

Approved March 19, 2003

ACADIA DISPOSAL DISTRICT

Minutes of the meeting of February 19, 2003

Held at the offices of the Hancock County Planning Commission, Ellsworth

PRESENT: Bob Kates (Trenton), Beverly Sanborn (Cranberry Isles), Tony Smith (Mount Desert), Leon Yeaton (Pleasant Bay Management)

VISITORS: Scott Harper (Tremont), Sherry Churchill (HCPC), Ellen Brawley (MD), Gary Edwards (Downeast RC&D), Ron Smalley (Environ), Billy Andrews (Environ), Greg Louder, City of Ellsworth

Call to Order: 1:35 P.M. The group had previously toured the Ellsworth Transfer Station (TS) and Recycling Center (RC), hosted by Bruce Jalbert and Seth.

Approval of Minutes: Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2003 meeting.

Regular Business

1. Bob and Beverly each stated that they had received copies of the outstanding bills for monies due the League of Towns.
2. Tony said that Mount Desert is paying the ADD bills as they come up, and invoicing the other Towns. ADD can't have its own account until it legally exists.
3. a. In a discussion of impressions of the RC and TS as compared to the Pleasant River facility visited last month, Lee noted that the city has leased the transfer station to Pine Tree to run. Most of the city's MSW doesn't go through the transfer station but is disposed of directly by Waste Management, the contractor doing curbside pickup per Greg Louder.
b. Fish waste is accepted at the facility that causes a noticeable odor. This costs the City money to dispose of whereas Gott accepts and composts fish waste for profit.
c. It was pointed out that the facility is severely underutilized at this time, and could apparently easily handle any amount of waste generated by ADD. The TS has two compactors on site for MSW providing more efficient operation. When one is full, Pine Tree can be contacted to remove it and operations switch to the second one. It is assumed that when Pine Tree arrives on site to pick up the full roll-of container, they drop an empty one in its place, but the outgoing one is not always full)
d. Recyclables are collected on site but Cardboard OCC is processed elsewhere. Lee pointed out that Pleasant River processes their own as well as others that they have contracted for, a profitable arrangement for all concerned.

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e. The facility has one set of truck scales and, as with Pleasant River, has one-way traffic flow and is not open every day of the week. There is no need – there is a set volume that will come regardless of the days that a facility is open.

f. The operation is beginning to outgrow its footprint of available space, prompting minimal consideration by the City of the purchase of additional land.

g. The wood waste from the City is hauled to EMR for grinding and final disposal.

4. Lee distributed copies of a newspaper article entitled “Additional Funds Not Needed for Transfer Station”. This article stated that the Town of Addison did not have to appropriate funds for this year’s share of the Pleasant River TS’s costs due to the pay-as-you-throw system. The sale of the bags covered their costs. Lee also handed out information entitled “Why an Acadia Disposal District” as a reminder for all and, to include Ellsworth.

Review Interlocal Agreement

The committee discussed Lee’s suggestions for revisions to the draft document as submitted by Attorney Gilbert. The following motions were made:

Motion: (Kates, Sanborn) Change the wording on **page 4 A. Budget 1** to spell out that the Board is not obligated to change the budget to fit what they hear in a public hearing. (Unanimous)

Motion: (Kates, Sanborn) Change the wording on **page 5 C Fees**, to say that the formula should be based on the previous year **MSW** tonnage fees. (Unanimous)

Motion: (Sanborn, Kates) Change the wording on **page 6 A New Members 1**) to delete the 15 mile limitation and 2) so that new member will have to pay what would have been their share of all capital and start-up costs including any interest paid thereon. (Unanimous)

Motion: (Kates, Smith) **page 7 withdrawal** Delete the 3-year prohibition for withdrawal. (Unanimous)

Motion: (Kates, Sanborn) To vote to accept the Interlocal agreement subject to these amendments by an email/telephone poll. Tony will poll Beverly and Bob by February 26, 2003. (Unanimous)

P.R. It was agreed that the article by Laurie Schreiber of the Bar Harbor Times was very good. We should keep up a regular flow of information to the press.

Investigation of Transfer Station in an ADD Community

1. Park: Beverly spoke to Len Bobinchock of Acadia National Park (the Park). They are receptive to using the land, approximately 55 acres, they had allocated for that purpose. However, he pointed out that the neighborhood in Town Hill has become more populous, and we would need to get a consensus from Bar Harbor before proceeding.

2. Trenton: Bob hadn’t yet been able to get in touch with the selectmen, who were supposed to have discussed the issue.

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3. Mount Desert: Tony said Mount Desert was still on the table.
4. Scott stated that EMR was not built on old landfill.
5. Bob asked whether the buffer zone around the active area of a transfer station could be wetlands. It was agreed that it could subject to confirmation per State regulations.

Cardboard

Lee said that Pleasant Bay expects to make money on a contract accepting OCC from a commercial contractor who will pay \$50 / ton processing fee and take 50% of the proceeds. Mount Desert is still working towards an ordinance.

Ellsworth Participation

1. The City has a pay system utilizing red stickers on the bags. They appropriate approximately \$200,000 annually to supplement the revenue from the pay system.
2. There was a discussion with Greg Louder about Ellsworth's willingness to participate with ADD. He indicated that they are looking into their solid waste services, and have to make some decisions by July 1st. He didn't think it was likely they would sell the transfer station before that date. He said that if joining the ADD and/or selling the transfer station to ADD looked like a viable option for Ellsworth, they would consider it.
3. The City has not determined if their arrangement with Pine Tree is saving them money.
4. Tony will send a letter from ADD expressing our interest in having Ellsworth join the ADD and in exploring an ADD purchase of the transfer station.
5. It was decided to invite Greg to subsequent meetings.

Uniform Reporting System

Lee emphasized the importance of getting all the towns up to speed on the same reporting system. Tony stated that he would discuss the same with his Town Manager.

Hazardous Waste

Sherry suggested that if the Ellsworth transfer station is to be part of the ADD system, we might want to include a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) handling facility. The sum of \$900,000 is available from the state for HHW infrastructure. She said that doing HHW and Universal Waste together would not work because of different legal situations.

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In the ensuing discussion, there was considerable feeling that allowing a contractor (such as Environ) to handle hazardous wastes is a practical solution. Gary pointed out that communities need to know more about the real costs before they move into this sort of thing.

Next Meeting: 10:00 A.M., March 19th, 2003 at the Somesville Fire House.

Adjournment: 3:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen T. Brawley and Tony Smith