

Town of Waldoboro, Maine
Transfer Station Committee Meeting Minutes
Municipal Building - 1600 Atlantic Highway
Thursday, June 9, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

1. Sign in and Call to Order: Bob Butler called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM on Thursday, June 9, 2016
2. Quorum: At least 5 of the 7 Committee members or their duly appointed Alternates: The following Waldoboro Transfer Station Committee members were present and constituted a quorum:

Bob Butler, Waldoboro Resident
Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board
Wayne Luce, Commercial Hauler Representative
Monica Magee, Cushing Alternate
Ron Miller, Waldoboro Select Board
Davin Robinson, Friendship Resident
Randy Robbins, Cushing Resident

In the absence of Martha Marchut, Bob Butler and Monika Magee agreed to collaborate on the minutes.

Also present:

John Daigle, Waldoboro Public Works Director
John Higgins, Waldoboro Resident
Alan Magee, Cushing Resident
Ted Wooster, Waldoboro Resident and Alternate

3. Information Sharing: Committee members, Haulers, and Director of Public Works for Items not on the Agenda.

John Daigle reported, according to information Lincoln Recycling provided, that the Waldoboro Transfer Station has been generating 10 tons of recycled materials per week, excluding e-waste. This compares favorably to 28 tons per

month last year. He's forecasting that the 2016/17 transfer station budget should be in the low \$400 thousands, compared to more than \$500 thousand for the fiscal year now ending.

4. Discuss the Minutes of the May 12, 2016 Transfer Station Committee Meeting

Ron Miller moved and Randy Robbins seconded the motion, that the committee accepts the minutes of the May 12th Transfer Station Committee meeting. The committee approved the motion unanimously.

5. Report of the Committee Chairman

Bob Butler reported that Cushing had already voted to join MRC/Fiberight at its recent open town meeting. There was only one dissenting vote. Liz Dinsmore said she anticipated the same result in Friendship next week.

Bob said a Waldoboro resident had asked the committee to consider recommending that the Transfer Station start later and close later at least one day of the week. Ron Miller moved that the matter be put onto the agenda for the July meeting with a public announcement to encourage attendance. Liz Dinsmore seconded the motion. During discussion, Ron Miller thought any change in transfer station hours would be confusing. John Daigle said employee union contracts had recently been renegotiated for a three-year period and included the present schedule of transfer station hours. Changing the contract would be difficult. Wayne Luce said people who could not come to the transfer station during the week and found it difficult to go there on week-ends could hire a hauler. Randy Robbins said that later winter hours would mean operating the transfer station in the dark. The vote to put the item of hours on the July agenda passed unanimously

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

a. Invoicing of haulers who are not recycling and others

John Daigle is pleased with the progress haulers are making to recycle more. He has reduced by one trailer a month the trash the Transfer Station is sending to PERC. The outlook is to cut the budget by another \$100,000 during the coming fiscal year. John believes all haulers are trying hard and are putting their best foot forward. All commercial haulers are now bringing recycling into the transfer station to one extent or another, including plastics. Charlie is hard to figure out. Prior to switching to the scale his recycling rate was close to 40%. John surmises that with the smoke shop opening, Charlie's recycling rate will pick up. He acknowledged we have a way to go. Transfer station staff are helping haulers who are still under 18% by giving them brochures to hand to their customers.

John noted that commercial haulers bring in about 50% of the trash hauled into the transfer station. Of 40 tons taken in last month, 22 of them came from commercial haulers.

b. Well Monitoring

John mentioned that the monitoring wells at the transfer station are now being tested.

c. Day Pads

John has heard nothing from DEP on the pads. It could take up to a year for DEP to reach a decision.

d. Old Landfill Issues

John reported an issue with the old landfill. DEP thought we had a blowout. An engineer looked at it. John does not believe the problem is a blowout. He thinks it's settling, noting that blowouts usually occur at the toe. This problem is lower down, below the clay liner.

Ted asked about gas production from the old landfill. Daigle said

any production is too low to justify being captured. The landfill is covered with clay, which shuts out oxygen. It will take quite awhile for the garbage in the landfill to deteriorate.

e. Recycled Items

John pointed out that the number of items we are now recycling has increased from 6 to 19, and he's hoping to add sheetrock, shingles, and mattresses.

Different parts of the country are now recycling mattresses by making the manufacturer responsible.

John is not sure how different towns are recycling memory foam mattresses, if at all.

Monika reported some operations are heating used mattresses to 113 degrees F. Ted Wooster explained that bedbugs are killed at that temperature, possibly to protect the workers who have to handle the used mattresses.

Ted asked about e-waste? John Daigle said he would discuss it at the next meeting.

f. Ordinance Re-Write.

Wayne asked about progress with rewriting the ordinance. Ron Miller reported that John Spear had backed out of doing it. They are looking for someone else. At the moment the project is on hold.

g. Restaurant Waste.

Ron Miller said he had spoken to a restaurant owner about what the owner does with food waste. He wondered if we could sell the idea of recycling food waste. Butler suggested we put together a survey for restaurants—and other food preparation sites-- to see what they are throwing away. John Daigle reported that Moody's throws out 2 to 5 tons of food each month. They

used to send their food waste to a pig farm. They can no longer do that. Organic pigs are not allowed to eat food waste. The company that picks up recycling from LCR would pick up from restaurants for a minimal fee. Restaurant owners do not understand how much it's costing them to get rid of their trash.

Monika reported that 40% of the USA's food is wasted. The wasted food has a value of \$162 Billion.

- 7 Further discussion of Steps to Inform Voters in Waldoboro, Cushing and Friendship about continuing as a Charter Member of MRC

Liz Dinsmore thinks Friendship will vote for MRC/Fiberight. She reported receiving complaints that the MRC/Fiberight article is too long. Daigle said Waldoboro had submitted an ad of explanation to Lincoln County News. It compares in summary form the advantages of MRC/Fiberight over EcoMaine and PERC.

8. Committee goals for fiscal year 2016/17

Monika suggested each town should establish a recycling committee. It could help with education about recycling, especially in schools.

Butler suggested a new survey of Transfer Station users.

There was a suggestion that we start talking about options for collecting and disposing of recyclables. Go with Fiberight? Dual stream? Single stream?

We should invite Lincoln County Recycling back to discuss recycling.

Pay As You Throw

Higgins said we should find out what the Select Board wants to put on the list for FY 2017.

It was suggested that the committee focuses on preparing for the transition to Fiberight.

The committee can contact local civic groups to encourage recycling. In that regard, the committee could prepare a package presentation ready to take to these organizations to explain what's going on so far

John indicated that PERC has shut down for maintenance. They did so without telling MRC communities, first. Haulers have to take refuse to Juniper Ridge at an additional cost of \$100 per load in the meantime.

9. Adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The confirming vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob Butler, Waldoboro Resident

Ron Miller, Waldoboro Select Board

Wayne Luce, Hauler Representative

Davin Robinson, Friendship Resident

Randy Robbins, Cushing Resident

Martha Marchut, Cushing Select Board

Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board
