

Town of Waldoboro Maine
Transfer Station Committee Meeting Minutes
Municipal Building – 1600 Atlantic Hwy.

Thursday, February 11, 2016 – 6:00 to 8:00 PM

1. Sign in and call to order: Bob Butler called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM on Thursday, February 11, 2016.
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:

Sarah Bernier, Waste Zero
Rod Carr, Doyle & Nelson
John Daigle, Waldoboro Public Works Director
Cory Fletcher, Agri-Cycle Energy
John Higgins, Waldoboro Resident
Bob Knudsen, USA Group Vice President of Operations
Monika Magee, Cushing Resident
Jann Minzy, Waldoboro Select Board

Davin Robinson, Friendship Alternate

Kevin Tritz, President, Maine Waste Processing, a new joint venture with PERC

Alex Viao, Lincoln County News

Greg Williams, Agri-Cycle Energy

Ted Wooster, Waldoboro Alternate

Don Meagher, Casella Waste Systems

George Wood, Consultant

3. PERC Presentation: Bob Knudsen, USA Group Vice President, Don Meagher, Casella Waste Systems, and Kevin Tritz, Maine Waste Processing President, presented the latest information on PERC's plans for the future. Bob Knudsen stated that there is no plan for PERC to close after 2018, stating that it was designed specifically so it could remain open. He stated that PERC is financially viable and that USA Group wants our business. He noted that after 2018, the EMERA contract would expire; PERC will be debt free at that point. He also noted that USA Group has invested over 110 million dollars in maintenance and upgrades in preparation for post 2018 operations. He reported that HDR Engineering did a facility assessment and reported that the facility is "the best maintained and operated older facility they have seen." Bob Knudsen also stated that the facility is only halfway through its life cycle and had its best year last year. He also noted that the end of the prior contract gives PERC much more flexibility to operate as a for-profit facility. Regarding any excess cash remaining at the end of the current contract period, 1/3 will go to EMERA, 1/3 will go to the communities, and 1/3 will go to the equity partners. Once the contract with EMERA ends, PERC will generate electricity only during super peak periods, maximizing revenues. Maintenance and repairs will be done overnight. According to Bob Knudsen, PERC has the best technology today for processing municipal waste; this technology is being used in the United States, Europe, and Asia. In addition, PERC will be adding new services so no employees will be let go, even though PERC will not process as much MSW as it has in the past. PERC will follow the DEP hierarchy including the statewide goal of getting to 50% recycling. The new management team includes Waste Zero, Casella Waste Systems, and Exeter Agri-Cycle Energy, a fifth generation dairy farm with the most advanced anaerobic organic digestive system in the State. The new organizational structure will create more local control and give communities more options. Sarah Bernier, Waste Zero, indicated that she would work to implement/administer Pay as You Throw programs if we decide to go in that direction. Don Meagher, Waste Zero, indicated that Juniper Ridge, which Casella operates, is ten years into a thirty year contract with the State and has plenty of room to go on longer than that. He indicated that lots of waste is not good fuel and must be removed before the burning process. Juniper Ridge is designed to accommodate this. In addition, Juniper Ridge can handle the ash that is produced in the burning process. Juniper Ridge also provides backup if PERC has more MSW than it can handle. Other services that can be offered include trucking, curbside

collection, transfer station pickup, composting, and single stream recycling. Greg Williams, Exeter Agri Cycle Energy, provided information on Stonyville Farm in Exeter, Maine. It's a 2500-acre farm with 2000 head of cattle and has a one-megawatt digestive facility. It currently powers 800 homes plus the farm. It has the potential to work with the Waldoboro Transfer Station or possibly provide curbside pickup of organic waste. Tipping fees for organic waste should average around \$40 per ton. Kevin Tritz, Maine Waste Processing, discussed plans to offset anticipated decreases in waste available to be processed. This will include possibly working with the State of Maine to grind up rolls of carpeting for fuel. The organization also will look at CDD that includes lots of burnable material. This will eliminate the need for out of state waste. Consultant George Wood indicated that PERC could generate 30% to 40% more revenues by generating electricity during peak hours only. He also indicated that expenses would be reduced by around nine million dollars annually. In response to John Meyn's question regarding why we haven't heard about this plan earlier, Bob Knudsen indicated that USA Energy didn't want to share information until there was a clear plan. In response to Ted Wooster's question about the amount of carbon dioxide that will be generated, it was indicated that PERC could provide the answer to this. PERC also is not asking for tonnage commitments at this time. In answer to Bob Butler's question about whether an engineering study of the viability of the new way of operating had been completed, it was explained that PERC already runs the plant in the new way, although not often. Bob Butler noted that the cleaner the front end product, the less front end work there is to do and the greater the efficiency and heat rate. Bob Knudsen responded that the facility has monitors for plastics as well as a scrubber system. Bob Butler noted that if Fiberight doesn't get the needed commitment by June, we would be left with some choices including working with MRC to come to PERC. Bob Knudsen responded that there is a limit to how much MSW PERC can take and still produce electricity during peak hours only. It also was noted that the price of oil has an impact on recyclables; at \$60 per barrel for oil, it doesn't pay to recycle plastics. There will be no GAT; towns just need to bring all trash to PERC. Currently, towns are funding their own incentives; under the new arrangement, towns will participate in the profits. Costs in the next 15 years will rise only to the extent that Consumer Price Index rises. If PERC cannot take all tonnage, Casella provides a back-up plan. There are no restrictions on recycling, composting, or trucking. If there are questions; we are asked to call Rod Carr or Tamara in the office.

4. Information Sharing: Committee Members, Haulers, and Director of Public Works: There were no questions from the haulers.
5. Minutes of the January 7, 2016 Transfer Station Committee Meeting: A motion was made by John Meyn and seconded by Randy Robbins to approve the minutes from the January 7, 2016 meeting. The motion was approved with a vote of 6 – 0 with Wayne Luce abstaining.
6. Report of the Chairman: Bob Butler expressed some concern about the recycling report, noting that some haulers are not providing recyclables. John Daigle handed out information on recycling, noting that there has been a drop in tonnage recently. He expects this to improve in March. Bob Butler reported that the Waldoboro Select Board approved the changes to

Attachment B last Tuesday. Bob will provide details. Regarding the Transfer Station Brochure, Liam now has the brochure in his computer and can produce brochures in the office. According to John Daigle, Liam probably will print 250 brochures at a time. He also will put something on the web site.

7. Director of Public Works: John Daigle provided information on a possible building to house mattresses. The Committee members discussed the pros and cons of going with a less expensive versus a more expensive building. Last year, the Transfer Station handled 47 tons of mattresses. Wayne Luce noted that Camden is sending their mattresses to PERC and that it may be cheaper to send our mattresses to PERC and pay the tipping fees. John Daigle will look into this. John Daigle also provided a copy of the application for DEP for the storage of sheet rock as well as information on PERC's 2015 recycling credits. John Daigle also reported that the Town of Waldoboro has hired an engineer to compare the Fiberight and PERC contracts. This should be completed by the end of February. Martha Marchut noted that the Cushing Select Board has been working toward including a vote regarding joining MRC as part of the Warrant for their March Town Meeting. She will ask the Cushing Select Board to consider delaying this vote until later in order to be in step with Friendship and Waldoboro.
8. Discuss Agenda for March Meeting: The next meeting will be Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 6:00.
9. 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 8:31 PM.

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