

Town of Waldoboro Maine

Transfer Station Committee Meeting Minutes

Municipal Building – 1600 Atlantic Hwy.

Thursday, September 10, 2015 – 6:00 to 8:00 PM

- A. Sign in and call to order: Bob Butler called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM on Thursday, September 10, 2015.
- B. Determine the 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
Ron Miller, Waldoboro Select Board
Ted Wooster, Waldoboro resident
John Meyn, Friendship resident
Randy Robbins, Cushing resident
Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board
Martha Marchut, Cushing Select Board

Also present:

Terry Gifford
John Higgins
Bill Najpauer
Monika Magee

- C. Report from Bill Najpauer on pay as you throw (PAYT):

According to Bill, in his calculations, it is assumed that everyone will recycle at the same rate. We know how many seasonal housing units there are. By applying average household size we can get a total number of estimated occupants. This is then annualized based on four months per year of residency. We do not calculate the value of the recyclables. The cost of handling recyclables is \$25 per ton. The Transfer Station is well designed to handle increased recycling.

Lincoln County Recycling is a great resource. We need them to remain competitive and we should do what we can to enhance their efficiency. Ron Miller asked what the cost shift would be. It is estimated at \$125,000; however, we should have a first-year budget of at least \$175,000 to account for unknowns. Aggressive kitchen composting takes away 20% of trash. According to John Daigle, pay as you throw will cover \$80,000-\$100,000 of Transfer Station costs. Bob Butler noted that this information is very preliminary; nothing is cast in stone. John Daigle noted that for some people taxes would go down by more than the cost of purchasing bags. According to Bill, we need to decide how we are going to apply pay as you throw. For example, will it apply to businesses and apartment buildings? If businesses aren't included, we will need to decide how to charge them. Charges for businesses need to be comparable to residential charges. Also, we always want to give businesses the option of using the bags. Bill also noted that in Waterville, recycling rates went up overnight after they switched to pay as you throw. John Daigle indicated that if it's cheaper to send recyclables to Fiberight, the Transfer Station would send them there. John Higgins provided written information on the current cost of the Transfer Station per taxpayer per week.

D. Minutes of the August 13, 2015 and August 20, 2015 meeting: A motion was made by Martha Marchut and seconded by John Meyn to approve the minutes from the August 13 and August 20, 2015 meeting. The motion was approved.

E. Report of subcommittees:

1. Pay as you throw (Marchut/Butler/Najpauer): Bill Najpauer already covered this report. Please refer to section C of the minutes.

2. Integrate with the Municipal Review Committee's (MRC) post-PERC vision and follow developments through to termination of the charter community's relationship with PERC on March 31, 2018 (Butler/Meyn):

Bob Butler reported that regarding PERC's package dated July 31, 2015, according to the Municipal Review Committee, PERC cannot ask us to approve an amended agreement. In addition the new agreement actually is very different from the agreement that is currently in effect. It eliminates the Oversight Committee. It eliminates MRC's role as umbrella organization. It eliminates checks and balances on General Partners. It eliminates ground rules for partnership cash distributions. It eliminates all limits on admission of new partners or dilution of existing partners. It eliminates all limits on fees billed by USAE or affiliates. It eliminates all limits on conflict of interest transactions. There will be no power to remove General Partners. USAE will have the unilateral right to dissolve the partnership at any time without notice. Bob Butler suggested that we pass a resolution for the towns to sign suggesting that PERC direct all communications to the Municipal Review Committee. John Meyn made a motion "to accept Bob Butler's suggestion that the towns request that PERC direct all communications to the Municipal Review Committee". The motion was seconded by Ted Wooster and approved with a vote of 7 – 0. John Daigle questioned what would happen if Fiberight does not materialize.

3. Improve communications with waste haulers (Marchut/Robbins):

Martha Marchut made a motion that “the hauler representative will represent the haulers and will act as a liaison between the haulers and the Transfer Station Committee”. The motion was seconded by John Meyn and approved with a vote of 7 – 0. Martha Marchut made a motion that “the Director of Public Works, John Daigle, will attend all Transfer Station Committee meetings (as feasible). Up to 15 minutes at the beginning of the meeting will be set aside at each meeting to allow haulers and committee members to gather information regarding the operation of the Transfer Station and to provide an opportunity for the Director of Waldoboro Public Works to share relevant information”. The motion was seconded by Ron Miller and approved with a vote of 7 – 0.

4. Complete a cost/benefit analysis of the new transfer station scale (Higgins/Gifford):

John Daigle reported that the scale now is in use and that he will need to gather the data in order to complete the analysis. John Higgins stated that he would like to pick up data once a week. Monika Magee asked whether there has been a press release and was informed that someone from the Courier Gazette was there yesterday.

5. Complete a cost/benefit analysis of Lincoln County Recycling (Higgins/Gifford):

John Higgins reported that Lincoln County Recycling has a \$240,000 operating budget that they request from the county. According to John, no other information is available. According to John’s information, Waldoboro’s highest recycling rate is 16.9% and its lowest recycling rate is 14.2%. John Daigle reported that in 2013, recycled material was worth \$75 per ton. John Higgins will request the auditor’s report for Lincoln County Recycling.

6. Establish a clear understanding of the use of the scales for haulers and residents (Daigle/Robbins/Miller):

John Daigle indicated that we would need to have facts and figures before this can happen.

- F. Discussion of Municipal Services Agreement - Sections 8.1 and 8.2: Bob Butler indicated that the Municipal Services Agreement among the towns of Waldoboro, Friendship, and Cushing will expire in the spring of 2018 when the PERC agreement expires as noted in section 8.1. He established a subcommittee comprised of John Meyn, Abden Simmons, and Martha Marchut to start the process of updating the Municipal Services Agreement. The update needs to be completed by the end of 2015.
- G. Discussion of the of hauler application review process - change to the ordinance: After some discussion, a motion was made by Ron Miller and seconded by Ted Wooster to “move forward with transferring the review process from the Transfer Station Committee to the Select Board as soon as possible”. The motion was approved with a vote of 7 – 0. Bob Butler indicated that he would draft this change, send a copy to the Transfer Station Committee members, and present

it to the Select Board. Protocol governing this type of change is included in Attachment A of the Transfer Station Ordinance, so the Board has the authority approve this.

- H. Report from John Daigle on scales: John Daigle indicated that he has hired a new employee after spending \$600 advertising for the position.
- I. Update of pilot composting program with Lincoln County: John Daigle indicated that the program is going well and that one can a week is being filled. The bins have been moved to a more convenient location and he is selling collection buckets.
- J. Presentation by Riverside Disposal or discussion of Lincoln County Recycling: Bob Butler will try to schedule a presentation by Riverside Disposal for the October meeting. He also will invite John O'Connor, administrator for Lincoln County Recycling. This invitation will be coordinated with John Daigle. John Daigle indicated that the Waldoboro Transfer Station will be coordinating with the Nobleboro Transfer Station on household hazardous waste pickup - dates to be announced.

John Meyn moved to adjourn; Ron Miller seconded the motion. The committee approved the motion with a vote of 7 – 0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Robert Butler, Waldoboro resident

Ron Miller, Waldoboro Select Board

Ted Wooster, Waldoboro resident

John Meyn, Friendship resident

Randy Robbins, Cushing resident

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