

WHATCOM COUNTY SOLID WASTE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECEIVED

August 5, 2010

AUG 9 - 2010

Call to Order

The meeting of The Solid Waste Executive Committee was called to order by County Executive, Pete Kremen, at 10:35 a.m., on Thursday, August 5th, 2010. A quorum was present.

PETE KREMEN
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Committee Members and Staff Present

Pete Kremen, Whatcom County Executive
Dan Pike, Mayor, City of Bellingham
Scott Korthuis, Mayor, City of Lynden
Robert Bromley, Mayor, City of Sumas
Rick Holt, Public Works Director, City of Everson
Frank Abart, Public Works Director, Whatcom County
Jon Hutchings, Asst. Public Works Director, Whatcom County
Debbie Bailey, Solid Waste Secretary, Whatcom County

Guests

John Wolpers, Whatcom County Health Department
Jeff Hegedus, Whatcom County Health Department

Agenda Items

1. 2011-2012 Budget

Jon Hutchings reviewed the budget packet that was distributed to the committee, briefly noting the current Solid Waste programs and activities. The budget reductions undertaken for 2010 remain for 2011 and 2012. Of specific interest were reductions in staff costs and uncertainties about grant funding for 2012. The requested budget for 2012 is \$200,000 less than expected revenues.

A major change for 2011 is a one-time expenditure of approximately \$182,000 out of the Solid Waste Fund Balance, currently projected at \$1.4 million for 2010. This expenditure will fund the construction of an alternative leachate management system following the end of the post-closure monitoring period for the Cedarville Landfill. The new system should save \$65,000 in leachate expenses per year, offsetting the initial cost of the system.

John Wolpers and Jeff Hegedus spoke about the contributions that the County Health Department makes to the program, emphasizing that without their enforcement, the Solid Waste programs are not relevant. \$100,000 from the Solid Waste Fund is transferred to the Health Department for enforcement activities.

Frank Abart stated that while this is a two-year budget, it is expected that the Executive Committee will meet again in 2011 once there is clarification on Department of Ecology grant funding. Programs for 2012 will be adjusted at that time to produce a more balanced budget.

Dan Pike moved to approve the 2011 – 2012 budget as presented. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

2. Supplemental Budget Request – Purchase of improvements at the Point Roberts Transfer Station

Jon Hutchings reviewed the history of the lease at the Point Roberts Landfill Transfer Station. Currently, the County is renting the equipment and improvements put in place, and still owned, by the former lessee while pursuing a purchase agreement for the same. It is in the best interest of the County to own the improvements to ease the transition of another provider stepping in and running the transfer station if needed at some time in the future. Together with an appraisal from the Assessor's office and substantiating financial documents, Public Works has negotiated with the former lessee approximately \$112,191 for the purchase of said equipment/improvements as well as a release of all claims. Public Works is requesting supplemental budget authority for 2010, for an expenditure from the Solid Waste Fund Balance of an amount of approximately \$112,191 to enable the purchase agreement.


Dan Pike moved to approve the supplemental budget request. Motion carried.

New/Other Business

There being no other business, Executive Kremen adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Certification

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Solid Waste Executive Committee meeting held August 5, 2010 in Lynden, Washington.

Attest: 
Debbie Bailey, Division Secretary
Whatcom County Solid Waste Division


Pete Kremen, Chairperson
Whatcom County Executive