

Town of Waldoboro, Maine
Transfer Station Committee Meeting Minutes
Municipal Building - 1600 Atlantic Highway
Thursday, September 1, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order** – Bob Butler, Waldoboro citizen, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with a quorum present. Other committee members present were:

Terry Gifford, Waldoboro Waste Hauler
Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board
Will Payson, Cushing Select Board
Bruce Prior, Cushing Waste Hauler
Randy Robbins, Cushing Citizen
Ted Wooster, Waldoboro Select Board

Others in attendance: John Daigle, Waldoboro Department of Public Works; John Meyn, Friendship; Michael and Fred Naylor of Regional Rubbish, Damariscotta.

2. **Citizen Comments - None**

3. **Minutes** – The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 25th meeting. Committee members present signed those minutes for filing with the Waldoboro Town Clerk

4. **Continuing Business**

- a. At the request of the Chair, Terry Gifford moved (Will Payson seconded) to allow Mike Naylor and Fred Naylor from Regional Rubbish of Damariscotta to speak during the meeting. All voted in favor.
- b. The Naylor's explained that Regional Rubbish picks up solid waste from 75% of the schools in Lincoln County, including the MSAD40 schools, and from numerous businesses. Regional Rubbish uses compactor trucks for garbage. It deposits all non-recyclable Solid Waste at the Waldoboro Transfer Station; it sells all of the recyclables it collects in Waldoboro, Cushing, and Friendship to third parties. The company has been doing this for 18 years. In the early days, it collected cardboard from all over Lincoln County and took it to Lincoln County recycling. During years of favorable market prices for recyclables, Lincoln County distributed some of the monies it obtained from selling the recyclables to the towns that participated in Lincoln County's recycling program. Regional Rubbish didn't see the point...for them to go to the expense and effort of collecting the cardboard and other recyclables, only to see monies realized from their sale going to Lincoln County towns instead of to them. It was at that time that Regional Rubbish decided to sell the cardboard and other recyclables it collected from its customers to third parties, not to Lincoln County. Regional Rubbish recycles cardboard,

shingles, and metal. The recyclables Regional Rubbish sells add up to significant tonnages, especially those collected from MSAD 40, which has put into place a very active recycling program. Mike Naylor explained that the school has a successful recycling program because the children are taught to recycle at an early age. He encouraged the three Partners to publicize the benefits of recycling more actively to their citizens.

- c. A lengthy discussion then ensued around the issue of whether the draft ordinance should require companies such as Regional Rubbish to deposit all of the Solid Waste it collects from the Cushing, Friendship and Waldoboro at the Waldoboro Transfer Station. The arguments boiled down to the following:
 - (i) Regional Recycling pointed out that whether they deposit the recyclables they collect from Waldoboro, Cushing and Friendship at the Waldoboro Transfer Station or sell them to third parties outright, they are performing a service (for a fee), which reduces the tonnages of Solid Waste the Waldoboro Transfer Station sends to Penobscot Energy Recovery Company (PERC), located in Orrington. Mike and Fred also argued that the Waldoboro Transfer Station would not be able to handle the recyclables they collect from Waldoboro and its Transfer Station Partners. The volumes are too great. Fred Naylor said it would take five hours for his men to transfer collected cardboard, for example, into the bins at the Waldoboro Transfer Station, making deliveries to the Waldoboro Transfer Station uneconomical and disruptive of the flow of traffic at the Transfer Station. Fred and Mike offered to bring the weight receipts for all recyclables they collect and haul from Waldoboro, Friendship and Cushing to John Daigle in order that the Waldoboro Transfer Station would receive credit from Lincoln County Recycling and from the State of Maine.
 - (ii) John Daigle argued that fairness demands all those using the Transfer Station be treated the same. There should be no exceptions. Regional Rubbish's activities serve to increase the county taxes of the citizens of the Partners. Lincoln County sells the recycled materials it receives, using the revenues from such sales to offset the cost of operating its recycling facility. Lower operating costs mean lower county taxes. Regional Rubbish, in essence, is depriving Lincoln County of an important source of recycling revenues and is consequently damaging the taxpayers of Lincoln County.
 - (iii) Others replied that it should not matter that Regional Rubbish sells the recyclables it collects from Residents instead of bringing them to the Transfer Station. They posit that treating everyone the same is not necessarily equitable. The fact is that Regional Rubbish is recycling. It is helping to ensure that substantial tonnages are not ending up with PERC or are imposing a burden on the Transfer Station by bringing in tonnages that it could not handle. Whether the recyclables go to Lincoln County or somewhere else is not material. In fact, as John Meyn pointed out, Regional Rubbish is assuming the risk that the value of the recyclables it collects fluctuates up and down substantially.

- (iv) Randy Robbins argued that the draft ordinance contains a built-in mechanism to deal with the issue Regional Rubbish poses. Those Permitted Users who do not recycle are required to pay a fee for Garbage they deliver to the Transfer Station. Mike Naylor noted that Nobleboro charges \$0.09 per pound for commercial waste. Bath charges \$0.03 per pound. Mike Naylor said he would be glad to pay three cents a pound for dumping as long as everyone else does.

d. Other items mentioned or discussed.

- (i) The Committee is of the consensus that Lincoln County must share details concerning its recycling program. Ted will get a copy of the Lincoln County Budget.
- (ii) John Daigle pointed out that Rockland has a \$2 million budget and sends out 5200 tons of Garbage to PERC annually. The Waldoboro Transfer Station has a \$500,000 budget and sends out 3,460 tons of Garbage. (The math confirms Rockland's per ton budgeted cost is \$384.62; Waldoboro Transfer Station's per-ton cost is \$144.51)
- (iii) Will and Randy submitted copies of the job descriptions for Transfer Station Manager they had written using multiple sources. John Daigle said the job description for Transfer Station Manager had already been submitted to the union representative.

4. Draft No 16 – The Committee reviewed and made changes to Draft No. 16 through Article 2.9

Respectfully Submitted: Liz Dinsmore/Bob Butler

Approved:

Transfer Station Committee: _____

Town of Waldoboro, Maine

Bob Butler, Chairman

Ted Wooster, Vice Chairman

Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board

Terry Gifford, Waste Hauler, Waldoboro

John Higgins, Waldoboro Citizen

Monika Magee, Cushing Citizen

Will Payson, Cushing Select Board

Bruce Prior, Cushing Hauler

Randy Robbins, Cushing Citizen