



# COLUMBIA COUNTY

Solid Waste

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W7465 State Highway 16  
Pardeeville, WI 53954

## Columbia County Solid Waste Committee April 7, 2021

**Present:** Nancy Long, Mark Sleger, Henry St. Maurice, Darren Schroeder, Harlan Baumgartner

**Also Present:** Craig Cawley-Pacific Town Supervisor, Greg Kaminski-Director, Gail Benz-recording secretary.

Chairman Nancy Long called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and noted the meeting had been properly noticed. St. Maurice made motion to approve, second by Baumgartner. Motion carried.

Minutes from March 3, 2021 meeting were approved on motion by Sleger, second by Schroeder. Motion carried. Sleger made additional motion to thank Gail Benz recording secretary for a good job drafting Columbia County Solid Waste Committee minutes, second by St. Maurice. Motion carried.

### **Town of Pacific**

No complaints or concerns.

### **Communications/Public Input**

Kaminski reported we did have a complaint from a neighbor regarding trash blowing around. If loads are not tarped trash blows out and we require everyone to tarp their loads. There is not an ordinance in place but, it is posted on our website and signs. We are having workers pick up every afternoon around the facility. A suggestion was made to have a volunteer group pickup trash along the road, and another suggestion of having an ordinance in place regarding trash and a fine enforced.

There is a new City Administrator for the City of Columbus and our contract is to be renewed this year.

The City of Madison is requiring no more plastic bags with recycling. We may look at this in the future.

### **Expenditures**

Expenditures were presented for payment. Kaminski reviewed each line item and answered questions. The total for the month of March was \$190,869.06

Motion was made by St. Maurice to approve expenditures, second by Sleger.

Motion carried.

### **Budget and Compensatory Time**

Kaminski reported we have had nothing out of the ordinary for compensation time, still working Saturdays just to keep up.

In January and February, we took in 2,000 tons, and in March we took in 3,000 tons of trash. Last year we had an issue with so much additional trash out at the curb. We are starting to see more people putting more garbage out again, like last year. We will keep a close eye on this in case a fuel surcharge is needed if we keep going back to communities with so much overflow of trash.

March was a pretty good month. Lots of cardboard is coming in and we can't keep up. Many people are still shopping on line. Discussion followed.

### **Safety Update**

Kaminski reported we had a good month with no accidents or injuries reported. We are holding safety meetings each week. Discussion followed.

### **Recycling Markets**

Kaminski reported recycling revenue for the month of March was \$55,289.18. Some loads could not get shipped out, due to trucking issues. Plastics are up and so is cardboard and newspaper. An aluminum load will go out in April. Markets are all going up right now, from tin to plastics.

We are struggling with labor problems. We never know who will show up with temporary staffing. When we do not have enough line workers we can't produce a lot of product. It's been a challenge to staff the line. We have a great opportunity with prices going up and we should do well with recycling this year. Discussion followed.

### **Leadpoint Staffing**

Kaminski handed out two quotes from Leadpoint Staffing. He reported they will provide staffing, training and onsite managers. They pay benefits and take care of safety training, PPE, and safety vests. The second proposal was for two 8-hour shifts. Kaminski stated we do have enough material to run a second shift. Kaminski and the Operations Manager will be touring another MRF facility that uses Leadpoint staffing. They interview staff, provide transportation, and trainings. We are spending a lot of money on equipment, and temporary labor is just not working out. It would be good to have permanent staff. Kaminski to run more numbers on proposals and report back at next meeting. Discussion followed.

**Approve Write Offs**

Kaminski reported two unpaid accounts for a total of \$315.30. The first account is Andrew Brunsluk for \$87.45 for unpaid dumpster charges. The second account is Amber Erickson \$227.85 for unpaid garbage services. Schroeder made motion to write off both accounts, second by Baumgartner. Motion carried.

**Approve Changes to Solid Waste Fee Ordinance**

Kaminski presented the Columbia County Solid Waste fee ordinance. Kaminski reviewed the ordinance with the committee. Kaminski reported we are very busy with the public wanting containers for service. We need more containers and other communities are asking for our services in other counties. St. Maurice made motion to approve the changes to Solid Waste Fee ordinance with the amendment that the Columbia County Solid Waste Committee may update the fee scale regularly as needed, second by Schroeder. Motion carried.

**Operations Report**

Kaminski informed the Committee we need to buy a lot more dumpsters and increase our budget to purchase. Many rural communities need our service. We will need to ask for more funds. Our primary responsibility is to service Columbia County and a certain radius. We will discuss more in the future.

We had one application for a new driver. We did offer him the job and he turned it down. The driver that was quitting decided to stay. We are back to our full crew. The two injured drivers are now back. Waste Management pays and starts new drivers at a lot more. We just have a hard time getting people to apply. By us using Leadpoint Staffing would help with this and we would have more flexibility.

Kaminski noted he has a new tire recycler and we will have a trial load.

We would like to have a new loading dock put on the hill. This would save a lot of time transferring bales.

The next Solid Waste Committee meeting will be Wednesday May 5, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m. on motion by St. Maurice, second by Schroeder.

Secretary of Record

  
Henry A. St. Maurice

Recording Secretary

  
Gail Benz