

DRAFT

**ACADIA DISPOSAL DISTRICT
Minutes of the meeting of May 10, 2002**

PRESENT: Beverly Sanborn (Cranberry Isles), Ellen Brawley (Mount Desert), Bob Kates (Trenton), Mike Chammings (Tremont), Chairman Tony Smith (Mount Desert), Sherry Churchill (HCPC)

Call to Order: 10:17 am at the Somesville Firehouse

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the May 1, 2002 minutes were approved as distributed.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

A. Solid waste services bids – discussion

Southwest Harbor voted at town meeting not to join the ADD.

Lee Yeaton had prepared a spreadsheet summarizing (as well as possible) the 7 bids received. (Two additional bids – from Lilac/Sunrise Disposal and from D.M.& J. Enterprises -- had been received in Tony's office prior to the opening, and due to an error, they were not opened at the last meeting.)

The scope of the bids from each contractor were quite different, so it is very difficult to compare them. For example, the "access fee" in the EMR bid appears in each section of the spreadsheet, though it would only be assessed once per town.

Tim Gott pointed out that "hand stops" are frequently subsidized by more lucrative dumpster pickups on the same route, and it is not clear how this would shake out in a municipal contract. He also wanted us all to take into consideration the convenience to homeowners of access to the EMR facility.

Lee Worcester of EMR asked the committee and the towns to take into account the consistent reliable performance of EMR over the years.

Tim Gott said out that the bidding process was difficult, because the ADD wasn't actually able to award the bids.

Tony Smith explained that this committee, a subcommittee of the League of Towns, is not able to award the bids, that each town's Board of Selectmen must make its own decision. The bidding process has enabled this committee to provide the towns with more information about possible options.

Lee Yeaton had a few more points to make: a second demo and bulky waste location on the island is now in the process of getting licensed, which may provide further options in the future.

When considering any bid involving taking the waste to Ellsworth, the towns must consider the handling costs due to Ellsworth: \$2.00 ton handling fee, plus the actual cost of transportation to PERC, probably about \$12.00. It was explained that the extra costs involved in contracting with Pine Tree to take the waste to Ellsworth rather than direct to PERC are probably because Pine Tree is currently operating the Ellsworth Transfer Station, and there would be additional handling costs.

Towns must consider the long range possibilities of making Ellsworth an ADD facility in a few years. This may not be possible if we do not start working with them now.

Tony suggested that each town representative should meet with Lee Yeaton to go through the figures presented.

Beverly said that for Cranberry Isles, a current contract with two years to run makes any change problematic. She also said that for her town, the biggest problem is the barging and the inability to get the trash off the island in bad weather.

Other general discussion with members of the public centered on the importance of level of service, and alternatives available to a homeowner if he doesn't like a contractor. It was agreed that once a town offers curbside MSW pickup, they can't go backward. A representative of Gott wondered what would happen to private homeowners with dumpsters if a town goes to curbside pickup. It was agreed that this would be an item for discussion during negotiations.

Tony Smith said that each member of this committee will attempt to present a fair and honest comparison of the options to the Board of Selectmen. This will include service, convenience and other considerations as well as price.

He agreed to send the spreadsheet to the bidders prior to the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:34

Next Meeting: Friday May 17th, 2002 at 10:00 am at the Somesville Firehouse

Respectfully submitted, Ellen T. Brawley