

Town of Waldoboro Maine

Transfer Station Committee Meeting Minutes

Municipal Building – 1600 Atlantic Hwy.

Thursday, April 14, 2016 – 6:00 to 8:00 PM

1. Sign in and call to order: Bob Butler called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM on Thursday, April 14, 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:

Bob Butler, Waldoboro resident

John Meyn, Friendship resident

Ted Wooster, Waldoboro resident

Randy Robbins, Cushing resident

Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board

Abden Simmons, Waldoboro Select Board

Martha Marchut, Cushing Select Board

Also present:

John Daigle, Waldoboro Public Works Director

John Higgins, Waldoboro resident

Monika Magee, Cushing resident

Alan Magee, Cushing resident

3. Information Sharing: Committee Members, Haulers, and Director of Public Works: In response to a question from Randy Robbins, the Committee discussed what PERC's future will be given the expiration of the current subsidies. There were no questions from the haulers.
4. Minutes of the March 23, 2016 Transfer Station Committee Meeting: Bob Butler reported that the minutes have not yet been sent to the members of the Committee. They will be reviewed at the next Transfer Station Committee meeting.
5. Discussion of the Fiberright/EcoMaine Matrix: In discussion of the Fiberright/EcoMaine Matrix, it was reported that EcoMaine has quoted contracts beyond 2018 to parties that initiate contacts with them. According to Lisa Bitterman of EcoMaine, they can accommodate a few new **municipal members contributing, in aggregate, up to 40,000 tons of MSW**. An e-mail Lisa Bitterman sent to Bob Butler is set forth below:

"Ecomaine has 40,000 tons of capacity right now for MSW and is willing to sign a 20 year contract with Waldoboro for a tipping fee of \$70.50 per ton for a date to be determined in 2018. We would need to receive a letter of intent from your community, then I would draw up the contract and it would need approval from our Board of Directors (which should be mostly a formality). This contract would need to be signed within the next few months for an execution date of your choosing in 2018. After the first full year of the MSW contract there would be a price increase, based on the Northeast Consumer Price Index, never to exceed 7% in any given year. To date, we have never had a CPI increase of higher than 5%. We only permanently landfill the ash, which is the result of the combustion of MSW as it's processed in our Waste to Energy Plant. We do temporarily store raw MSW at our landfill in the summer months when the volume exceeds what we can combust in a day; however that material is backhauled at our own expense to the Waste to Energy Plant in the winter when levels of new MSW slow down. We manage our heavy metals with pollution control technology called an Electrostatic Precipitator. Essentially the heavy metals are trapped by electronically charged metal curtains and pulled out of the stack emissions and then added to the ash that's the result of combusted solid waste. All of that ash mixture goes to our double lined, heavily

monitored ashfill/landfill. In addition to capturing the Heavy Metals, we also treat for Nitrogen Oxides, Acid Gasses and certain Organic Compounds. Lastly, regarding our Single Sort Recycling program, we process 42,000 tons of mixed recyclables per year and are offering a Revenue/Cost sharing plan at the moment. This plan enables us to share back any extra revenue we earn each month after covering our operating costs for processing the recyclables, with the communities whose recycling tonnage we processed. The plan only charges a community for the recycling tonnage they brought us per month if we're unable to cover our operating costs for that month through the sale of all recyclables."

Note: Initial EcoMaine conversations indicated an EcoMaine willingness to commit to 5-year contracts. Since then, after being approached by Mid-Coast Solid Waste, EcoMaine has quoted 5, 10, 15 and 20-year agreements to that organization, only, at \$70.50 per ton with an annual CPI adjustment for inflation after the first year. EcoMaine is not offering new communities the right to participate in net revenue shares. That right is reserved solely for EcoMaine's charter members.

EcoMaine will accept recycled materials under a separate contract. EcoMaine charges a penalty of \$40 per ton with contamination levels of 5% to 10%. That charged increases to \$70.50 per ton when contamination levels exceed 10%.

During the MRRRA conference held on May 3rd and 4th Lisa Bitterman stressed that EcoMaine wants to see the Fiberight facility move forward and that EcoMaine has not made a general offer of contracts for MSW to Maine municipalities. EcoMaine has responded to specific requests it has received from one Maine organization, Mid-Coast Solid Waste Corporation.

6. Discussion with Director of Public Works Department about Current and New Initiatives:

- Compost: John Daigle reported that one commercial hauler is starting to collect compost. John provided the Committee with a

sample of the material the hauler is providing to his customers for this purpose, including a plastic pail for collecting the compost. Compost collected will count toward the hauler's recycling quota.

- Invoicing haulers who are not recycling: John Daigle gave out statistics on recycling/trash for the month of March. He also provided a copy of a letter sent to a hauler in February detailing the plan to begin monthly billing in March for failure to adequately recycle. The letter also detailed what the fee for January would have been based on the hauler's recycling rate for that month. John also provided photos of trash brought in by the hauler as well as historical documentation of the trash and recycling for the same hauler. This hauler currently is recycling at a rate of 2%, according to John.
- Town Report/Budget: John Daigle passed out a copy of the Transfer Station Budget. He kept the tonnage at 2700 tons per year even though the actual tonnage is only 2550 tons per year. In response to questions that were raised about revenues, John indicated that these are best answered in the office where supporting documents are available. Considering Fiberight versus EcoMaine, John noted that he anticipates savings of \$60,000 over five years if we go with Fiberight. He also noted that the cost with Fiberight will drop over time, possibly by as much as \$20 a ton, because of revenue sharing. On the other hand, the cost will go up over time with EcoMaine. In response to a comment by John Meyn, there was a general discussion of the need to provide the public with as much education as possible. Bob Butler suggested that each member of the Committee pick a relevant topic and submit a letter to a local paper. Bob will put together bullet points to assist Committee members. John Daigle will put together a flyer and will provide the Committee members with the final engineering report. John Higgins suggested that the engineering report be posted on the web page as well as being posted at various public venues such as Moody's Diner. It was suggested that the Committee also should talk to various community

groups. In discussion, the importance of transparency among Committee members regarding any concerns with the recommendation to proceed with MRC/Fiberight was stressed.

- Expansion of day pads for sheetrock asphalt shingles: According to John Daigle, the sheetrock issue is in the hands of the DEP.

7. Discussion of Draft Commitment Letter to MRC due by May 1, 2016 and Steps to Inform Voters in Waldoboro, Cushing and Friendship about continuing as a Charter Member of MRC: According to Abden Simmons, the commitment letter has not yet come before the Waldoboro Select Board. Abden will follow up with the Town Manager, as will Bob Butler.
8. MRRA Conference – May 3 and 4 at Samoset: A number of members of the Committee signed up to attend the upcoming MRRA conference. Registrations for the conference can be given to Bob Butler.
9. Discussion of Agenda for May Meeting: The next meeting will be Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 6:00.
10. Ted Wooster made a motion to adjourn. John Meyn seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7 – 0.

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