

--APPROVED--

**OHSTT Solid Waste Board
Thursday, July 27, 2017**

Present: Ronnie Porter (T), Pete Lammert (T), Bruce Colson (OH), Skip Connell (ST), Reggie Vokes (Facility Manager)

Absent: Dave Matthews (OH), Jan Gaudio (ST)

Guests: Judson Dodge, Scott Johnson

7:03 PM Bruce Colson called the meeting to order.

Judson Dodge presented a letter to the Board proposing the Board add an agenda item to the agenda regarding a moratorium in creating changes to the bylaws that would create “pay per bag” or “pay per ton” for a period of 18 to 24 months or until the future of the Co-op is secure. Motion on the floor for discussion of moratorium. Pete Lammert seconded. All in Favor.

Judd is concerned of the direction the Facility after the contract with MRC and Perc are ended such as unresolved and unfunded major renovations and the Prison looking into alternatives which will impact all residents and customers. Judd informed the Board there are rumors of the towns pulling in different directions which will also impact the Co-op.

Pete Lammert stated that the contract with MRC and PERC will end March 31, 2018 but it will not be known the amount coming back to the towns for 6 months. Pete also explained at that point it needs to go to the towns to see if they will give it back to the Facility for the renovation project.

Scott Johnson questioned charges for just commercial trash. Scott suggested the first thing to be done would be to get the Prison under contract explaining that if there is no contract they could pull out at any time and that would greatly impact the revenue of the Facility.

Bruce Colson informed the Board he has spoken with some residents in the 3 towns, reporting no one wants to see the fees change. Bruce explained that if the Board voted to change fee to by the bag and ton, the Board has to recommend it to the towns and the towns have to vote on it.

There was further discussion on getting a contract with the Prison. It was stated that the prison does not pay taxes to the towns and have been looking at other Facilities for their trash.

Thomaston carries most of the cost and has the most businesses but the true users of the Facility are the residents. If charging by the ton is implemented the possibility of business having their trash hauled elsewhere could cost the residents 3 times as much. At the same time, the local commercial haulers would lose business. Skip Connell motioned to table the discussion. No second.

Pete Lammert motioned the Board place a moratorium to freeze all new fees or raising current fees for an 18 to 24 month period. Bruce Colson directed Pete to specify whether the moratorium is 18 or 24 months. Pete amended the motion to a 24 month period. Ronnie Porter seconded. Bruce voted in favor. Skip Connell opposed. Motion carried.

Ronnie Porter motioned to accept the minutes from July 13, 2017 as written. Skip Connell seconded. All in favor.

The Board reviewed the tonnages brought into the Facility by the Prison from January 1 to June 30, 2017. Bruce Colson suggested to wait for discussion until Dave Matthews ran the numbers for the prison tonnage. Bruce motioned to table discussion until the August 10, 2017 meeting. Pete Lammert seconded. All in favor.

The Board reviewed changes to the Interlocal Agreement discussed at the last meeting. Pete Lammert motioned to table the discussion until the August 10, 2017 meeting. Skip Connell seconded. All in favor.

The Facility Manager, Reggie Vokes informed the Board there were no equipment breakdowns last month. Reggie informed the Board that the staff evaluations have completed. Reggie reported bio hazard materials were found in trash dumped by the prison and he was going to the prison on Tuesday, August 1, 2017 to help them with recycling. Reggie reported he has built a new set of steps for can #4. Reggie also inquired about fee changes and if charging for cleanouts was new or has been in place. The Board informed Reggie that the fee changes are now frozen and the charge for cleanouts has been in place but not enforced. Pete Lammert motioned to have signs regarding clean out fee of \$250. Bruce informed Reggie that the Facility Manager was authorized to have them made as long as there are funds in the budget to do so otherwise it would require Board approval. Bruce also defined a "cleanout" as being done "for profit" not by a resident. Reggie also informed the Board the kick plate on can #1 needs to be fixed. The Board directed Reggie to contact Larry's Portable Welding.

The Bookkeeper reported the audit for 2016 has been finalized and presented each Board member with a copy.

The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Pete Lammert motioned to accept the signed warrant. Ronnie Porter seconded. All in favor.

Pete Lammert motioned to adjourn. Ronnie Porter seconded. All in favor.

8:46 PM Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather-Rae Steeves