

**Columbia County Solid Waste Committee
Approved Minutes**

March 8th, 2005

Present: Gerald Salzwedel, Ken Hutler, Don Nelson, Harlan Horton and Jim Pugh

Also Present: Harlan Baumgartner, County Board Vice-Chair, Jim Rager, Bill Casey, and Carole Beix, Recording Secretary

Chair Salzwedel called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. noting that the meeting had been properly noticed. Motion to approve agenda made by Hutler, second by Horton. Motion carried.

Minutes from the January 11th meeting were approved as presented on motion by Horton, second by Hutler. Motion carried.

Vouchers

Vouchers were presented for payment. Motion to approve vouchers as presented was made by Nelson, second by Pugh. Motion carried.

Annual Report

Casey presented the Annual Report for 2004. Motion to accept and approve the annual report was made by Horton, second by Nelson. Motion carried.

2006 Position Request

Casey discussed with the committee that he would like to hire two additional employees for 2006. We are anticipating picking up an additional contract for next year, and revenues received would cover the costs for the new employees. Casey stated that he had already spoken to Finance and Human Resources with the request for additional help due at Human Resources by June.

Correspondence

Hearing tests are done on a yearly basis. Casey informed the committee that there are four employees with a 10 decibal hearing loss. All employees are required to wear hearing protection which we provide at specific locations in the plant.

Casey attended a Debris management course sponsored by Wisconsin Emergency Management and taught by FEMA. One aspect of the course was “do not sign anything after a tragic event until you have had time to step back, and seek council from someone you trust.” There are groups that follow behind a storm and they get you to sign a pre-paid contract giving them 30-days to complete the storm damage. Instead they take off, dissolve the business, and they help themselves to your money with no work being done.

A phone conference was held regarding Efficiency Grants. There were several problem areas that were addressed and cleared up. We should get a grant for next year.

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Casey, Greg Scott, and Gerald Salzwedel attended the Winter AROW/SWANA/WCSWMA Conference in Green Bay. Casey feels that these conferences are very worthwhile since it gives you a chance to share questions and answers with other county officials Casey had and opportunity to a talk with vendors regarding garbage bins. One vendor stopped by a few days later and dropped off a 96 gallon bin and a 32 gallon bin for us to have. The 2006 winter conference will be held in Stevens Point.

Budget and Compensatory Time

Budget is in good shape.

We have two employees that are close to the 80.0 hour level. Both have scheduled time off to bring within limits.

Recycling

We have had several vendors calling for plastic which is presently a hot commodity. Glass is still low. Tin and aluminum continue remain good as well as paper and cardboard.

Operations Report

Welding on drum #2 has been completed and running smoothly. Welding on drum # 1 is progressing and should be done soon. Two of our staff people are doing the welding which will help lower the cost of maintenance. Yearly maintenance will be done in January and February due to the lower volume of garbage coming in.

Computer Disposal

We were notified by the State that they are no longer picking up computers free of charge. The State does not want us to dispose of the computers in the landfill so Casey has contacted several companies who specialize in the disposal of electronic equipment. Casey handed out a sheet listing companies, costs, and certain requirements pertaining to preparing electronic equipment for pickup. Lengthy discussion followed. Motion by Nelson, second by Hutler to allow Casey to work up prices with Cascade Asset Management since there would be no investment on our part. Motion carried.

Paper Shredding

Casey recommended the county stop shredding animal bedding as revenue derived from the process no longer justifies the labor investment. After some discussion, the committee agreed to stop the animal bedding sales except to the farms within the county when it is advantageous to the department.

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Miscellaneous

Committee went into closed session on a roll call vote for the annual evaluation of the Solid Waste Director. Committee reconvened on a roll call vote. Roll call approved.

Town of Pacific

No odor complaints this month. Casey showed the committee fencing inserts that will put at the Highway 51 recycling site as soon as the weather warms up. Security cameras have been installed at the site to help eliminate garbage being dropped off.

Aging Report

Reviewed past due accounts

The next Solid Waste Committee meeting will be April 12th at 9:00 a.m.

The Solid Waste Committee meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m. on motion by Horton, second by Pugh. Motion carried.

Secretary of Record,

Recording Secretary,

Jim Pugh

Carole J. Beix