



Work Session Summary Minutes

O R E G O N

Solid Waste

May 8, 2025. 1:30 PM

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem
5th Floor, Suite 5232, Commissioners Board Room

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: Kevin Cameron, Colm Willis, and Danielle Bethell.

Board's Office: Trevor Lane, Chris Eppley, Heather Inyama, Toni Whitler, Matt Lawyer, and Alvin Klausen.

Legal Counsel: Scott Norris.

Public Works: Anderw Johnson, Brian May, Brian Nicholas, Dennis Mansfield, and Cory Swartwout.

Commissioner Danielle Bethell called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Lift Bed/Dump Trailer Discussion

- Analyzed financial implications of lift beds at Salem-Keizer Recycling & Transfer Station (SKRTS) and North Marion transfer stations.
- Identified revenue losses of approximately \$9.67 per ton over 460 pounds.
- Discovered 50% of customers are above minimum tonnage rates.
- Significant out-of-county lift bed reduction: 65% drop in out-of-county tons.
- Explored potential rate increases to offset financial losses.
- Discussed challenges of maintaining rural service while managing costs.
- Considered limiting lift beds at different transfer stations.

Bio Clean Franchise Application

- Presented franchise application for new medical waste treatment facility.
- Public hearing to be scheduled within 60 days of application receipt.
- Notifications will be sent to all franchise haulers.
- Preliminary discussions indicate hauler support for the application.
- Staff to draft comprehensive franchise agreement.
- Potential for processing medical and industrial waste.
- Focus on environmentally responsible waste management.

Household Hazardous Waste Discussion

- Reviewed contract for household hazardous waste services.
- Proposed budget of \$275,000 with partial cost recovery.
- Reimbursements expected from Polk County and county events.
- Discussed importance of preventing environmental contamination.
- Highlighted service's role in responsible waste disposal.
- Noted most counties do not provide similar comprehensive services.

- Recommended three-year contract with extension options.

The Campbell's Company Request

- Explored medical waste incineration initiative.
- Proposed sending 42 tons monthly to Spokane facility.
- Discussed "offset tons" approach to waste management.
- Examined transportation efficiency and environmental considerations.
- Potential for additional customers from Portland metro area.
- Highlighted challenges of long-distance waste transportation.
- Discussed carbon footprint implications.

Next Steps

- Develop comprehensive financial analysis for transfer stations.
- Prepare detailed rate increase proposals.
- Schedule Bio Clean franchise public hearing.
- Investigate water rights from Covanta facility.
- Explore the potential well water acquisition.
- Conduct public education campaign on waste management costs.
- Review legislative impacts on waste management.
- Assess flow control regulations.
- Ongoing discussions about legislative challenges to flow control.
- Continued focus on balancing financial sustainability with public service.
- Commitment to transparent decision-making process.
- Emphasis on environmental responsibility and cost-effective waste management.

Adjourned – time: 2:56 p.m.

Minutes by: Mary Vityukova

Reviewed by: Gary L. White