

Town of Waldoboro, Maine
Transfer Station Committee Meeting Minutes
Municipal Building - 1600 Atlantic Highway
Thursday, June 14, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.

1. Sign in and Call to Order

Bob Butler, Committee Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum present. Other committee members present were:

Ted Wooster, Waldoboro Select Board
John Higgins, Waldoboro Citizen
Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board
Will Payson, Cushing Select Board
Randolph W. Robbins, Cushing Citizen
Monika Magee, Cushing Resident
Bruce Prior, Cushing Hauler

Also present were John Meyn, Friendship Citizen, John Daigle, Waldoboro DPW, and John Spear, Waldoboro Town Manager

2. Citizen Comments (For items not on the agenda)

None

3. Changes to the Agenda

None

4. Discuss Minutes of the May 10, 2012 Meeting.

A number of those present did not receive the minutes for the May 10th meeting. The committee chairman will send them out, again, and the committee will discuss the May 14th minutes at its next meeting.

5. Discuss future meeting dates and goals in light of Waldoboro Referendum Town Meeting Results

John Higgins asserted that Waldoboro no longer has duly appointed committee members. The current committee is temporary and basically ceased to exist with the election of the new Select Board.

John Spear pointed out that, in his opinion, the present Transfer Station Committee continues. There were no terms limits set on the life of the committee. It's an open-ended ad hoc committee until the Waldoboro Select Board decides to terminate it.

John Meyn suggested that the Transfer Station Committee establish a blog to permit the community to share ideas about recycling.

Randy asked if we could begin to discuss other disposal options.

Ted: Wooster asked about the progress of the engineering study? John Daigle said Pine Tree will complete the study in Mid-August. The study will address day pads; an increase

in the area where containers are staged; traffic flows; scales; set backs requirements and other issues. As for setback issues, the requirement is 100 feet from the property line. The current setback is 30 feet from the property line. The expectation is that DEP will conclude that the Waldoboro Transfer Station is grandfathered. John pointed out that with day pads in place, the Transfer Station is arguably creating less opportunity for contamination.

Bruce Prior wondered if the Transfer Station could purchase the property next door if there's a problem with setbacks.

Monika asked if the work the completed study encompasses could be completed before winter. John Daigle said, "No".

John Spear pointed out the extension of the useful life of Phase II of the landfill has, in effect: taken the pressure off. The urgency, now, is to keep the CDD and other solid waste out back, uncontaminated in order to avoid fines.

Bob Butler suggested that the committee prepare the paperwork associated with new ordinance and have it in place before the new ordinance takes effect. The committee needs to fashion an Ordinance Implementation Checklist.

Bruce Prior asked about insurance. Under the new ordinance would haulers have to purchase additional insurance? The committee examined the language of the new ordinance and noted that haulers have to have a state license to haul solid waste in Waldoboro. One of the requirements for the State license is insurance. The State requirement eliminates the need for additional insurance.

Monika Magee again argued for the creation of a recycling committee in Waldoboro. She pointed to the need for community involvement and input. Someone or some group in Waldoboro needs actively to talk about the importance of recycling to Waldoboro.

John Spear said it might be confusing to have the Transfer Station Committee AND a Recycling Committee in Waldoboro.

Monika pointed out that education about recycling and events that draw the community into the recycling effort are essential.

John Meyn asked how one goes about educating the public about recycling. If the Transfer Station Committee is the source of information about recycling, then the Transfer Station Committee should be the entity that promotes recycling in all three communities.

Will Payson said Monika's idea is for a recycling committee that is a separate entity and that each town should have its own recycling committee, just as Cushing does now. The Transfer Station Committee could support the recycling committees of each of the three Transfer Station Partners. Will thinks each town's Select Board must find somebody to spearhead the recycling education process. Monika cited Cushing's July Trash Ball, which draws people in. and brings recycling information to participants. Monika has 7 people on her Cushing Recycling Committee. Will noted that Waldoboro is the largest of the three Transfer Station Partners and provides no household recycling bins to its households.

Liz Dinsmore, in response to a question, confirmed that Friendship does not have a recycling committee.

Randy wanted to get back to the discussion of alternative disposal methods and suggested there should be a time allotment on each agenda to consider other recycling options. He suggested a time allotment of 20 minutes to address pay per bag at EACH meeting until the topic has been put to bed.

Bruce Prior wondered whether the current disposal methods should remain as they are, especially if a scale is to be installed. He expressed some confusion about how pay-per-bag would interface with charging by weight. What role would haulers play if pay-per-bag were adopted?

John Higgins said the committee has not yet examined the overall costs of recycling. He asked if the three communities could potentially recycle too much and end up having problems meeting PERC's annual allotment.

Randy reminded committee members that the Waldoboro Budget Committee has requested a study of pay per bag to determine whether that disposal method will save taxpayers money.

Monika said the committee should look long-term. When PERC's contract with the communities expires in 2018 no one knows what will happen. Maximizing recycling will ensure that whatever happens in 2018, the three communities will have positioned themselves to minimize the cost of getting rid of non-recyclable solid waste.

Ted Wooster added that MERC is taking steps that will impact on what the three communities do in the future.

Bruce Prior recalled that when recycling started the great majority of solid waste was put into the landfill. Last year the transfer station took in about 5,000 tons of solid waste. 3200 Tons were sent to PERC

John Higgins switched topics, asking John Daigle about the contract work that had been on-going at the Transfer Station from May 5th to June 5th. The town's financial reports showed 160 hours of contract work. John Daigle explained that the entries represent year-end book keeping, allocations of excavator, loader and bulldozer charges. John Daigle suggested that John Higgins discuss the allocations with the Town's Finance Director.

6. Set date and Agenda for the next meeting.

Committee members agreed to meet again on Thursday, June 28th at 7:00 p.m.

They agreed by consensus to come prepared with their checklists of ordinance-related items that need to be organized.

They also agreed to prioritize transfer station goals. Which comes first? Scales? Changes in traffic patterns? Day Pads?

7. Adjourn.

Ted Wooster moved and Randy Robbins seconded that the committee adjourn. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted: Bob Butler

Approved:

Transfer Station Committee
Town of Waldoboro, Maine:

Bob Butler, Chairman

Ted Wooster, Vice Chairman

Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board and Secretary

(Absent) 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