### LARIMER COUNTY | SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT

5887 S Taft Hill Road, Fort Collins, Colorado 80526, 970.498.5760, Larimer.org

## NOTES

#### LARIMER COUNTY POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Date:	November 7, 2019
Time:	10:00-12:00pm
Location:	Solid Waste Conference Room, 5887 S Taft Hill Road, Fort Collins, CO 80526 (Landfill Business Office)
Contact:	Stephen Gillette, Director of Solid Waste

#### Attendees:

#### **Solid Waste Policy Council Members**

John Kefalas, Steve Johnson, Ross Cunniff, Leah Johnson, Ken Zornes, Rebekka Kinney, Wade Troxell

#### **Phone Attendees:**

Dave Clark

Notes from October 3, 2019 approved

#### Additions or deletions to the agenda:

Insert additional conversation about "next steps"

#### Official welcome to Wellington

Wellington has full approval to participate in the IGA.

A meeting was held with the Town Board of Wellington to discuss the Wasteshed plan. There is a neighborhood meeting scheduled for Saturday, with nearby property owners to the new site

#### **Bylaws discussion**

- Page 3: Strike "a quorum shall consist of the majority of the membership" • changed to "a quorum shall consist of one representative from every participating agency"
- Page 4: It was agreed best practice would be the Chair and Vice Chair will set the agenda.
- Page 6: Council will meet quarterly or as needed. (Retreat is separate)

• With above changes, bylaws were adopted.

#### **Election of officers**

Nominated for Chair:

- Wade Troxell nominated then seconded. Leah Johnson nominated then seconded.
- Subsidiary motion was made to replace Wade Troxell with Leah Johnson, voted on and approved.
- Motion to vote on Leah Johnson as Chair was unanimously approved.
- Wade Troxell was nominated as Vice Chair, and unanimously approved.

#### Set agenda, location and frequency of meetings

December 12<sup>th</sup>, (and reoccurring Thursdays) 10-12pm, at 200 W Oak, Lake Loveland Meeting Room

A short presentation will be made on the requirements of the IGA and update on all the Tier 1 projects with timetables.

Facilitators will be invited in to develop 1<sup>st</sup> year work plan

Side Note: Strat Ops idea was looked at but suggested not needed at this time.

#### **Updated information**

Some Technical Committee members did site visits in Oregon and Washington, seeking information about successes and challenges of other recycling and composting programs.

Wellington Community Conversations hosted at the T-bar Inn, conclude the transportation piece is a high priority to the community.

The intersection of County Road 70 and County Road 9 is a concern. Safety for vehicles and bicyclists should be prioritized.

• Comment: The County Engineers are going to be making some recommendations on these topics.

Seasonal farm harvest truck traffic and weigh station patterns are also in need of consideration with traffic patterns.

 Comment: The flow of trash trucks when this occurs is something that we can modify as needed and we will have alternative routes

#### **Financial Overview (attachments)**

The County has a Master Capital Improvement Plan and a Budget Analyst to track the expenses and revenues. The Wasteshed Master Plan has been incorporated in the County Master Plan. Numbers presented are based on work done previously.

- Fee history trajectory of 6% increases annually. Airspace is a shrinking commodity and non-compactable items use more airspace and thereby cost more.
- Actual and projected revenue for Solid Waste Fund:
  - \* Landfill Fees

- \* Miscellaneous (interest on fund balance)
- Contract to drill for oil on property at 35% (opted to not pursue at this time)

Future volumes projected are conservative due to historical drops when customers used neighboring landfills.

Hail damage has created an increase in revenues and a decrease in air space.

- Actual and projected expenses:
  - \* Wasteshed Master Plan
  - \* Closure
  - \* Water projects
  - \* Gas collection projects.

There are no offsite improvements included.

The newfound water contamination cleanup is not part of the projected expenses, to date there is no cost assigned to this yet.

As facilities are added, expenses will increase. New operating machines require the cost up front, as seen in the leap of 2019.

- Retained Revenue Enterprise Fund: 2018 shows hail damage leap in revenue and lack of new project expenses which added to the fund balance. These funds will be used up as we build new facilities.
- Fund balance total: Includes 8 million of closure and post closure care for 30 years. The last meeting with CDPHE put Larimer County on notice that 8 million was not enough in the closure fund due to groundwater contamination. We won't know for several months what corrective measures and remediation plan will entail and the associated costs. CDPHE will allocate additional moneys that will have to be set aside for closure.

#### **Financial Overview questions and comments**

Q: Projected revenues; does gas collection generate revenue? A: There is no pipeline to move the gas off site, the County sold the rights to a private company. The vendor requires a certain CFM to trigger more infrastructure to move gas off site. Tests find 250 CFM. The gas system is not mandated but voluntary. This vendor believes that at some future date there may be enough CFM to cover investment and generate revenue.

Q: Do we use landfill gas to heat buildings? A: Yes we already have geo thermal heat for buildings

Suggestion was made for more diversification in revenues for a circular economy. How can we be more thoughtful in creating revenue through waste streams? Be open to ways to improve the triple bottom line analysis We were acknowledged for our innovation, we will continue to push for innovation to help generate other markets, and diversifying streams of revenue Q: Will the new landfill have it's own separate funds?

A: The funds will be rolled over

Q: Once the new landfill opens the fund balance will begin to grow again to start savings toward it's closure etc.? A: Yes

Q: Was there any anticipation for an unlined landfill to have an environmental issue? A: CDPHE determines how much you must have in a closure fund based on Engineer estimates. We have more than required until this event.

Comments: We should plan our financial future with expenses and revenue in a fiduciarily responsible way.

We work very closely with the state to determine what needs to be in the Solid Waste funds. We are blessed to have the fund balance available to us, which will pay for the Tier 1 projects, due to good management.

The groundwater and Tier 1 projects are coming at the same time, so a decision will need to be made about what to pay for. The Policy Committee needs to be actively involved and have a voice in coordinating a regional approach to how to handle these costs for both groundwater contamination clean up and Tier 1 projects.

As Groundwater is more talked about, there will be greater need for a Public Relations person to respond to concerns that the Town of Wellington may have and to educate the community on the new technology.

#### Hauler licensing update

The task is to develop a modern licensing program. Estes Park and Wellington would like to adopt the model or come up with a similar structure for their communities. We have asked for an extension of time on this topic previously due January 2020.

Licensing will assist in projecting accurate trash volumes and developing a reporting matrix for the Wasteshed and potential revenue and tonnages. This is a way to enforce a pay-as-you-throw policy incentivizing reduction, and an additional safety element where haulers are licensed and insured. The goal of the PAC is to get some uniformity and consistency between communities and requirements for haulers. We have drafts awaiting input from haulers.

Estes and Wellington would like to adopt similar or same licensing requirements for their communities. It would be ideal if we could find a way to centralize the data of all the communities and make it uniform for the haulers. Unincorporated area licensing requirements may need to be modified, more work needs to be done on this topic.

Will be discussed in detail at TAC

#### Concerns:

Understanding how mental health care facility and landfill operations are going to work together. Costs, and persona. Stigma "if you need mental health care you go to the dump". Suggested a presentation from the Mental Health Policy Council may be warranted.

Would like more transparency regarding Masterplan, site plan, Solid Waste financials.

December 12<sup>th</sup> 10-12 Policy Council and Technical Committee Retreat 200 W Oak St, Lake Loveland Room

**OTHER BUSINESS:** 

ADJOURNED

## LARIMER COUNTY



# SOLID WASTE FUND ANALYSIS











