

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

Meeting Minutes

August 2, 2018

Members present, constituting a quorum: Don Baker, Lindsey Ehinger, Joe Kola, Rani Carr, Lorie Cahn (remotely), Jess Wireman

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

3:00- Meeting called to order by Don Baker at ISWR

Motion to approve July minutes, with corrections, Moved: Lindsey, Second: Joe, All in Favor, motion carried at 3:06.

Report from Board Chair, Don Baker

- Jim Van Vliet has officially resigned. The board position has been posted and applications are due by August 17. Bylaws will be voted on next month, when the 30-day waiting period will be complete. Major changes involve every other month meetings, and attendance requirements. Back to the Old Bill's discussion from last month. We had a discussion about why we ask for grant and donation money when this is (***not – correction by Heather***) a tax payer-supported enterprise that does community good.
 - Recycling used to be completely funded by community members
 - Is important to have 100% board participation in Old Bill's
 - ISWR does a lot outside the scope of what must be done, specifically education and outreach,
 - And, recycling doesn't entirely pay for itself.
- I was at the candidate forum for town council. Overall expectations of government from the public are growing, but government isn't able to keep up due to funding issues. As a community and as citizens, we have to do more.
- Heather- just to clarify, this is not a tax payer-supported enterprise.
- Lindsey- and SPET?
- Heather- SPET is different, it is for capital projects and doesn't support fund 30 – ISWR's annual operating fund.
- Don- the electeds would prefer that we support the net loss of recycling with donations rather than raising tip fees.

Treasurer's Report, Joe Kola

- Joe- thank you Caroline for the work she does on this spreadsheet. We met on Tuesday about our year end position, no surprises. We should be posting total revenues of about \$5.5 million. On a net basis, we are at about \$250,000 to the good. Tonnages are flat. Diversion rates are down - probably because of increases in MSW. Less organics this year, less than last year and below budget. Significant decrease in Construction & Demolition materials. Seems like we had a couple of years where big buildings came down.

- Caroline- this is directly comparing June 2017 to June 2018, but we have one more month of expenses to put in here.
- Heather- what do you estimate that to be?
- Caroline- revenue for TTS is hard to predict this year.
- Joe- back to that JCR piece that Don mentioned, so when you think of salaries and other expenses, they are subsidized.
- Lindsey- I know ISWR has had staffing issues, where are we now?
- Heather- we were severely understaffed at the end of FY17 and the beginning of FY18 until about September or so. We have been not as badly understaffed this year, but what ended up happening was that staff put in a lot of overtime to make up for the shortages. When we are short staffed, there is some savings in benefits, but salaries end up costing close to the same because of overtime (paid at time and a half).
- Joe- maybe we should add in a “salaries” category to this spreadsheet to make this most clear.
- Rani- on the expenses... do you have the fixed vs. variable dialed in and the discrepancies... in the sense that there is a baseline. We could have no revenue and we’d have the same amount of expenses.
- Heather- the material cost analysis shows variable vs. fixed costs. In the audited numbers there are categories that are variable revenue grants or, “other income.” So, you can see what actual income is.
- Don- what are you driving at Rani?
- Rani- I am getting used to these numbers, and I’m looking at the year over year variances, and we have more revenue, but our expenses went up...is that equal?
- Heather- our capital expenditures are included in our annual operating numbers, which causes variations from year to year. The main reasons we spend more money from one year to the next is salary increases, contractors’ annual escalation (per their contracts), an additional position in FY17, and tonnage fluctuations. When tonnages go up, so do corresponding expenses. Last year we had a summer temp at the recycling center, but we were short two positions. So, we were paying the summer person, but not two full time people. This year we asked for another full time, but we got the summer person instead.
- Don- what did we bring in last year at Old Bill’s?
- Mari Allan- Around \$60,000, including a special one-time \$20,000 contribution for a future Stilson community recycling site.

Committee and Staff Reports

- Mari Allan- I just came from Colter Elementary, and they built candy landfills. They did a great job. The kids had to keep liquids out of the landfill. It’s a good project. Two art fairs - one was in July and one later this month on Friday, August 10th. We will have conducted two waste audits this month - the Elk Refuge Inn and the Chamber of Commerce is next week. They are growing in popularity, we are getting requests for more and more.
- Don- how do you perform an audit?
- Mari Allan- you wear gloves and incorporate staff if possible. We separate out all of the recyclables by type and all the waste. It’s a great way to get into the businesses to answer questions and suggest ideas to reduce waste.
- Ted- how many could you handle in a month?

- Mari Allan- it only takes an hour to an hour and a half, so it's not bad. It's great outreach.
- Rani- when we did a waste audit, it was helpful, and I liked how we had the tarp out. It was a great image. I used photos from the audit in my Q2 report. Now that we are recycling, and the staff is getting into it, it would be fun to do another and see how we are progressing.
- Mari Allan- it's intended to be a baseline. We tell businesses that it's their number, we don't compare businesses.
- Don- how does that help with your zero waste targets?
- Mari Allan- ideally it would make an impact, but we haven't measured yet. To me the benefit is that an entire staff gains this knowledge.
- Don- Teton County has a 35% diversion rate...what do you think it could be that may affect that?
- Mari Allan- typically the places I go to are already recycling everything they can. It would be great to go to businesses that need the help.
- Lindsey- hopefully by training staff through waste audits, if one of the staff members goes to another job, they can be the advocate and already have the info.
- Mari Allan- we have really good models; the Elk Refuge Inn is a great example, as well as Rani's business.
- Lindsey- it would be interesting to have a peer to peer meeting so people like Rani could spread the word
- Mari Allan- new business leaders this month are Kilmain Painting and the Jackson Hole Food Cupboard. I got a call from Paul at the Jackson Hole Airport, and they want to get on the road to zero waste. I am creating a list of ways to get started so Paul can go to his committee. They are also talking to the Park, so that will be helpful.
- Kent- how many County and Town departments are on board? I think they should be setting the example.
- Heather- we should follow up with Lauren Long and Johnny Ziem.
- Lindsey- Johnny and the Town do an amazing job.
- Mari Allan- ISWR has an article in the summer issue of Green Matters. The plastic bag ban ordinance has been drafted and is being reviewed. The next Town Council workshop is coming up.
- Heather- it's a workshop and they are presenting the ordinance.
- Ted- I don't think they can take action at a workshop.
- Lorie- what day of the week is it? Typically, the workshops are just review. They don't do readings at a workshop.
- Mari Allan- the volunteer signup sheet is going around. We've added Mondays for our "Ask a Recycler," sounds like it's a popular recycling day. Having a more public presence during Old Bill's is a good idea.
- Lindsey- at last month's board meeting we discussed the UW students' work. Is that public info?
- Heather- I'll double check.
- Mari Allan- it's not easy to process, it's in a couple documents.
- Joe- what is the story on plastic #1 cups? Recyclable?
- Mari Allan- no.
- Joe- I just worked one of the events at the fair, and we were having to use a new plastic cup for every beer, and we went through so many.
- Heather- I wonder if the breweries would know, they use reusable cups at events.

- Mari Allan- we need to get with the Fair. Kelly you pick up there, right?
- Kelly- yes, and it's been getting better. We have bins everywhere. Anywhere there are tables. I still get lots of food waste, but the cups are getting better.
- Jess- they aren't serving anything in recyclable containers.
- Kelly- anywhere there is a tent with tables, there is a recycling container.
- Mari Allan- to Kent's point, they are County.
- Kelly- we pulled bins at certain times of the fair because they weren't serving anything that was recyclable. Aluminum cans of beer is the best choice.
- Heather- unless they do the same thing as The Peoples Market.
- Jess- The Peoples Market has a different permit; the Health Department wouldn't allow it, since the fairgrounds are on County property.

Compost Planning

- Jess- I have no updates.
- Heather- we ran into some problems with the pilot food waste going to West Yellowstone. They said we were sending them too much. We brought Haderlie Farms on board. One day a week a truck picks up at Jackson Lake Lodge and Signal and delivers only their waste to Haderlie. Mari Allan and I went to Haderlie in advance of the food waste truck last Tuesday. There was more contamination this week vs. other weeks, but it's something we can fix. It was a serious problem at the beginning of the season. Westbank switched the billing to an hourly rate rather than paying for each individual bin based on size but it's not costing us any more to add the once a week Haderlie route in addition to the West Yellowstone run. Haderlie's tip fee is \$50 a ton, and we expect that it will probably increase. But it's a big difference and huge savings from the tip fee at the West Yellowstone Compost Facility. We are starting to talk about the first year of composting at our site. I'm working with Golder and O2 Composting, and we are working on our RFP and DEQ permitting. It's coming together, but there is a lot of work.
- Jess- and Haderlie is dealing with the volume?
- Heather- yes, he didn't have a problem with the volume. It was just over a ton, but I expect it will be more in the future.
- Rachel- did I see that Hole Food Rescue is picking up food waste?
- Rani- they are doing a garden pick-up.
- Heather- Haderlie does a food waste home pick-up.
- Heather- I am doing a workshop with the Commissioners on carcass disposal on August 27th at 2:30. I started my staff report, laying out short term/contingency and long-term plans. We reached out to Sublette County - they said no. Andy Schwartz is reaching out to someone he knows down there for reconsideration. Lincoln County is not accepting carcasses from anyone. There is a Lincoln County Commission meeting on September 5th at which Brad Hovinga from Game & Fish is scheduled to speak, likely to try to convince them otherwise or to work together. Other contingency plan for once CWD shows up in Teton County is to use the dead animal pit, at least until the landfill capping starts next summer. Until then we can haul to the Idaho landfill. Long term options: no longer accept carcasses, incineration, or convincing another local agency to partner with us. If anyone wants to come to the workshop, please do. The main reason for the workshop is to lay out the research we have done, the problems, and the options that have any viability and see what direction they want us to take. I'll send out the staff report and any

input you have I can share or you can come to the meeting. If the BCC decides that they would like us to pursue an incinerator, I think we've done enough research that we could get an RFP out quickly and we have the funding.

- Jess- it was on Wyoming Public Radio about how close CWD is to Teton county.
- Ted- they discussed not feeding here.
- Don- what do you need Heather? How can we help?
- Heather- please provide me feedback once you've read my staff report. Maybe we can call a special meeting prior to the workshop and talk about recommendations.
- Don- we've talked about this for a year now, I wonder if we should have a consensus.
- Heather- I need to come up with a recommendation, and identify the hurdles ...be it financial, logistical, permitting... and out of these hurdles, determine our recommendation. We've brought the working group together and we thought there would be some partnership, but that didn't happen.
- Don- I recommend that the carcass committee could meet prior to this, maybe the week of the 13th.
- *People who want to be added to the carcass disposal committee: Rachel*
- Heather- I'll call a meeting early the week of the 13th. The other thing I want to mention is that the commission approved Montana Civil's change order #4. From Bill, waste excavation should be finished in September.
- Lindsey- would it be possible to get someone from the Latino community to be interested in joining the board?
- Mari Allan- I would suggest going through One 22, and I will pass the message along.
- Heather- board members, please pass the ad on to anyone who may be interested.
- Don- application deadline is August 17th.

Motion to Adjourn, Moved: Jess, Second: Lindsey, All in favor. Meeting Adjourned 4:12.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Bell

ISWR Administrative Assistant

Approved on _____

Attest:

Don Baker, Board Chair

Jess Wireman, Secretary

