

Valley County Refuse District #1 Board Meeting

Valley County Courthouse Community Room

May 16, 2023

**Call to Order:** Board Chairman Paul Tweten called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm. Board members present included Paul Tweten, John Fahlgren and Mary Armstrong.

Other attendees included Refuse District Manager Brian Austin and T&R Trucking representative Rocky Thompson.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

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

**Finance Report:** Brian provided the April financials and the April tonnage report by container site.

Capital Improvement fund: \$400,000

Unrestricted cash: \$338,810.20

Expenses YTD: \$1,069,491.81 (includes \$400,000 transfer to the capital improvement fund)

Revenues YTD: \$1,012,119.05

**T&R report:** Rocky Thompson advised that he is supporting the Frazer school cleanup and the Frazer container site cleanup this week. He is working with Wilfred Lambert, Fort Peck Tribe Enforcement, on container site issues at Frazer and Oswego. Mr. Lambert is talking with Norval about the potential for electricity to power lights and security system at the sites. Rocky also reported that the Town of Fort Peck is doing a cleanup around the Fort Peck Container site in exchange for porta potties at one of their events. He said that the Glasgow site has been very busy.

**Manager's report:** Brian said that they have been very busy at the landfill. They are receiving large quantities of demolition waste from MARCO. They may continue demolition next fall depending on budget availability.

Brian reported on the meeting he and Darcia Schindler had with the Fort Peck Tribe. Chairman Azure is very committed to getting the container sites on the reservation cleaned up. He would like to meet with the Commissioners. Brian will work with Tina Magana to set up a meeting between the Tribal Council and the Commissioners.

Brian also reported on his meeting with USACE Fort Peck Project manager Darin McMurry regarding the refuse assessments for USACE sites. The meeting included Darcia Schindler and Rocky Thompson. He explained the assessment process and billing pickup site data. Darin would like to meet with the Commissioners.

Brian provided bids from Torgersons and Case for the tractor. The low bid was \$56,250 net of the used tractor trade-in from Case. Brian will proceed with the purchase from Case.

**Discussion on Farmland:** Currently, Refuse District excess land is being farmed by Mark Knaff in return for weed control. Based on an opinion from County Attorney Dylan Jensen, the County needs to receive compensation for use of the land.

John moved to establish a lease rate from the existing rate for the airport and adjust accordingly for acreage and services provided to the Refuse District. Mary seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

**Assessment update:** Brian reported that Fort Peck will receive their annual refuse bill in May.

**Public comment:** There was no public comment.

John moved to adjourn the meeting; Mary seconded; motion passed anonymously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 pm.

Next meeting will be on June 20th at 3 pm.



Paul Tweten, Refuse Board Chairman