

Town of Waldoboro Maine
Transfer Station Committee Meeting Minutes
Municipal Building – 1600 Atlantic Hwy.
Thursday, October 8, 2015 – 6:00 to 8:00 PM

1. Sign in and call to order: Bob Butler called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM on Thursday, October 8, 2015.
2. 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
John Meyn, Friendship resident
Randy Robbins, Cushing resident
Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board
Wayne Luce, Hauler Representative
Martha Marchut, Cushing Select Board

Also present:

Terry Gifford
Abden Simmons
Seth Hall
John Daigle
Ted Wooster

3. Information Sharing: Committee members, Haulers, and Director of Public Works: There were no questions from the haulers. Ron Miller brought up the question about closing time at the Transfer Station. He indicated that last Friday, two haulers came in late in the afternoon, making it difficult for the Transfer Station staff to close on time. This will be on the agenda for the next Waldoboro Select Board meeting, and he will be recommending a closing time of 3:30 PM for haulers and 3:45 PM for

residents. John Daigle explained that haulers must go over the scales three times. Current weigh-in time is one minute and 30 seconds; the new touch screen will decrease that time to 45 seconds. Everyone must pass by the scale house, whether or not they use the scales; as a result, customer service is great and there is much more opportunity to address folks who haven't been recycling. This has upset some people. Traffic flow has improved and congestion has ~~been~~ decreased. John indicated that a few people have come in at the last minute. Ron Miller stated that a few people were allowed in later than they should have been, and reiterated the need to establish cut-off times and post them. He requested a recommendation from the Transfer Station Committee to take to the Select Board. Seth Hall suggested changing the hours for employees to 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Terry Gifford asked whether full-time employees could come in on a staggered schedule. John Meyn suggested that we simply tell people the new practice. Terry Gifford noted that the haulers are not intentionally abusing the system. Ron Miller noted that that we probably cannot legally charge the offenders a fee, and noted that the scales give documentation of the times. Wayne Luce stated that the Town of Union has a clear sign and that people need to realize that things change. The Transfer Station needs to pick a time and stick with it. Randy Robbins questioned what the cost of overtime for two men would be. According to John Daigle it would be \$60-\$70. Ron Miller made a motion that "that we recommend a cut-off time at the Transfer Station of 3:30 PM for haulers and 3:45 PM for residents". Liz Dinsmore seconded the motion. (Hauler is defined as anyone that has to be scaled). Ted Wooster then noted that Saturday is available and that we should make this clear. John Daigle indicated that Saturday is not available for the haulers. Seth Hall asked about sheet rock and other material that's done by the yard and how that would be handled. John Daigle indicated that people bringing in sheet rock and other such material would-need to go through the scales soon. This needs to be made clear to residents. Ron Miller indicated that something will need to be posted or we will need a handout. Randy Robbins suggested memos. John Daigle stated that he does not want the staff to be responsible for handing out memos. Bob Butler indicated that people have not been informed that there is a \$.60 per bag charge if they do not recycle. Seth Hall indicated that we need to put things in writing and that the cost of doing this is very low. Ron Miller stated that some people think that we're doing pay per bag, which is not the case. John Meyn noted that people would be irritated. Ron Miller suggested that we add to his motion that we will put an announcement in the two local papers, the Courier Gazette and the Lincoln County News. Based on the above discussion, Ron Miller restated his motion as follows: "to recommend to the Waldoboro Select Board cut off times of 3:30 PM for haulers and others who have to be scaled and 3:45 PM for everyone else and to place this information in the Courier Gazette and the Lincoln County News". John Meyn seconded the motion and it was passed with a vote of 7-0. John Daigle indicated that one person had complained about being charged \$300-\$400 for not recycling. He indicated that the scale house is working out well and is processing many vehicles. He is looking into handling brush. Regarding recycling, 30% in volume is translating into 14% to 15% in weight. John plans to come up with a formula to convert weight to volume. Wayne Luce asked if there's any way not to have to go back over the scales the third time. John Daigle indicated that it's illegal to skip this step. Ron Miller wondered if people could just drive on the scale from the egress direction to get a second or third weight. It was noted that if, at some point, we go to pay as you throw, we won't have to worry about this issue. Seth Hall asked whether there have been long lines of cars, and John Daigle responded that the lines have contained no more than five cars at any one time.

4. Minutes of the September 10, 2015 Transfer Station Committee meeting: A motion was made by Randy Robbins and seconded by Ron Miller to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2015 meeting. The motion was approved with a vote of 6 – 0 with one abstaining.
5. Report of the chairman – review of Waldoboro select board actions on transfer station committee recommendations from past meetings: Bob Butler reminded the Committee that on September 8, 2015, we had recommended that the three towns, Waldoboro, Cushing, and Friendship, ask that US Energy direct all communications to MRC, rather than to the individual towns. This will be put on the agenda for the Waldoboro Select Board meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2015. Bob also noted that the recommendation to change the hauler application process has not been addressed by the Waldoboro Select Board. Bob will call and email the Town Manager to be sure that this is added to the agenda for the next Select Board meeting.
6. Report of Subcommittees:

A. Pay as you throw (Marchut/Butler/Najpauer) – counting users: Bob Butler reported that he has gotten the breakdown of residents in Waldoboro and noted that we need to add in home-based businesses versus independently set up businesses. Regarding the timetable for presenting pay as you throw, Bob noted that we cannot “throw away \$300,000” without asking the people. Therefore we need to make a recommendation by the end of January. John Daigle questioned whether we could ask the haulers how many people they serve. There has been resistance to giving this information in the past. Waldoboro Business Association can’t give a solid number both because a minority of the Waldoboro businesses belongs and because membership does not include businesses from Cushing and Friendship. Ron Miller raised the question about businesses who do not bring their trash to the Waldoboro Transfer Station. Seth Hall asked why haulers can’t give anonymous information and why we can’t require this. Abden Simmons responded that haulers are not going to want people to know how many customers they have. Ron Miller concluded the discussion, stating that John Daigle will give us numbers as best he can.

B. 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) – summary of MRC meeting held on October 2, 2015 (John Meyn): John Meyn reported that MRC is working on an agreement for post-PERC, including a Municipal Joinder Agreement, a Site Lease Agreement, and a Master Waste Supply Agreement. A final draft will be forwarded to each of the member towns; the date is not yet clear. MRC will be looking for feedback from the towns. The date of the next MRC meeting is not known. With regard to Fiberight, there will be no GAT requirements. Fiberight will be looking for an annual delivery of at least 150,000 tons of solid waste to their facility. The MRC communities will not be owners of the new facility, but they will be indirect participants in the lease agreement. This is different from our relationship with PERC, where the member towns own 22% of the plant. One unknown is what, if any, money PERC may receive from the government to subsidize their rates after April 2018.

C. Improve communications with waste haulers (Marchut/Robbins): Randy Robbins reported that he and Martha Marchut met with hauler representative, Wayne Luce. Wayne is happy to receive phone calls from haulers and will soon be accessible by email. Wayne also is happy to share his expertise based on his experience hauling to several different transfer stations.

D. Complete a cost/benefit analysis of the new Transfer Station scale (Higgins/Gifford): Awaiting scale data.

E. Complete a cost/benefit analysis of Lincoln County Recycling (Higgins/Gifford – review of Lincoln County’s most recent auditor’s report: Still awaiting information.

F. Establish a clear understanding of the use of the scales for haulers and residents (Daigle/Robbins/Miller) – discussion of charges levied against permitted users who do not bring recyclables to the transfer station with their trash. Report of \$.60 per bag charge: This was discussed earlier in the meeting. Please refer to Section 3 of the minutes.

7. Discussion of Municipal Services Agreement update: Bob Butler noted that it is too early to update the Municipal Services Agreement because of the unknowns with respect to PERC, Fiberight, and pay as you throw. He also noted that it’s important to get input from Friendship and Cushing. Ron Miller stated that we don’t yet know whether we will be going with Fiberight. Bob Butler noted that we would receive documents from MRC by the end of the year regarding the Municipal Joinder Agreement and that we will pend this item for now.
8. Discussion concerning future changes to the solid waste and required recycling ordinance: Bob Butler indicated that he will take responsibility for tracking issues that pertain to possible changes.
9. Update: pilot composting program with Lincoln County – compost sales: According to John Daigle, composting is going well and 30 pound bags have been selling. He indicated that revenues from the sales go back to Lincoln County. Seth Hall suggested that a statement be made regarding the availability of compost at the next Waldoboro Select Board meeting and Ron Miller indicated that John Daigle could make an announcement about this.
10. Discuss agenda for November 12, 2015 meeting: Seth Hall asked about a presentation on pay as you throw. Bob Butler said we should ensure our presentation is completed and thorough.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ron Miller and seconded by John Meyn. The motion was approved with a vote of 7 – 0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Robert Butler, Waldoboro resident

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Wayne Luce, Hauler Representative

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