Valley County Refuse District #1 Board Meeting Valley County Courthouse Community Room

March 21, 2023

<u>Call to Order</u>: Board Chairman Paul Tweten called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm. Board members present included Paul Tweten, John Fahlgren and Mary Armstrong.

Other attendees included Refuse District Manager Brian Austin, T&R Trucking Representative Rocky Thompson, Mark Arneson and Char Arneson.

Also present by telephone were Daniels County Commissioners Mikel Lund, Gary Linder and Lee Humbert; and Daniels County Clerk and Recorder Kristy Jones.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

<u>Approval of Minutes:</u> John Fahlgren moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting; Mary Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

<u>Approval of Claims:</u> Mary moved to approve claims as presented; John seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

<u>Discussion about accepting Daniels County solid waste</u>: Chairman Tweten asked Daniels County representatives to give the board their thoughts on their landfill issues and their request of Valley County Refuse District.

Daniels County Commissioner Lund explained that they have about two years left in their current landfill cell before it is full, assuming that they can do some leveling and compaction work in the cell. They have decided that they would like to send their Class II waste to the Valley County landfill if the Valley County Refuse District approves. He explained that they talked with Sheridan County but did not get a response from them, but they have not talked to Wolf Point. They feel that their best long-term solution is to send their waste to Valley County.

Chairman Tweten asked when they needed an answer. He explained that the Board is having an analysis done on the landfill, including fees required for long-term sustainability of the district, which will not be complete until late summer or fall. Chairman Tweten said he did not have a problem with taking it but does not know what cost would be at this point. John Fahlgren noted that it sounded like the analysis schedule would fit with their needs. Commission Lund said that it absolutely would fit with their timeframe.

Chairman Tweten explained the current rate is \$44.50 per ton for out of county waste but will go up by CPI in July.

Mary asked how much waste they generate and what type of waste, as well as the population of Daniels County. Commissioner Lund responded that, according to their engineer's estimate they generate

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about 1000 tons per year, but they do not have a scale. He said that they have between 1600 to 1700 people in Daniels County.

John Fahlgren moved to accept Daniels County waste contingent upon the space availability long-term and the recommended fee after our analysis is completed. Mary Armstrong seconded the motion.

Mary noted that the acceptance would include the amount and type of waste (household) that we will accept, and the expectation that the waste stream would not include tires.

The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lund advised that they are collecting a lot of tires and understand that we take tires. Refuse District Manager Brian Austin said that we currently take tires for \$200 per ton. Commissioner Lund said that he hoped that we could also accept Daniels County tires at the going rate at the time. Brian advised that they would be better to rent their own shredder because hauling to the landfill and paying the \$200/ton would be cost prohibitive. He explained that Valley County rents a shredder, but the costs are increasing. Commissioner Lund asked if they could potentially partner with Valley County and would appreciate any knowledge that Valley County could share with them. Brian commented that maybe Valley County can partner with Daniels County to lease the shredder for both locations at the appropriate time.

Daniels County officials thanked the Board and the Refuse District Manager for their support to Daniels County.

<u>Finance Report:</u> There was no finance report. Refuse District Manager Austin asked for clarification for what was expected of him to provide for financial report. Chairman Tweten said that he would like him to bring the receivables and the expenses and revenues report. He did supply the February tonnage report by container site versus 2022 report (attached).

T&R report: Rocky Thompson reported that business has been slower than usual for this time of year due to the cold weather. Some container sites are being plowed out to allow for container pickup and drop off.

<u>Manager's report</u>: Brian Austin reported that he was moving a lot of snow at the landfill due to snow and wind.

He advised that Engineer Barry Damschen just calculated the life of the landfill as about 150 years, up from 130 years last year. This was due to lower waste volumes than in past years.

Brian reviewed the design and operation of the landfill. He provided two layouts (attached). He explained that his crew is never filling just one cell, rather it's an open area fill. The cell layout is only for the leachate. Due to the impervious soil base, there is no cost to open a new cell at the landfill because there is no liner required. He also described how he would proceed to work through the landfill footprint over time. Brian also discussed the need to move shops and utilities as the landfill was filled. He noted that this is many years in the future, 50 to 60 years maybe more. He explained that we have dropped from 14,000 tons to 10,000 tons per year in the last few years. Engineer Barry Damschen believes that Valley County Landfill has the largest footprint in the State.

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Assessment update, discussion regarding the Corps of Engineers

Chairman Tweten advised the he talked with Darin McMurry, Army Corps of Engineers, about their refuse assessment. In order for the Corps to pay the assessment that is due based on the waste they generate, Darin needs a breakdown by Corps pick up spot so he can charge the assessment fees to the correct budget charge line. Rocky explained the process for picking up the Corps waste. He keeps track of all the pickups by site. He offered to supply the pickup information from last year. He said it would be a very accurate estimate of the trash that they generate. Rocky will drop off the information at the Commissioner's office.

<u>Fort Peck License No. DACW45-3-8032, renewal for Fort Peck cabin sites and Pines recreation area</u> container sites

Chairman Tweten advised that the Corps sent a renewal notice for the lease for the Pines recreation site. John Fahlgren moved to have the Commission Chair sign the renewal when it is received by the Commissioners. Mary seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Chairman Tweten asked Rocky Thompson if Daniels County be better off with just container sites to collect their waste for transfer to Glasgow. Rocky and Brian both said that it would be much better if they proceeded with their plan to build a transfer station.

Chairman Tweten advised that the Lustre community would like a solar light at the container site. Brian advised that the solar light he used at his house, which only lasted 6 months. Brian said that he would look locally and, on the internet, to see what is available.

Public comment

Char Arneson asked about the ability for Scobey to be able to do the work to extend the life of their landfill for two years at Daniels County. She does not know if they have the ability and equipment to get it done.

Mary moved to adjourn the meeting; John seconded; motion passed anonymously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Next meeting will be on April 18, 2023 at 3 pm..

Paul Tweten, Refuse Board Chairman

Attachments

Refuse Board\Refuse paperwork.pdf

FEBRUARY 2023

	TONNAGE	COST	TONNAGE	COST	TONNAGE
	2022	2022	2023	2023	SAVINGS
Fort Peck	13.84	\$1,248.80	16.46	\$1,348.40	-2.62
Frazer	5.51	\$883.40	6.23	\$893.13	-0.72
Glasgow	41.16	\$1,108.50	37.6	\$1,155.07	3.56
Hinsdale	15.08	\$2,227.55	16.65	\$1,960.70	-1.57
Larsian	1.81	\$387.20	1.77	\$199.37	0.04
Lustre	6.61	\$542.10	4.93	\$656.28	1.68
Nashua	12.96	\$1,629.00	18.69	\$1,722.47	-5.73
0pheim	5.95	\$1,099.20	6.95	\$1,138.69	-1.00
0swego	11.11	\$1,310.00	7.25	\$928.00	3.86
Pines	0	\$337.50	3.22	\$494.59	3.22
Richland	1.8	\$247.80	2.12	\$303.92	-0.32
St. Marie	9.07	\$1,912.40	9.82	\$1,407.80	-0.75
Tampico	7.24	\$524.30	9.34	\$669.49	-2.10
		\$13,457.75			



