

**Blue Hill/Surry Transfer Station
Solid Waste Committee Meeting
Tuesday, April 23rd, 2024
Minutes**

Called Meeting to Order at 4:01pm

1. **Quorum and Meeting Attendance** – S. Miller (BH – Chair), M. Allen (S), E. Best (BH), C. Stark (S), T. Welgoss (S – via online), J. Wootten (BH), J. Atwell (BH Town Administrator), M Rockwell (BH Treasurer), D. Soper (TS Manager).
2. **Approval of Minutes for March 26 and April 3rd** – E. Best moved to approve the minutes from March 26th; M. Allen seconded. Vote: 4/0/2. E. Best moved to approve the minutes from April 3rd; M. Allen seconded. Vote: 5/0/1.
3. **Public Comment** – No public comment.

Business

1. **Transfer Station Manager update (D. Soper)** – BDS Tires charge \$4 for regular tires, \$20 for tires that are bigger than 19 ½”, and \$100 for loader/skidder tires. Soper would like the website updated to reflect our fees will be \$6 for regular tires, \$25 for tires bigger than 19 ½” and \$150 for loader/skidder tires. There was a discussion about signage and the committee decided not to purchase more signage. J. Atwell will get the website updated for Blue Hill. E. Best moved to update the fee schedule for tires; accordingly, C. Stark seconded. Vote: 6/0 Approved.

Field Burning – Soper would like to have the field burned versus mowing. The Committee suggested contacting Woodward & Curran to verify this is acceptable. Randy Redman used to mow the field with his tractor, so he would be a good point of contact should burning not be an option.

Copia has started on the retainer wall and handrails project. Gaspar wants more money for the roof project as it is bigger than he first thought. The Committee denied this request.

Josh Meserve is back swapping cans for DM&J. Due to the trouble that has transpired, Soper would like to request a different driver.

2. **Review of 2024 Revenues/Expenses (Atwell/Rockwell)** – The Committee would like the percent of budget used listed on the revenue and expense reports. Also, some expense lines were utilized prior to accounts being entered and need updates. The Committee requested the Treasurer get updated financials with these changes within the week.
3. **Update on Insurance Coverage/Claim Status (Atwell/Best/Welgoss)** – MMA claims that we have no coverage. There is some confusion as to whether or not the incident with an employee and a vendor is covered under the MMA liability insurance. T. Welgoss stated that the employee may not be covered under our policy, but the transfer station should be. There was discussion about how the current coverage protected the town of Surry. S. Miller has the town’s attorney coming in on the 30th and will raise the questions with her and report back to the Committee. He would like to pay DM&J. It was asked if anyone has apologized to Josh Meserve and a comment was made that Worker’s Comp could come after the Transfer Station as well. The Committee would like to pay DM&J

but will check with the attorney first. J. Atwell will reach out to the employment attorney. Our employee was charged, or the alternate party is pursuing an assault charge. The Committee wants to officially terminate our employee.

4. **Penobscot Peninsula MSW Collaboration Effort** – The next meeting is in Deer Isle on Friday May 4th. The discussion should focus on prioritizing issues facing the various municipalities (i.e. transport fees) and information sharing. There are a lot of different agendas (such as bolstering PERC and putting down the Hampden facility). The driving issues are costs, recycling, and communication of information. Eco Maine offered no communication concerning their inability to process recycling. D. Soper will reach out to Eco Maine and introduce himself. The Committee would like to instruct DM&J to take all of our waste to the landfill if Eco Maine is not running so as to save money on transport.
5. **Other Business** – S. Miller asked M. Allen if she would like to take over the Solid Waste Committee Chair seat. She agreed. S. Miller will declare a quorum at the May 28th meeting and then declare M. Allen as the chair.

Transfer Station Stickers – The Committee discussed limiting two per household. And charging \$6/bag to non-residents.

Performance Review for D. Soper – M. Allen, E. Best, and J. Atwell will meet to review D. Soper's performance.

Adjournment

E. Best moved to adjourn at 5:15pm; M. Allen seconded. Vote: 6/0 Approved.