

ALLEN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, December 15, 2009

Present:

Chair: Linda Bloom, Vice Chair: Don Gerardot, Secretary Bill Brown, Nelson Peters, Liz Brown,

Also Present:

Tony Burrus: Director; Bill Fishing: District's Attorney

Call to Order

Linda Bloom: Called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m.

Board Meeting:

Approval of November Board Meeting Minutes

Bill Brown: Motion to approve minutes.

Don Gerardot: 2nd

Motion passed 5/0/0

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

Tony Burrus: You'll find the interagency agreement in your packet. The only difference in the agreement for 2010 from the 2009 agreement is that the pay reflects 26 pays not 27 pays.

Linda Bloom: What does this come out of? The bank to the county general?

Tony Burrus: We actually purchase benefits from the county for employees

Don Gerardot: I motion to approve the interagency agreement.

Liz Brown: Why does the county reimburse the district for use of gas?

Tony Burrus: Because some of the activities are for the county. The county participates in the reimbursement of gas and in salary.

Liz Brown: But aren't you also paid directly for the county for the work you do for the county?

Tony Burrus: The money goes into a fund for the county. And so the district doesn't pay for all my fuel. The county puts those dollars in because we take this to both the commissioners as well, that identifies beyond that what they are supposed to put in.

Liz Brown: Aren't you also a county employee as well as a district employee?

Tony Burrus: I'm technically a county employee but this agreement makes me a district employee.

Liz Brown: Why does the county reimburse you / pay for this as opposed to either the district paying you for gas or the county paying you for gas if that's necessary.

Linda Bloom: Good question. I don't know the answer to that. (Reading agreement) "The county will provide up to \$300.00 in gasoline allowance."

Bill Fishing: Where do you get your gas?

Tony Burrus: At the service center.

Bill Fishing: Does the district pay for all of your gas?

Tony Burrus: It was to help purchasing more than anything because they got confused. They were charging all gas to the district.

Linda Bloom: Oh, so the county puts \$300.00 back in?

Nelson Peters: Do you keep track of any mileage you use for non-related Solid Waste travel?

Tony Burrus: Yes, I do.

Nelson Peters: Wouldn't it make more sense to get reimbursed on that basis? It is like .50 & some odd change per mile.

Tony Burrus: It's cheaper for us to don't have to pay the gas because you don't pay any taxes and things of that nature. But your mileage; that's allowing for depreciation, oils and things of that nature as well as you are paying taxes on that.

Linda Bloom: "You're paying taxes on that?"

Tony Burrus: If you do the mileage. It's cheaper for both entities to do it by reimbursement based on so many hours of county time.

Nelson Peters: Are you putting in more than 600 miles per year based on county related but non solid waste related travel?

Linda Bloom: yes, he'd have to be.

Tony Burrus: Certainly.

Nelson Peters: Then it probably is cheaper.

Liz Brown: Can I ask something? I don't know if the timing is appropriate; but because it is not in the employee handbook. I'd asked last year for a review of the executive director. To the best of my knowledge we've never done a review.

Bill Brown: Tony and I talked about this yesterday, frankly. And the commissioners are reviewing all of our department heads and we have a review form that can be easily modified to use for Tony.

Liz Brown: I thought we set up a committee. Maybe the committee just hasn't met.

Tony Burrus: You haven't met but I passed on the word that the committee needs to meet. I can't force you to do anything, I can only encourage.

Bill Brown: Did we actually set up a committee?

Tony Burrus: Yes, the committee formed included Maye Johnson, Don Gerardot, Bill Brown and Liz Brown.

Liz Brown: The commissioners are reviewing Tony as a county employee, which you offered to bring last month for the committee review. Before we see that; I'd like to see ... In January or February city council, my appointment will be ending at the end of the two year term, so I may or may not be back. So I'd like to see Tony's goals, or what ever is going to be happening in the next two years – or a year however you choose to do it. I'd like to see something more specific. It's kind of hard to evaluate someone on...

Bill Brown: We will get it, I'll take...

Linda Bloom: What I was thinking of was the strategic plan.

Tony Burrus: But that was for your county.

Linda Bloom: But why couldn't we do/use that?

Tony Burrus: We have a long range plan for the district.

Liz Brown: I'd like to see more than the long range plan. I'd like to see specifics in terms of bench marks for next year. We'd talked about reviewing the Waste Watcher, the educational fees and marketing. Things like that.

Bill Brown: right after the meeting I'll show you. I'll get you a copy of what we've been using. Granted I know this is something the board needs to look at. If this is something you are interested in, seeing it can be modified to use for this department. It is a good product.

Linda Bloom: Do I have a 2nd to the motion to adopt the interagency agreement?

Nelson Peters: I second.

Liz Brown: I'm opposed just until I see the specific goals.

Motion passed: 4/1/0

Transfer of Balances:

Tony Burrus: As you are aware the State Board of Accounts does not let us have negative balances at the year's end. We have the funds within the budget and will make transfers to make the balances positive. The largest transfer will be for the additional drop off site trailer. We had added the trailer sites at the end of 2008 and it wasn't in our budget.

Liz Brown: Where did we put the new ones?

Tony Burrus: Sam's Club and New Haven Avenue.

Liz Brown: Why did we add when we didn't budget them.

Tony Burrus: We had funds and board approved.

Liz Brown: Are we evaluating these sites to determine their use?

Tony Burrus: Certainly we are.

Liz Brown: do you look at the usage?

Tony Burrus: Yes, right now the one at Sam's club is the highest use.

Liz Brown: Can we get those usage numbers? I had asked a month ago if we could get numbers and ideas about looking at alternatives: smaller, unmanned kinds of recycling centers dispersed throughout the county.

Tony Burrus: We will get you the information. We need to discuss this further: we'll spend more on trash pick up than the trailers.

Liz Brown: I'd like to see alternatives.

Don Gerardot: I make a motion to transfer the funds.

Liz Brown: 2nd

Motion passed 5/0/0

Director's Report

Tony Burrus: Received a schedule from C-3 construction. The building has arrived and we are hoping by the end of this year it will be under-roof and we can complete the inside. Christmas tree recycling sites are also in your packets.

Nelson Peters: What do you see with everyone buying premanufactured trees? Are your numbers down?

Tony Burrus: The numbers have been down significantly for the last 5 years, but we are holding steady.

Liz Brown: do we have a link to this site from the City of Fort Wayne's website?

Matt Gratz: (City of Fort Wayne Solid Waste) I don't have a direct link to this.

Liz Brown: Can you put this up?

Matt Gratz: Yes.

Linda Bloom: By February we should have the building?

Tony Burrus: Yes.

Review of Claims:

Nelson Peters: Motion to pay claims.

Liz Brown: 2nd

Motion passed 5-0-0

Public Comments: None

Bill Brown: I have something. In the notes, the cost of operating our own recycling facility should be millions not billions.

Bill Brown: Should the district be looking at single stream recycling?

Tony Burrus: This district will support whatever efforts are out there for recycling. It doesn't mean the district has to undertake that activity ourselves. Just like the recycling now: we support the processing of materials thru subsidies. We do not undertake the actual processing ourselves. We currently subsidize for \$500,000 as opposed to millions we'd be spending if we did the processing ourselves.

Bill Brown: If, for example, their processing station on Pontiac Street, obviously they are up and running now to some degree. Will that create more recyclable product out of the trash from Fort Wayne and Allen County?

Tony Burrus: I don't know. It is just a stopping point until the final disposal destination.

Bill Brown: I thought a part of the transfer station separated the recyclables.

Tony Burrus: They may have some activities to separate some of their materials. It is not going to increase the numbers we currently have in volume.

Bill Brown: That's my primary interest.

Tony Burrus: Our numbers, regardless of where the waste goes in Indiana, we are still charged with the generation of the waste; even if it goes to Southern Indiana. You have to manifest your waste from whatever county it comes from. Just because it doesn't go to our landfill, it is still part of our generation numbers. It must be manifested from the county it comes from.

Bill Brown: Single stream has two options: just to transfer and to separate.

Tony Burrus: You are confusing the terms: single stream is a recycling term that means putting all recyclables into one cart – separating none of the recyclables – all together in that one container.

Bill Brown: If single stream recycling goes to the transfer station, would it all be separated?

Tony Burrus: Depends on their process. If it all goes and everything gets sorted out: that is a dirty MRF. Single Stream means generally all the recycling is received as combined and then sorted out by hand or even electronically and then goes to the end user.

We understand what the permit has been issued for with Summit Recycling. But I'm not sure what their process is going to be. They do have ability to do some sorting.. As far as I know we do not have any dirty MRF.

I do know in conversations with Summit that their intention was to pull out as much construction/demolition debris as they could market (my discussion with them was about the construction / demolition recycling only) How effective anyone's efforts would be depends on the market values, the volume of materials and how effective your sort line is.

As far as the district is concerned; we don't care who is out there if you provide that service of processing recyclables. The philosophy of the board has been that the private sector provides that service and therefore no need for us as government to get into the service. If we want to do it ourselves, it is going to be extremely costly. That is why we try to leverage all aspects of recycling: encouraging residents and the processors to make this possible.

Meeting adjourned: 11:02