

Minutes
Recycling/Solid Waste Committee
June 15, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m-. Members present were: Patti Martinson, Aaron Costello, and Blaise Emerson. Staff members present were: Robert Ellis, Karl Merbach, and Torie Fields.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Emerson moved, second by Costello, to approve the minutes of April 7, 2010. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

City utility Bill/Special Rates Update

Ellis said they are still working on adding the special rates and extending the usage of the city utility bill, for landfill usage, from 90 days to 11 months plus the current month to ordinance. Ellis stated there are a number of ordinance changes and he would like to do them all at one time.

Credit Card Utilization

Ellis said credit card utilization is the direction he would recommend the committee go. Ellis also stated the scale attendant is strapped for time and he would like to see the committee support a motion to approve an additional FTE at the scale. Discussion was held on the functions of new position. Ellis said he feels that there is enough room within the existing budget to pay this position. Emerson moved to recommend to the council a new FTE in the scale house, second by Costello. Motion carried unanimously.

Feasibility of a GPS/GIS System

Ellis stated the utilization of the handheld GIS/GPS unit would essentially track the progress of the landfill being filled on a daily, weekly or other routine basis. Ellis said that while he does not disagree it is a good idea, again without the additional FTE it is just another task that will have to be managed. Discussion was held on the functions of the GIS/GPS unit. Merbach said he would like to take a look and have more information so he could provide the committee with two or three different options. Emerson moved to continue to next meeting, second by Costello. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of Karl Merbach

The Solid Waste Committee welcomes Karl Merbach, new superintendent of the Solid Waste Division.

Brief of the Solid Waste Plan

Ellis said he would recommend we continue the discussion until next month as Merbach has only been here a few weeks. Ellis said next month we can come forward with a summary of goals and priorities. Costello moved to continue this item to the next meeting, second by Emerson. Motion carried unanimously.

Request from RCSD to fund waste reduction/recycling employee

Ellis provided the committee with a copy of a letter received from the Rapid City School District's Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, Ron Mincks. Ellis explained that a formal request was made to see if it was possible for the Solid Waste budget to fund a recycling/waste reduction employee to help them continue the recycling efforts they have started. Ellis said what he would like to do is, rather than pay for one of the School District's employees to look just at the school district, is to hire our own employee to look at the School District and other City businesses. Emerson said we should come back next month with a list of priorities from the Solid Waste Management Plan and discuss then. Discussion was held on the utilization of an Educational/Outreach position. Costello moved, second by Emerson to continue this item until the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Recycling Brokerage Services

Ellis explained we have been using the same brokerage service for a number of years. Ellis explained after the MRF was built, the Solid Waste Committee issued an RFP for brokerage services, but that was back in the 1990's so it would be a good idea to issue a new RFP. Ellis explained the current broker has been providing good service, but it has been awhile since we checked around with other brokers. Emerson moved, second by Costello to issue a new RFP for recycling brokerage services. Motion carried unanimously.

Other

Ellis said Jerry Wright has done a lot for this community and the Solid Waste Division, and it would be nice to honor him in some way. He explained the tradition in Solid Waste of naming something at the facility after long term employees. Ellis recommended we do something for Jerry as well. Ellis said the idea came forth from Guy Krugjohn the collection supervisor. Emerson said he has no problem with something like that. Ellis said he is not looking for a motion but wanted to put the idea out there and come back with some ideas.

ADJORNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, Costello moved, second by Emerson to adjourn the June 15, 2010, Recycling/Solid Waste Committee meeting at 11:43 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.