

DEER LODGE DISPOSAL DISTRICT

Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2020

Members Present: Ron Mjelde, Tom Curran, Dan Sager, David Byers, Lewis Smith, Jack Eldredge, Charlie Brand

Members Absent: Rob Kersch

Others Present: Jeremiah Maulding, Barry Damschen and Donita Anderson

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 5th, 2020 @ 5:00 pm in the Courthouse Conference Room

Meeting Agenda

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Chairman Ron Mjelde at 5:05 p.m. with the meeting being held at the Community Center.

Adopt Minutes: Dan Sager made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 3rd, 2020 meeting and the motion was seconded by Charlie Brand. All voted in favor. **Motion passed.**

Barry Damschen Report: Barry indicated the Class IV area will last longer than the Class II area. Will build lift on Class II, East. Need to clean up the paper. Use equipment to consolidate paper. The work on Class IV and Class II will probably take two months. There was discussion about putting fences up to keep the paper retained in one area. Barry suggested outside help to fix fences so that Jeremiah and his crew can keep working on the landfill. Barry suggested portable screens, 7 to 1 fence's, keep garbage to minimum and cover it. Barry talked about having bins at the opening of the new landfill for easier dumping for those who really do not need to drive down into the landfill. Lewis brought up the safety aspects with older individuals using them. This will be a later conversation. Barry stressed control of the litter.

Barry provided the board members each with a draft and reviewed the design of the landfill with roads, dirt, cells, expansion which is not designed yet. He reviewed a landfill master plan update design for the Class II and Class IV.

Landfill Manager's Report & Equipment Report: Jeremiah Maulding reported that dirt is getting hauled by Mark Burnett, new employee, which helps Jeremiah get caught up on the paperwork. Jeremiah indicated he is spending additional time at the landfill with one less equipment operator and the other operator missing a day and one-half per week with medical issues. He is not sure if new employee will stay on due to wages. Jeremiah approached the board about getting his personal vehicle fixed through county assistance due to the medical emergency at the landfill and using his personal vehicle to retrieve employees for help during this emergency. After discussion by the board Jeremiah's request was tabled. Jeremiah reported that the radios that Garrison Fire lent the landfill were not working well. He will continue to work with the radios so that they can get ample use of them.

Jeremiah reported that the white dump truck is down. Everything else is running well. The side-by-side tranny went out and Jeremiah felt it should be scrapped. Ron Mjelde will check Post Falls, Idaho Auto Auction to see what he can find. He said 200 units were coming up next auction. Jeremiah reported he needs a new cutting edge for the 966 Loader. He said he had gotten an offer on the 4-wheel drive Dump Truck. Dan Sager relayed that it would need to be advertised, along with other county items. Lewis Smith mentioned keeping the Excavator bucket blade cleaned from items stuck in the blade. Charlie Brand also mentioned closing the landfill gate at 4:00 p.m. Jeremiah confirmed that the machines are being maintenance regularly. He also reported that the City is sharing WiFi at the landfill through Dunne Communication and that has helped. The DEQ landfill license renewal will be completed online by Jeremiah with the help of Barry Damschen.

Continuing Business: Ron Mjelde discussed the conference call with DNRC, DEQ and Great West Engineering regarding the \$50,000.00 grant that was held on March 31, 2020. The proposal is to expedite the schedule for licensing the expansion of the PC Landfill through DEQ Solid Waste with possible scenarios for funding the landfill licensing. Use \$50K DNRC RDGP Planning Grant, reallocate \$125K from the DNRC Project Grant and \$25 cash from the County but the project grant won't be contracted for a few months, can the County fund this work now with cash or a loan and be reimbursed later by the DNRC or, if the County is not awarded the \$50K Planning Grant the proposal would be to reallocate \$175K from the DNRC Project Grant and \$25K cash from the County. Barry needs \$125K so he can proceed with the next phase. Stockpiling contaminated dirt until the landfill is ready but the potential of leaching into the dirt was a concern. Dan Sager questioned as to why the less hotter product couldn't be removed and hauled now and mixed.

Barry handed out a Landfill Expansion Cost Estimate to the board members and reviewed it, indicating the cost of \$125K to finish the next phase of the project. He has completed the Topo mapping and engineering at \$20,000.00, which he has already billed the County for. The cost to build the first cell of the expansion is \$1.8M, this is in addition to the upfront licensing/permitting. Discussion by the board regarding options to take now to move Barry forward with drilling, test pits and soil testing. Lewis Smith moved that the board spend up to \$50,000 for the drilling, test pits, soil testing and part of the Hydrogeology. Charlie Brand seconded the motion. All voted in favor. **Motion passed.**

New Business: Ron Mjelde presented an application for the Operator I position that he had received. Mark Burnett applied for the position. Jeremiah Maulding indicated that Mark has good experience with equipment. He would be replacing Carl Sharrard who resigned due to wages. Charlie Brand moved that the board hire Mark Burnett as Operator I and Dave Byers seconded the motion. All voted in favor. **Motion passed.**

Wages were then reviewed. Lewis Smith reported that County Road crew employees start at \$16.71/hr and then advance to \$17.38/hr after a six-month probationary period, plus cost of living. Lewis felt we should pay Landfill employees same as or close to County Road crew as Landfill payroll is not at 85%. Lewis said the last raise for landfill employees was about four years ago. It was discussed that the offset would be to raise the RDD fee in property taxes to \$24.00 per year per household raising it to \$144.00 yearly. These increases would need to be budgeted for salaries for the 2020-2021 budget coming up. After discussion on the payroll Lewis Smith moved that there be an increase for the Operator I and Operator II positions by \$2.00 and then \$2.00 in six months. Dave Byers seconded the motion. All voted in favor. **Motion passed.**

Ron Mjelde reported that Northwestern Energy was at the landfill and want to run an underground electrical line up towards and at the landfill. Northwestern Energy will contact Ron regarding this but it needs to be done before Winter.

Safety clothing was brought up. Safety Director Ruth Koehler had approached Ron Mjelde indicating it was in the best interest of the employees. Lewis Smith moved that we provide Safety Vests and jackets for all employees at the landfill and Dave Byers seconded the motion. All voted in favor. **Motion passed.**

Financial Report: Reviewed financials and approved.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm. The next meeting will be May 5th, 2020.

Donita Anderson, Secretary