

DEER LODGE DISPOSAL DISTRICT

Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2020

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

Members Absent: Dave Byers

Others Present: Jeremiah Maulding, Alex & Kayo Fraser, Trent Freeman and Donita Anderson

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 4th, 2020 @ 5:00 pm at the Community Center

Meeting Agenda

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Chairman Ron Mjelde at 5:10 p.m. with the meeting being held at the Community Center and Ron acknowledging that Alex and Kayo Fraser were in attendance regarding RDD fees on their taxes and Trent Freeman, Supervisor for the City Public Works to speak with the board regarding Waste water treatment sludge.

Alex and Karo Fraser introduced themselves, they live at 255 N. Boulder Road, just outside of Deer Lodge. They have a roping arena and mobile home on their property. They feel they're being overcharged on their RDD fee. It is just the two of them on this property and the roping arena is no longer a business. The waste from their horses does not go to the landfill. Their mobile home (Parcel #M870010) is charged an RDD fee of \$120.00 a year and they're being charged an RDD fee of \$240.00 on their real property (Parcel #206700) with a total of \$360.00 RDD fees a year. They are requesting the board to review and reduce this fee as the COVID-19 has reduced their income since March and they do not foresee it to get better the rest of this year. Ron thanked them for attending the meeting and let them know that they would be notified of the decision after the board discusses it.

Trent Freeman was introduced to the board and he explained that he was there to work with the board in hopes of a long-term goal to get waste water sludge at a point where it can be accepted by the landfill. He explained the process of how sludge becomes cake and he had a bag of it that he showed the board and explained what he is doing now to try to dry it. He said he had a year's worth (390 yards) that he needs to get rid of. Besides finding a solution to get the cake drier, Ron Mjelde felt we should move forward on it and indicated that Barry Damschen needed to be in on this discussion and suggested that Barry and Trent could visit with DEQ to find out what kind of testing is required for it to go to the landfill.

Adopt Minutes: Rob Kersch made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 5th, 2020 meeting and the motion was seconded by Tom Curran. All voted in favor. **Motion passed.**

Landfill Manager's Report & Equipment Report: Jeremiah Maulding reported that things are going well. He informed the board that Mark Burnett had quit. Britni Evans is still off on sick leave. Richard Persons put in an application and it was suggested to hire him temporarily and after discussion Lewis Smith moved to hire Richard Persons temporarily starting at \$13.81/hour with a six-month's probation period, Rob Kersch seconded the motion. All voted in favor. **Motion passed.**

IT24 yellow Loader, Jeremiah reported that Ike Lott thought the problem was possibly a computer issue and that Ike would work on it. Jeremiah indicated he would like the oil burner fixed as he has a lot of oil, 8 to 10 5-gallon barrels. Lewis Smith suggested to call Tony Stoddard Electric to check it. Jeremiah said he could use a new pressure washer. He indicated that metal removal was still a bit of an issue.

The Compactor has a couple of leaks. Bed on Dump truck is getting bad. Fences: Jeremiah felt they could put posts in but no time for fence. The board discussed the fence installation and to keep moving forward with it. There is also a culvert that is in rough shape and needs replacing. The board felt polyethylene culvert would be better than metal for replacement. Jack Eldredge felt replacing with 24-inch would work best.

Continuing Business: Ron Mjelde reported that Northwestern Energy wants to re-route the power line to underground, the line that runs to the landfill. The board needs a quote for the cost of digging for the underground line but Northwestern Energy wants it done by this Fall or they would discontinue service. Ron felt the cost would range around \$24,000.00.

Lewis Smith reviewed a Budget work-sheet he handed out to the board that he compiled for the FY 2020-2021 from the budget meeting. He discussed the 2% increase in payroll for the landfill employees with another increase at the end of the year, about \$121,000.00 for salaries. He indicated he would like to get Jeremiah involved in some classes and training to continue education with his position and traveling to see how other landfills operate to generate ideas that could benefit our landfill. Tom Curran moved to accept the FY-21 budget and Charlie Brand seconded the motion. All voted in favor. **Motion passed.**

Ron Mjelde brought up the RDD rate increase on taxes that would be needed with the payroll increase, purchase of land for landfill expansion, and engineer fees. He suggested \$2.00/mo a year per household for the next tax year 2020. \$24.00 increase, (\$72.00 per half, \$144.00 per year). Lewis Smith moved to implement the \$24.00 increase for RDD for the 2020 tax year and Tom Curran seconded the motion. All voted in favor. **Motion passed.**

The board discussed the fee reduction for Alex and Kayo Fraser. It was noted that they were paying on both the land and mobile. Per DOR they pay on one or the other if they own both land and mobile. They are paying one unit on the mobile and two units on the real property. Lewis Smith moved to decrease real property to one unit and to remove RDD off the mobile, Rob Kersch seconded the motion. All voted in favor. **Motion passed.**

New Business: No new business.

Financial Report: Reviewed financials and approved.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm. The next meeting will be August 4, 2020, at the Community Center. No meeting in July.

Donita Anderson, Secretary