

TETON COUNTY INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE AND RECYLING (ISWR) ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2018

Members present, constituting a quorum: Andi Psmithe; Lorie Cahn; Jess Wireman; Don Baker; Rachel Daluge; Joe Kola

Others present: Kelly French, Jackson Curbside Recycling; Ted Van Holland, Teton County Engineering; Heather Overholser, Superintendent of Solid Waste and Recycling; Mari Allan Hanna, ISWR Waste Diversion and Outreach Coordinator; Caroline Sheahan, ISWR Financial Accountant; Kent Jaspersen, ISWR Solid Waste and Recycling Manager; Carrie Bell, ISWR Administrative Assistant.

3:07 - Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman Don Baker at ISWR

Motion to approve February minutes, with corrections, Moved: Andi, Second: Rachel, All in Favor, motion carried.

Report from Board Chair, Katie Dahlgren

- Don - Nothing from Katie at this point.

Update from Paul Vogelheim, County Commissioner:

- Heather- We submitted the budget last Friday. We are presenting to the commission sometime after spring break.
- Heather - We received an email from Todd Graus from Bio Pac'r who takes grass clippings and turns them into silage. Greg Epstein emailed and asked about the grass clippings. Todd proposed in his e-mail that he could pay the county for the grass clippings. But, we have a contract with Terra Firma Organics and those tons are committed to them through November 2019. Something to think about in the future. Maybe when we bid out composting? Kent- he wants someone to do a pilot. They've done the tests, it's good cow feed. I just don't know why they wouldn't go to some of the landscapers. At contract time though, maybe.
- Heather- he could easily go to landscapers and get clippings. That's out of our control, it would affect TERRA FIRMA ORGANICS, but we can't do anything about that.
- Rachel- The same Todd Graus, of Green Turf Landscapes?
- Kent- I think so. This guy has asked a lot of questions over the years. I told him that if he could make a good product, it would be great. If you had some room, an independent guy could make some money.
- Ted- he could make it an agricultural product. But, there are problems with clopyralids.

Capital Projects Update, Heather Overholser:

Interim Transfer Station Construction, Contract Award, TTS Planning

- Heather- Montana Civil is working on the demo of the Trash Transfer Station. They are still waiting on removing the grizzly. We are trying to sell the grizzly first. Concrete removal starts on Monday.
- Don- what's the grizzly worth?

- Kent- it may be worth \$10,000. I don't know, they haven't said. Maybe they could rebuild and resell it. If they don't want it, we will follow county policy and advertise it for sale.
- Heather- how's the timing with Montana Civil and the concrete?
- Kent- good.
- Heather- and the interim is going well?
- Kent- yes, it's getting smoother every day.
- Heather- we are going to Board of County Commissioners soon to get approval for RSCI. They got their Town of Jackson license almost a week ago.
- Ted- what was the bid?
- Heather- \$5.48 million.... adding in contingency it's just over \$6 million. The Engineer's estimate was \$6.3 million, but I bumped it up to \$7 million for our budget, including annual inflation. It's almost an \$800,000 savings. I don't know what the commissioners will say about a 10% contingency. It gives me the ability to do change orders and that is really helpful, otherwise if I had to go back to the commission every time something came up.... nothing would ever get done. It would end up costing the contractor more too. The board approved 5% not 10% contingency for the Interim Transfer Station.
- Ted- are they using a batch plant?
- Heather- yes, there is so much concrete. That's where the cost is.
- Don- what is the contingency? Does that go into the force account?
- Heather- yes, it is essentially the force account.
- Ted- same unit cost, just more units.
- Don- why do they have to be licensed with the TOJ to work in the county?
- Kelly- the county doesn't have a licensing program and they utilize the Town's licensing program so as not to duplicate efforts.
- Heather- we anticipate that Montana Civil will start excavation April 1st. They want to start sooner, but there's no more room for waste relocation in the March 1st Forest Service access area. They won't start until April 1st. That will give them two months to get the area ready for RSCI by June 1.

Recycling Center Landscaping

- Heather- We just put out an RFP for the recycling center landscape design for screening and landscaping at the entrance. I need to have the landscape design prepared to include it when I submit the recycle center phase 2 building permit application. When we bid out the recycling center improvement project, CTA gave us a price for both phase 1 and 2. We can continue with the same contract as long as they are ok sticking to their design fee of 9% of construction cost. If they are good with that I just need to make sure it's ok with the county attorney. I want to get that rolling so next summer or the following summer, we can start phase two. That includes the storage facility, on which the sort system is dependent.

Carcass disposal, agency working group, contingency planning

- Ted- who attended?
- Heather- WYDOT, Game & Fish, GTNP, the Refuge, ISWR staff, Sean, Lorie, Don
- Heather- At the beginning I laid out ISWR's position. G&F doesn't seem like they know enough yet, and also don't have enough money to put in an incinerator. They don't know what they will

do either, and they aren't regulated by the state. They are sovereign. The refuge said that they are putting in an incinerator but are not interested in collaborating with any other agencies.

- Jess- is that expense related?
- Heather- disease related. They don't want further contamination or spread of the prions.
- Jess- what does the park do?
- Heather- they have pits. They had 12 but are now down to 2. We ended the meeting by agreeing that everyone was going to go talk to their directors, look at logistical site options, and financials. We are going to send out minutes and bullet points. We spoke to Ben Wise of Game and Fish after the meeting. The rest of the state has had this problem for a long time, and it's not a big issue for them. The potential to get money from the state is slim. The problem area is Teton County, because in other places you can find an area for a carcass disposal pit. We don't have any options. We have long term needs, and short term. Right now, if CWD shows up tomorrow, what do we do? Currently, we send carcasses to Idaho, but we can't do that if we test positive. We are looking at a contingency plan. Maybe get a lined truck to haul to Sublette to their landfill. Paul Vogelheim is going to talk to their commissioners to see if that's possible. We've been sending bones and guts to Idaho, and their state vet is concerned. There's talk about setting out bone boxes, so it can be properly disposed of.
- Don- Sublette is lined?
- Kent- I don't think it is at this time. But it is approved for CWD animals.
- Don- who approved it?
- Heather- DEQ. If a landfill is approved by WDEQ, then Game and Fish regards it as an approved carcass disposal site.
- Lorie- Sublette is moving towards a lined landfill?
- Heather- Sublette had ground water contamination and they believed it wasn't from the landfill, but from some other source. The DEQ said they must line, Sublette said it's not from the landfill and it was contentious for many years. I don't know what happened in the end...
- Don- so Sublette will take carcasses?
- Heather- I'm hoping they will make an exception for this material.
- Kent- the only other alternative is to leave them where they are.
- Heather- we could potentially go somewhere else. Rock Springs' tip fee is relatively low.
- Kent- it could cost approximately \$600 per trip.
- Heather- how many tons at once?
- Kent- 3-4 in winter, but in the summer, they will have to go more because of odor and vectors. The roll-off also has a liner, which is a one-time use bag. About \$575 a trip including the liner, but not including the tip fee.
- Heather- so more like \$800 a trip.
- Kent- if you only have two animals...it's difficult to say how many trips we will take. We need to look at the data. We will be able to put a better number to it, but it won't be cheap. This is the emergency plan. Once we get more in depth, we will probably put it out to bid or offer an amendment to our hauling contractor.
- Don- we are getting painted into a corner to have to deal with this.
- Kent- it's important to know what our costs would be. We could refuse it. Let someone else deal with it.

- Heather- we also need to bring this to the commission. Tell them about the Sublette emergency plan, and if they want us to go that route? What do they want? When I spoke to Paul Vogelheim, I understood that he had the impression that the Refuge would put in an incinerator and possibly collaborate and that would solve our problems. That's not true, as far as I understand it.
- Heather- a lot of vets have their own incinerators, they bring us some pets. We can still take domestic.
- Kent- it's an eye-opening thing. Ben mentioned the other diseases that are transmitted to humans, but no one has done anything about that. Brucellosis and anthrax. We should consider all diseases when we handle wild game.
- Lorie- the meeting was frustrating. It's a shared problem, but no one seemed willing to take it on.
- Heather- Game & Fish seemed to want to work together, but they don't have money to put toward a solution.
- Heather- the last time we spoke with WYDOT, they said they won't pick carcasses up if they have to pay.
- Heather- WYDOT must come up with a protocol. Right now, they drag them into the truck, drag them off, and then the pillows that absorb the grease in their sump come to the transfer station...
- Lorie- and the discussion of what the next steps are; we need to talk to legislature, but we can't lobby.
- Kent- we are working on a contingency plan to deal with an emergency situation. Just in case it pops up tomorrow, we will have a plan.
- Don- the board can continue to help get elected involved.

Treasurer's Report, Joe Kola:

- Joe- We've got numbers through January available. One thing to note, a dip in diversion rate. I did a little more investigation into the tonnages because we look down in tonnages. We took in 425 tons of asphalt millings in 2017.
- Kent- that shouldn't be included in tonnages. They were used for the roads at the Transfer Station.
- Joe- well, strip those things out and MSW is up and wood/compostables are down. That could be why it shows there is less diverted material. Not a lot of volatility. Nothing out of the ordinary, no real change. Down in tons, up in prices for commodities. Down almost 500 tons in commodities. And now the new steel and aluminum tariffs – not sure what that means for us yet.
- Heather- is Terra Firma Organics down? Numbers here are higher.
- Caroline- they got the \$5 increase and material relocation.
- Heather- that is not in next year. Even though there is an increase in what we are paying Terra Firma Organics, the tonnage is down.
- Joe- yes, 401 tons.
- Caroline- dimensional lumber down 11% and weed and grass.
- Jess- were there times during construction when Terra Firma Organics couldn't accept as usual?
- Heather- no, I don't think so.

- Kent- there weren't any big storms this year, which produces a lot of extra organic debris.
- Joe- error on the spreadsheet. There was an additional load of aluminum in January.
- Heather- we are going to do a third load this year.
- Jess- with the advent of the sparkling water. And the breweries.
- Kelly- we went years of being able to bag our own aluminum.
- Don- and what's contamination in aluminum like?
- Kent- since there's more aluminum, there just more contamination.
- Jess- any concern about the plastic wrapped cans?
- Mari Allan- it's not the plastic wrap that is the problem, it's the weight. They are paying us for aluminum not plastic. They don't want to see a lot of that.

Taming the Wild Waste Update

- Heather- TWW budget sheet that has all different categories of expenses. These are all the expenses that we know about and are budgeted for. The total project cost is a changing number, as we learn more, we update it.
- *Viewing TWW actual Expense report*
- Heather- Casper just did a landfill capping, and it cost \$55,000 an acre. What we have here is triple what we see in other parts of the state. There are some cost saving opportunities in the waste excavation project. In the Montana Civil contract, they are required to seed everything. Since they will be done two years later than originally anticipated, there's no reason to seed it, but they will still do erosion control. We have \$700,000 for carcass disposal in the TWW spreadsheet paid out of fund 30. Hopefully we won't need it. \$2 million for the compost facility. This number includes surfacing on the compost pad, electricity, and water.
- Ted- what about equipment? Blowers?
- Heather- that's the contractor's responsibility.
- Caroline- We have about \$11 million left in the SPET fund 34.
- *Viewing of summary page*
- Heather- every time Caroline pays an invoice, she updates this spreadsheet.
- Joe- are we funded for our budgeted expenditures? Looks like we are.
- Heather- relatively speaking, we are in good shape. Barring no huge surprises. If we did have to spend more than \$2 million for composting infrastructure, we have some funds in fund 30 that we could tap into. Maybe \$100,000-200,000, not millions.
- Joe-what's the acreage for capping?
- Heather- around 26 acres.
- Joe- so it could come in lower than budget per acre?
- Heather- yes. I've consulted with Bill Hensley and compared other areas from the state, so I feel pretty good about it.

Committee and Staff Reports, Mari Allan Hanna:

Education/Outreach/RRR

- Mari Allan- We are currently in a planning time. That's great because we start full on after spring break. RRR in a Box is coming up, and the idea is that organizations, HOAs, classrooms, and

community groups can check out the box from us and they can speak directly to their organizations. Helps extend our outreach and speak internally to these groups of people.

- Heather- we got funding from the Community Foundation for this.
- Mari Allan- when we send these boxes out, we are going to ask for feedback. It will be a way to get into these organizations to see how we can improve. We have test presentations coming up. We are adding an HHW open house coinciding with spring cleanup. Longer hours, after work hours. Going to invite other organizations that are HHW related, who can set up booths and help spread our message. Organizations like Jackson Curbside Recycling, Dave's Dirty Deeds, etc. Eco fair is coming up, and we will need volunteers. The next issue of Green Matters from Riverwind comes out in May, then in July. We contribute to that publication. Creative Curiosity JH is looking at rebranding strategies for us. First meeting is next week. RRR Business Leaders, no active recruiting this year like we did last year, but we are getting 2-3 new members per month. Through Riverwind the word is getting out. The library just filled out their RRRBL application, which is very exciting.
- We need volunteers!!!
- Don- corn based cups? Are they biodegradable?
- Mari Allan- they are biodegradable, but we will not accept them in our composting program. It increases contamination. If someone is using those, we want to correct them and inform them that those will not be composted and will go to the landfill.
- Kent- years ago when we went to Colorado we were told those compostable cups are not all the same. Some really do biodegrade, some don't.
- Don- did the Center for the Arts consult you?
- Ma- no, but they are taking on a lot. They are working with Straw Free JH too. We encourage people to find a reusable option, and steer events in that direction. The challenge is dishwashing. Not a lot of large scale dishwashing in Jackson.
- Jess- maybe we should start advertising the Local dishwashers as an option.
- Heather- maybe when people apply for a Town of Jackson event permit there could be a list of restaurants that offer to wash dishes.
- Mari Allan- the Art Association is purchasing their own small-scale dishwasher. A list of restaurants would be great.
- Jess- Going back to the corn product thing, Bio Cycle had a great article.... just from the idea of using corn rather than plastic.
- Kelly- people think they are doing the right thing. But, for the reason that it may use fewer resources, it may be better, but the PR is in the wrong direction.
- Jess- restaurant supply companies are really pumping this. Many don't even say compostable anymore, they just say corn product.
- Heather- regular plastic cups have the recycling symbol even though they aren't recyclable.
- Jess- yeah, the language is getting better. A place to rent/clean dishes would be great.

Zero Waste Planning

- Mari Allan- Annie Riddell of Old Bill's and Mari Allan are giving a presentation at the Community Foundation about how to green your event. Food waste report is completed and published. Zero Waste Committee meeting next Tuesday. Met with the Finance Committee about how to accurately report diversion rates. Caroline and I talked to Eco Cycle, they are mentors on Zero

Waste and diversion, and they confirmed that we are on the right track with calculation and language. In Europe, they report per capita, and that looks a little funny here because of our population, but I think it could be a great thing to think about in the future. The next steps are to write down our next steps in zero waste. Getting into our strategies, like Pay As You Throw, our support of the plastic bag ban, required separation of yard waste, etc.

- Lorie- where is Pay As You Throw at?
- Mari Allan- 2025.
- Lorie- what are the next steps?
- Heather- franchise agreements with the Town.
- Kelly- franchises can be altered at any times, they are not a contract.
- Heather- it's more like a permit.
- Lorie- if Town Council votes and moves to Pay As You Throw...
- Heather- Town Council could do an overlay ordinance. The Town wouldn't tell the haulers exactly how to do it but give them parameters, percentage ranges. This would give the hauler a framework by which to operate. Greater Yellowstone Coalition is hoping to move all of Teton County to bear proof trash containers. We will have to make sure there are bear proof containers in all these sizes in order to do Pay As You Throw. There probably is some proof that bear-proofing should be done. But if they say we have to have bear proof cans, backyard composting will likely be out the window.
- Kelly- my neighborhood is bear proof, but recycling is not. I had this conversation with the commissioners, they said recycling is rinsed...so it's different. That hasn't been addressed.
- Heather- most of the community site bins in town are not bear proof. There may be odors, but there aren't huge food rewards.
- Mari Allan- it's an opportunity, we may get to throw in the Pay As You Throw conversation earlier.
- Lorie- and neighborhood dumpsters, for waste? No individual bear proof cans, but neighborhood dumpsters?
- Heather- mostly they are multifamily HOAs.
- Kelly- all are required to be enclosed. It's already in place in a lot of the county.
- Lorie- that's what they do in many other places, no one has individual trash. They are in walking distance.
- Heather- once we go to Pay As You Throw, that just won't work because it foregoes the incentive to reduce waste.
- Lorie- it's just an alternative for bear proof, but a disincentive for pay as you throw.
- Ted- is the bear problem really a problem? I've never seen them.
- Kelly- we had to get bear-proof cans in Wilson 10 years ago, and I've only seen one bear in 20 years.
- Heather- the East Jackson bear problem is what's driving the issue.
- Mari Allan- Construction & Demolition working group will meet early April, talk about equal recycling space. When we get all of our reporting in place, Eco Cycle wants to feature Teton County as a case study on their website.

Compost Planning Update

- Mari Allan- Working to finalize this summer's pilot food waste collection. Ready to go May 10th.

- Don- is it expanding?
- Heather- yes, mostly with Grand Teton Lodge Company. They are expanding. Last year they didn't have enough space on their loading dock. They've done some remodeling, built sheds, and increased capacity. They are anticipating 100 tons, Signal 46-47 tons. Signal was close to what they expected in 2017 – 41 tons. Subaru continuing to fund, as well as ISWR, and we are asking the Teton Conservation District to put money towards it. Starting to think about an RFP for operations to possibly hire O2 Composting for language and guidance about the permit amendment with the DEQ and the RFP for a composting operator.

Other

- Andi- airport recycling, any idea how filled the trailer is?
- Kent- the airport trailer is the most contaminated trailer. Comes about once a month.
- Don- do they get that feedback?
- Kent- yes, we've called. It's hard because so many different entities are using it. Paul is trying so hard.
- Heather- not for this summer, but next summer Grand Teton may want to bring in the airport into their Zero Landfill Initiative. May be helpful if they are struggling.
- Kent- they used to just throw the whole trash bags in. They've cleaned it up a lot, but it's still bad.
- Jess- it's consumer too? Maybe more standardized labels will help with language barriers?
- Heather- maybe Recycle Across America could make signs?
- Rachel- when is the next ISWR board meeting?
- April 12th
- Heather- there are possible conflicts for the May meeting, but we will keep everyone informed.

Motion to Adjourn, Moved: Jess, Second: Lorie, All in favor. Meeting Adjourned 4:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Bell

ISWR Administrative Assistant

Approved on _____

Attest:

Don Baker, Board Chair

Jess Wireman, Secretary