika pointed out we'd need to store the compostable materials coming in because the unit operates batch to batch. Composting an entire tubful could take up to three weeks. An alternative could be to have two units operating, one composting materials while the second

6. Proposal from North Coast Services and Planet Aid Collection of Used Clothing

The committee discussed a letter North Coast Services had addressed to Bob Butler and Ted Wooster, Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively. North Coast is based in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The letter introduced North Coast and suggested that the company recycle the Transfer Station's universal and obsolete electronic waste. North Coast pays per pound for phones, flat screens, hard drives and computers. It collects, for free, TV's, CRT Monitors, Printers, faxes, scanners, copiers, game consoles, computer battery back-up systems, microwaves, air conditioners and lithium ion batteries. North coast charges for picking up other universal waste, including fluorescent lamps, mercury devices and various types of batters. It offers repeat customers a discount.

John Daigle pointed to Lincoln County Recycling's policy of accepting all of Waldoboro Transfer Station's universal waste without charge. He added that North Coast is a relatively new company without a meaningful track record.

Bob Butler read an article from the Lincoln County News about a fund-raiser in which North Coast had participated. The Company split its proceeds from collections. The suggestion was that organizations in Waldoboro might consider a similar event with North Coast Services.

John Daigle submitted a brochure from Planet Aid and announced that the Transfer Station now had Planet Aid donation boxes at the Transfer Station. The committee will discuss the Planet Aid brochure at its next meeting.

7. Report from attendees of the Maine Resource Recovery Association's Annual Conference held April 28th and 29th at the Samoset in Rockland

Highlights of the discussion focused on zero waste recycling, green chemistry, climate change, and alternatives to the incinerator at Penobscot Energy Recovery Corporation.

Notes, and in some cases, videos of the presentations are available on the MRRA website at this link:

<http://www.mrra.net/publications/>

One important point made was that the facility in Penobscot is becoming increasingly inefficient. Its processing capacity is 206,000 tons of waste per annum. The facility is now taking in 186,000 tons of waste per annum from MRC's 187 member communities, and the annual inputs are decreasing as those communities become better at recycling. One presenter predicted that net disposal cost without stabilization at PERC would increase from \$45.00 per ton in 2017 to \$90 per ton in 2018. By 2028 net disposal cost is expected to increase to \$120.00 per ton. (See Waste Conversion Technologies – MRC's Plan for 2018 & Beyond by George Aronson).

8. Discuss Agenda for the Next Meeting, scheduled for June 3, 2014

Review Submitted Waste Hauler License Applications

The Future– Discuss Recycling and other Goals

Zero Sort?

Zero Waste?

Pay as You Throw?

Keep abreast of MRC and PERC

Discuss Planet Aid Brochure. Model for Transfer Station Recycling Brochure

Grant Opportunities

Future Disposition of Shingles

Composting

Swap Shop

Role of the Transfer Station Committee

9. Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted: Bob Butler, Chairman and John Meyn, Secretary

Approved:

Bob Butler, Chairman (Waldoboro Resident)

John E. Meyn. Secretary (Friendship Resident)

Liz Dinsmore (Friendship Select Board)

Randolph Robbins (Cushing Resident)

Monika Magee (Cushing Alternate)

Attachments: Approved Waste Hauler License Application
 Draft Letter to Lincoln County Commissioner

Town of Waldoboro
Waldoboro Transfer Station
(Cushing, Friendship and Waldoboro)

Waste Hauler License **Application**

License Fee: \$25.00

Issue Date: _____ Expiration Date: June 30, 2015

Name of Waste Hauler/Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Vehicle #1 (List additional Vehicles for which this license is Valid on the Attachments. There is no vehicle limitation.)

Vehicle Make and Model: _____

VIN: _____

Gross Vehicle Weight: _____

Vehicle License Plate Number _____

Color: _____

Vehicle Owner: _____

Vehicle Driver: _____

Off-Duty Parking Location of Vehicle:

Street Address: _____

Town: _____

Name of Insurance Company: _____

Insurance Policy Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Inspection Sticker Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Results of WTS Manager and Waldoboro Transfer Station Committee Review:

This License remains the Property of the Town of Waldoboro. It must be returned to the Waldoboro Town Office if the vehicle to which it pertains is taken out of service or sold or if this license is revoked.

This license is subject to revocation if the licensee violates the Waldoboro Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Ordinance, a copy of which is available at the Town Office and at www.waldoboromaine.org.

Please take note, in particular, of articles B3.1 and B3.5 of the Ordinance.

Please address all questions about the Ordinance, or Transfer Station procedures to the Transfer Station Manager or attendant or to the Waldoboro Transfer Station Committee. **Complaints should be filed at the town office.**

The placard issued pursuant to this application must be visibly displayed each time the vehicle enters the Transfer Station. **The placard** may not be assigned or transferred and must be in the **designated vehicle at all times.**

Signed: _____

Authorized Town of Waldoboro Employee

Signed: _____

Waste Hauler Owner

Rev: May 8, 2014

**ATTACHMENT TO WASTE HAULER LICENSE
ADDITIONAL VEHICLES**

Vehicle #2

Vehicle Make and Model: _____

VIN: _____

Gross Vehicle Weight: _____

Vehicle License Plate Number _____

Color: _____

Vehicle Owner: _____

Vehicle Driver: _____

Off-Duty Parking Location of Vehicle:

Street Address: _____

Town: _____

Name of Insurance Company: _____

Insurance Policy Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Inspection Sticker Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Rev: May 8, 2014

**ATTACHMENT TO WASTE HAULER LICENSE
ADDITIONAL VEHICLES**

Vehicle #3

Vehicle Make and Model: _____

VIN: _____

Gross Vehicle Weight: _____

Vehicle License Plate Number _____

Color: _____

Vehicle Owner: _____

Vehicle Driver: _____

Parking Location of Vehicle:

Street Address: _____

Town: _____

Name of Insurance Company: _____

Insurance Policy Number: _____ Date of Expiration: _____

Inspection Sticker Number: _____ Date of Expiration:

Rev: May 8, 2014

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

The Commissioners
Lincoln County

Subject: Lincoln County Recycling

Waldoboro, Cushing and Friendship (the “Partners”) are stakeholders in Penobscot Energy Recovery Corporation (PERC), which operates the solid waste incinerator in Orrington. The Municipal Review Committee (MRC) represents the interests of the 187 communities, including the Partners, which dispose of their solid waste at PERC.

The MRC contract with PERC expires in March 2018. The MRC is currently reviewing its options on behalf of its 187 members.

The incinerator, which has a capacity to handle about 206,000 tons of solid waste annually, is now receiving about 186,000 tons from the 187 MRC communities, and that amount is decreasing as the communities increase their recycling rates. Consequently, the incinerator is operating inefficiently, and the electricity it produces is far more expensive than it would be with less expensive sources of fuel. To keep PERC electricity costs low after 2018, the majority owner of PERC (USA Group out of Minneapolis, Minnesota) is suggesting that tipping fees need to increase from the current \$70 per ton to \$149 per ton after the current contract PERC expires.

While the MRC continues to discuss the post-2018 era with PERC, the MRC has solicited proposals for handling solid waste after 2018. It is in the process of reviewing 9 of the 13 proposals it received. Some of those proposals entail radically different approaches to waste disposal. The MRC has also commenced the permit application process with DEP to open a landfill.

The Waldoboro Transfer Station Partners wish to be pro-active as they consider their options. To do so, they must have recourse to accurate data about their own Transfer Station’s operation.

The Partners have encountered major problems regarding the availability of data pertaining to the recycled materials they provide to Lincoln County Recycling (LCR). The problems distill down to one major point: Lincoln County’s budget does not provide a subset of accounts that treat LCR as a separate budgetary entity. LCR revenues are folded into the Lincoln County General Fund. LCR does not have a separate Capital Reserve Account. Lincoln County does not transparently allocate to LCR the cost of the administrative services and support Lincoln County provides to

LCR. The only information the Partners periodically receive from LCR is the amount of money Lincoln County maintains they have saved in tipping fees as a result of the recycling tonnage LCR has removed from the Partner's collective waste stream. While helpful, the information does not permit the Partners to evaluate either the efficiency of the LCR operation or the relative costs of working with LCR in comparison to available alternatives.

We add that *all* communities in Lincoln County no longer recycle with LCR. And, LCR is accepting, for a fee, recycling from communities that lie outside the boundaries of Lincoln County. Both of these factors put into question the current policy of appropriating LCR revenues for Lincoln County's general fund.

Is the LCR operation generating positive cash flows? If so, are the funds LCR generates, sufficient to finance required future LCR capital investments? What is the true cost per ton of LCR's recycled throughput? Would the Partners be better off diverting their recyclables to other locations? Who is paying for recent LCR efforts to promote composting? What is the impact of LCR's operation on the taxes Lincoln County assesses against the towns that use Lincoln County's services?

Just as the county already creates a sub-budget for its correctional facilities and submits it to the State Board of Corrections, we request that LCR revenues, direct and indirect operating costs, capital, and capital reserves be separately identified from the general Lincoln County Budget in order to isolate LCR operational and capital requirements. We further recommend that the revenues and other funds LCR generates be deposited into a LCR Special Revenue Fund and that LCR have use of the deposits to offset LCR expenditures and to fund LCR capital reserves.

The foregoing steps are important to ensure information concerning the LCR operation is isolated and fully analyzable. It is only then that parties using the services of LCR can impartially evaluate the cost effectiveness of the operation. And, it is only then that Lincoln County, itself, can dispassionately review LCR to determine whether it is a service that provides a real return to the communities that use it.

Signed: Waldoboro Town Manager

OR

Signed: Each member of the Waldoboro Select Board