

Town of Waldoboro Maine

Transfer Station Committee Meeting Minutes

Municipal Building – 1600 Atlantic Hwy.

Thursday, December 10, 2015 – 6:00 to 8:00 PM

1. Sign in and call to order: Bob Butler called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM on Thursday, December 10, 2015.
2. Determine the presence of a quorum (at least 5 of the 7 committee members or their duly appointed alternates must be present):

The following Waldoboro Transfer Station Committee members were present and constituted a quorum:

Robert Butler, Waldoboro resident

Ron Miller, Waldoboro Select Board

John Meyn, Friendship resident

Randy Robbins, Cushing resident

Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board

Wayne Luce, Hauler Representative

Martha Marchut, Cushing Select Board

Also present:

Abden Simmons

Monika Magee

Will Payson

Alan Magee

Seth Hall

John Daigle

John Higgins

3. Information Sharing: Committee Members, Haulers, and Director of Public Works: There were no questions from the haulers. John Higgins raised questions on the money generated by the scales and what the payback will be. John Daigle will address this. Randy Robbins questioned whether Casella will stay with PERC after 2018. Casella needs a place to take out-of-state trash according to John Daigle. John Higgins raised the question about the Transfer Station's policy of charging people who don't

recycle. John Daigle indicated that he has not received any written complaints about this. Ron Miller noted that written complaint forms are at the Transfer Station if anyone wants to file a complaint.

4. Minutes of the November 5, 2015 Transfer Station Committee Meeting: A motion was made by Ron Miller and seconded by John Meyn to approve the minutes from the November 5, 2015 meeting. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0 with Liz Dinsmore and Wayne Luce abstaining.

5. Report of the Chairman – MRC Response to Issues Raised *in re* Draft Documents: Bob Butler indicated that he sent a memo from MRC to the Committee and requested that the Committee review the following key items:

- Rationale for going with Fiberight
- Joinder Agreement
- Site Lease Agreement
- Waste Supply Agreement
- Bylaws
- History of tonnage of every town
- Information regarding funds accrued in the Stabilization Fund and plan for use

6. Director of Public Works - Data on Scalable Loads through November 30, 2015, Discussion of Recycling Targets Going Forward, Discussion of 2016/17 Budget Parameters and Inclusion of PAYT, Discussion of Transfer Station Brochure: John Daigle distributed a computer-generated report from November based on the scale usage. Recyclables from haulers are in the range of 17% by weight. The average for everyone is 15 to 20% by weight. Trash is down since last year. Haulers are recycling at a rate of approximately 18% by weight. It was noted that that the haulers are putting in a lot of effort and that we are not offering incentives and could be expressing more appreciation. John Daigle handed out a document that delineated how haulers will be charged if they are making 18% in recyclables versus if they are not. John Daigle noted that the haulers have not been charged during the transition phase and that it's been hard to come up with a conversion formula. Randy Robbins asked whether John has compared our recycling with that of other facilities and noted that other states are very particular about how recycling is calculated according to his research. John Daigle noted that there is no one at the Transfer Station to document what is taken to Wiscasset on Mondays and noted that Lincoln County is not providing weights. Ron Miller noted that if Lincoln County cannot provide numbers, perhaps they should not be allowed to come to the Transfer Station on Monday. John Daigle noted that Lincoln County does not have large scales and therefore always has estimated weights. Seth Hall asked whether Lincoln County could be asked to reschedule pickups. John Daigle noted that the Selectmen would need to be involved in that issue. Ron Miller noted that Lincoln County comes in more than once on Monday and asked whether they could come in at 8 o'clock on Monday and we could have someone there from the office to oversee them at that time. John Meyn asked whether there might be only one pick up on

Monday and John Daigle responded that this would disrupt the use of containers for Tuesday. Wayne Luce noted that Lincoln County's procedure hasn't changed; ours has, and noted that Lincoln County would be happy to be told that they can't come in on Mondays. Seth Hall noted that we're missing information for 20% of our days since we can't get information on Mondays. John Daigle noted that the problem started when Lincoln County discontinued giving us estimates. John Daigle also indicated that the solution is for us to get our own information on Mondays. John Higgins asked whether the part-time person could be there on Monday at 8 AM and at 2 PM. Ron Miller noted that he would have to be trained and that this would affect the budget. Bob Butler questioned whether the Select Board would approach Lincoln County. There was discussion about withholding County tax funds until Lincoln County provides what is needed; John Daigle noted that we cannot withhold the tax funds. Randy Robbins suggested that the scale might be programmed to be left on for the day. Seth Hall indicated that the scale requires a live person. Ron Miller asked whether the scale could be set up so Lincoln County personnel could scale in and out themselves. John Daigle indicated that could set up a camera to record the scale's numbers. Seth Hall noted a concern about breaking the scale, stating we don't want Lincoln County to be touching the scales. Ron Miller suggested that it be left to John Daigle to work out a solution to the problem. The possibility of offering incentives for recycling was discussed and Ron Miller noted that the question of incentives might need to be brought before the voters. Bob Butler asked why individuals wouldn't get an incentive as well as haulers. Bob Butler noted that implementing pay per bag would address this issue. Will Payson stated his view that the contract for the towns doesn't say anything about charging people who don't recycle and that implementing pay per bag requires going back to the people; this includes charging for not recycling. John Daigle noted that the issue of charging money is in the original ordinance and noted that the implementation of pay per bag would take a \$600,000 budget and drop Waldoboro's share to \$117,000. Ron Miller noted that if we are going to consider pay per bag, we also need to consider single stream recycling. According to Bob Butler, if we go to single stream, we will be leaving Lincoln County. If we go to Fibrigh, we'll add a \$35,000 in tipping fees plus the cost of transport. Therefore, we are better off staying with Lincoln County. Ron Miller noted that the future of Lincoln County is unknown to us. John Meyn noted that people are already used to recycling and Monika Magee indicated that if pay per bag is the way we decide we want to go, we need to provide clear ongoing education. Bob Butler suggested that John Daigle create two budgets, one with pay per bag and one without pay per bag. We may want to put two articles on the Warrant, one with pay per bag and one without pay per bag. This would give the voters a choice. Following some additional discussion of the information provided by the scales, Bob Butler made a motion to require recycling at a rate of 20% by weight and John Meyn seconded the motion. Following a brief discussion of the drawbacks to setting the bar at 20%, the motion was withdrawn. Ron Miller then made a motion to require recycling rate of 18% by weight and John Meyn seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of six in favor and one opposed, with Randy Robbins opposing.

Alan Magee presented copies of the Transfer Station brochure that he had created earlier. A plan was made to add a section on composting. The cost of printing brochures was discussed and Modern Postcard was suggested as an option for printing. Ron Miller noted that three bids will be needed and Bob Butler noted that we will need the new fee schedule. Bob Butler suggested that the committee send comments to him and cc the other Committee members. Liam will request bids.

7. Discussion of MRC Draft Joinder Agreement, MRC/Fiberight Draft Master Waste Supply Agreement, MRC Draft Site Lease Agreement: Bob Butler indicated that he sent the Committee the revised MRC documents and noted that MRC has adopted almost all of our recommendations. MRC will go through one more iteration before they vote. MRC has hired an attorney to give a legal opinion on the documents. The results will go to all the member towns. Bob Butler suggested that we rely on the opinion of that attorney. Seth Hall noted that the towns can get additional consultation from the attorney at the rate of \$225 an hour. Ron Miller noted that the Waldoboro Select Board will need to decide whether to have their own attorney look at the documents. Ted Wooster noted that not everyone uses Lincoln County recycling and that this could influence how each town looks at the documents.

10. Discuss agenda for January meeting: The next meeting will be on January 7 if the room is available and we will meet again on January 14. Bob Butler will try to get a replacement for Greg Louder since Greg is not available. Ron Miller, Bob Butler and John Higgins raised issues connected with Fiberight's ability to bring their project to completion in a timely manner. Will Payson asked whether we have heard from PERC and other organizations with spoken with in the past. According to Bob Butler, we have heard from them but not recently. Bob Butler will invite the president of PERC to meet with us.

11. A motion to adjourn was made by John Meyn and seconded by Ron Miller. The motion was approved with a vote of 7 – 0 and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Robert Butler, Waldoboro resident

Ron Miller, Waldoboro Select Board

Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board

John Meyn, Friendship resident

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