

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

Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2018

Members present, constituting a quorum: Rachel Daluge, Nikki Kaufman, Don Baker, Jess Wireman, Lindsey Ehinger, Lorie Cahn, Rani Carr, Joe Kola

Others Present: Caroline Sheahan, ISWR Financial Accountant; Paul Walters, Jackson Hole Airport; Mari Allan Hanna, ISWR Waste Diversion Outreach Coordinator; Heather Overholser, ISWR Superintendent; Carrie Bell, ISWR Administrative Assistant; Kelly French, JH Curbside Recycling; Tom Segerstrom, Teton Conservation District

3:03 pm-- Meeting called to order by Don Baker at ISWR

- Don- Can we have the minutes sent to only the board and others who attended the previous meeting until they are approved?

Motion to approve August minutes, with corrections and modifications to who receives unapproved minutes, Moved: Jess, Second: Lorie, All in Favor, motion carried at 3:08.

- Don- On to bylaw changes. The main change is to meet every other month, starting in October.

Motion to accept bylaw changes and updates, Moved: Lindsey, Second: Lorie, All in Favor, motion carried at 3:10.

Report from Board Chair, Don Baker:

- Welcome new board member Nikki Kaufman.
- Old Bill's is Saturday- looking for 100% board donations.
- Exec committee meeting- we need to schedule one before the next board meeting.
- Mari Allan's resignation has gone around- we are all very thankful to Mari Allan and sad to lose her.
- Heather- Mari Allan is staying until October 6th. We are interviewing and hope to bring someone on in the next few weeks.
- Don-We are hoping to get together at The Bird on the 20th of September, which would follow trash cleanup of Horsethief Canyon.
- Heather- there are several acres that need clean up. Montana Civil is finishing up with waste excavation soon. It's likely with a project of this magnitude that there will be some blown trash in the canyon, so we'd like to get a group together to walk up the canyon and pick up litter. The more people the better, starting around 4pm, and then to The Bird to celebrate Mari Allan and socialize. We will have gloves and trash bags. We want to treat the forest service land with respect and uphold the requirements of the special use permit for the landfill closure.
- Don- reminder that there is a board meeting next month in October. We are focusing ISWR's time on shorter staff reports and every other month meetings to be more conscious of people's time. We are focusing on topics in the meetings that we won't read in a report.
- Lorie- will we change the April meetings to the 11th?
- Heather- yes, probably
- Don- Paul Vogelheim's term is ending correct?

- Heather- yes, and I've recommended Commissioner Epstein to replace him as the ISWR liaison.

Treasurer's Report, Joe Kola:

Viewing Caroline's spreadsheet from her staff report

- Caroline- there is an error in the spreadsheet. These are unaudited actuals; our revenue and expenses are there. There is another month yet to be input – expenditures from June that were spent in July. In the far-right column, you can see the percentages of the ISWR expenditure break down. The transfer station accounts for over 50% of our expenses. In terms of the Horsethief Canyon capital project, we secured \$23.44 million and have \$13.12 million left.
- Joe- not a lot of trends to report.
- Lindsey- with the annual capital expenditures- is all the income from the SPET tax?
- Caroline- no, they are funded out of Fund 30.
- Heather- the Horsethief Canyon project is funded from Fund 34 and Fund 12. Fund 30 is used for capital equipment replacement. We did pay for Phase 1 of the Recycling Center out of Fund 30, and we plan to do the same for Phase 2.
- Lindsey- I'm wondering how to explain that piece when I'm talking about Old Bill's.
- Heather- focus on education, outreach, and HHW.
- Don- don't we award grants as well?
- Heather- yes, to community partners that help carry out our mission in the community.

Committee and Staff Reports:

- Mari Allan - thank you to everyone that have helped at the bins. We want to focus on collecting high-value recyclables from the community and using the Business Leaders program to do so. We have our marketing team working on informational packages for different types of business, to participate with us, promote the message and promote themselves at the same time. Whoever is my replacement will have these polished informational packages to hand out. It's an idea that Don had, and I think that it's a good way to move forward.

Plastics remain highly contaminated. We want to emphasize that if it is not a bottle, it is trash. All clamshells etc. are trash. We are considering signage on the actual bins. Kent wants it to be a bold message.

- Jess- in regard to contamination, are plastics the worst?
- Mari Allan- yes, plastics are the worst.
- Jess- I feel like I see a lot of cardboard contamination
- Mari Allan - that doesn't affect us like plastic contamination.
- Lorie- maybe we need more aggressive signage. Something that will grab people's attention.
- Kelly- the new bins on the square collect a lot of trash. There are trash cans right next to the recycling bins. People don't read or look. But on the positive side, since we service them, we have a lot more one-on-one conversations with people. Sometimes it takes more work and time to help people understand plastics recycling, but it's worth it.
- Mari Allan- getting this message to people from all different directions will eventually make a difference, but it is going to take some time.

- Joe- you are sorting it, and then what? You trash it? Can you put a trash bin there? (*at the community site*)
- Mari Allan- no, people take advantage of trash bins.
- Nikki- the numbers on plastics are confusing.
- Kelly- I think if we focus on the bottle aspect and remove the numbers, we may see less contamination.
- Mari Allan- Teton Valley is trying the trash bin, they've had it about a year.
- Kelly- word of mouth is the best. I have gotten a lot of calls this summer. I'm assuming that Idaho Falls throws them away too. I talk to people that say they take it to Idaho Falls....but they aren't recycling plastics there.
- Mari Allan- I like to think this is the worst its going to get.
- Lindsey- I like the slogan "when in doubt, throw it out." It gets people's attention, and maybe will make more people realize what the problem is.
- Mari Allan- the *Green Matters* fall issue is about plastics, how recycling works here and why. It will be out in October or November. There will be a second plastic bag ordinance workshop with the town council. Limiting plastic bags is in favor but there are still a lot of questions. It's not scheduled yet.
- Mari Allan- Paul, do you have anything about airport zero waste?
- Paul- The airport is getting started on the Zero Landfill Initiative. The airport is looking to be a leader and work with the Park and County. We are currently looking at our waste stream.
- Don- one of our board members works at the airport and mentioned that it's hard to recycle anything coming off the plane. Is there anything we can do about that?
- Paul- we are talking and working with the airlines on separating materials for recycling. It's a big conversation.
- Don- do you have the authority to force compliance?
- Paul- in the future we will, when we are writing contract and agreements. We do some of that with the current concessionaires.
- Heather- who's doing your waste characterization study?
- Paul- I can't remember their name, sorry.
- Heather- can we see the report when they are done?
- Paul- absolutely.
- Heather- we are conducting the food waste pilot up in the Park, and Jon Dyer has reached out about doing collection over the winter. I think there could be an opportunity for the airport.. At the least, I'd like to see the airport in our early adopter's food waste program starting around 2020.
- Paul- contract renewals are coming up soon and we can include more of this language.
- Heather- contact us if you want to talk about that.
- Lindsey- I am happy to be a liaison if that's helpful.
- Don- do you know what kind of tonnage comes from the airport?
- Mari Allan- Paul is here a lot!
- Heather- and trash is picked up by the Park?
- Paul- no Teton Trash, but we have a compactor.

- Heather- I bet we could look up your trash numbers easily. With phase 2 of the Recycling Center, expanding storage and a scale... you will be able to keep better track of your materials.

Compost Planning and Capital Projects Update

- Heather- the food waste pilot second season is coming to a close in mid-October. Goal is 150 tons, and we are approaching 110 tons so far. We still have another 5 weeks or so, and I think we will hit our goal. The 110 tons is what we have diverted, not collected. We remove any trash tonnage that West Yellowstone or Haderlie has pulled out. We've had some hiccups this season, but we've worked them out. Thank you to the Conservation District for funding to help support the collection pilot program. I am going in front of the commission to extend the hauling contract for two years. My goal for starting the early adopters' program is spring 2020, and if we extend Westbank's contract through December 2020, that is one less element that we have to figure out at the beginning of our program. There is so much to do, and, if we can go in with a waste hauler that has been through this hauling process, it will be more successful. I'll be recommending that to the Commission on the 18th of September.
- We are working out the water system at the Trash Transfer Station to make sure we will have the capacity needed for composting. Nelson Engineering is helping us with that.
- We need electricity to pad two. We have a conduit already in place, and, when the contractor knows where they'll need the power, we can easily run it.
- We are getting a quote from RSCI to enclose the Interim Transfer Station structure. Golder and O2 are writing up a food waste composting operations plan and everything is falling into place. I am writing the scope of work for the compost contract, which we will bid in winter 2019.
- Don- the composting pilot project has been amazing. Is there a power point highlighting the program? I have a hard time remembering the specifics.
- Heather- Mari Allan did an amazing report last year, and she's laying out the framework for this year's report. There will be an executive summary, so you can read that or dive into the full report.
- Mari Allan- there is a request for Heather to speak on composting for the Sustainability Series in April. They are switching to lunch events.
- Heather- if we do a presentation in April, we will have our composting contractor on board.
- Don- Kent did a presentation about a year ago that was about plastics and it was so good.
- Heather- Recycling Center phase 2- 50% designs are complete. They are in the hands of the estimator right now, then we will see if there is any way to scale back. We will put it out to bid after the holidays. Start construction in April. It hopefully will be a smaller project.

Carcass disposal

- Heather -Don came to commission workshop, there was an article in the paper, and I think we achieved our goal. We explained that it is complicated, is a higher executive level decision, such as state and federal. The Refuge is willing to cooperate if an incinerator is not located on the Refuge. They feel that it is not in their best interest to bring potentially-infected carcasses onto the Refuge. The day after the Commission workshop on carcasses, Paul Vogelheim went to a

breakfast and Game and Fish said the issue has been elevated to Cheyenne. The Commission wrote a letter that will go out tomorrow and it urges stakeholders to get together as soon as possible to form a working group.

I went to Afton yesterday to attend their meeting on carcasses, and the presentation made it appear to be an urgent matter, but the consensus was that it has not been discussed as an urgent matter. The discussion needs to be extended to legislators and agencies. Game and Fish indicates that they will be forming a working group. Someone told Paul Vogelheim that Game and Fish is planning on coming up with a regional solution to the problem. I am hopeful that this will go somewhere.

- Tom- it was announced today that Freemont County will accept animal carcasses for free.
- Heather- yes, Andy Frye and I spoke about this previously. That's not a long-term, cost-effective solution for Teton County but at least we may have an outlet in case CWD shows up tomorrow.
- Tom- The Refuge said that they have \$100,000 ear-marked for an incinerator. And they are willing to cooperate with other agencies with that money.
- Heather- the message is being made clear that the western part of the state is in a pickle. Lincoln County just turned down WDOT's first load of carcasses.
- Don- solving CWD and solving carcass disposal are not the same thing. There is some intersection, but it's not the same.
- Heather- at the meeting yesterday I learned that CWD exists in all of the fluids and the places that it is most concentrated is in the carcass. Not so much while they are walking around but the highest probability of transmission of the disease is contact with an infected carcass.

Transfer station is several weeks to a month ahead of schedule. I have not gotten the final pay app from Montana Civil, but it looks like we will be coming in under the approved contract amount. In the next few weeks I'll know more.

Motion to Adjourn, Moved: Lorie, Second: Joe, All in favor. Meeting adjourned 4:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Bell

ISWR Administrative Assistant

Approved on _____

Attest:

Don Baker, Board Chair

Jess Wireman, Secretary