



## Kittitas County Solid Waste Programs

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### Study Session Minutes

March 12, 2009

**Those Present:** Paul Jewell, Mark McClain, Patti Johnson, Lisa Lawrence and Michael Carpenter

**\*\*Solid Waste Update:** The board was presented with a period end production analysis report. This report shows the different commodities accepted at the Counties facilities. In February the Transfer Stations received 2069.99 tons of garbage and serviced 5,923 customers. Patti informed the board garbage was down about 10%. Patti stated that CDL and Septage were still down due to the economy. Discussion about budget issues included solid waste cutting office supplies, travel and training and not filling a position that is open. Patti stated that even though Solid Waste isn't part of the general fund that it's important to treat everyone the same and for everyone to try to do their part. In addition, the department is still sharing a position with Public Works two days a week.

**Board Direction:** None

**\*\*Compost Facility Update:** Patti informed the board that the bid opening for the second phase of the compost facility will be tomorrow. She stated that they were postponed from the 6<sup>th</sup> for redesign to try to save money because it appears the project will be approximately \$200,000.00 over budget due to the rise of asphalt prices since the grant application two years ago. Patti said Solid Waste has the cash on hand to complete the project.

Patti presented the board with the two bids that were received for a compost turner. Patti stated that one Company did not bid the water tank. Patti felt it would be better to purchase the equipment as a unit rather than having two pieces of equipment from different vendors, especially with maintenance issues. There was discussion about the benefits of the water tank including odor control. Patti asked the board for direction on purchasing the compost turner with the water system. Stating that if purchased together it would be \$5,000.00 over budget but that the tractor purchase was under budget.

**Board Direction:** The board voted 2-0 to purchase the equipment as a unit.

**\*\*Transfer Station Operations:** Patti gave the board an update on Transfer Stations Operations stating that the contract expires in June of 2010 and that it takes about 6 months to negotiate therefore planning on going out to bid in June of this year with two options 1) County takes over the tipping floor and contract for the haul only. 2) Contract out for both. Patti told the board the terms are usually 5 years and that we needed to start thinking about options in the near future.

**Board Direction:** None

**\*\*Other:** WSU Extension Master Garden Program

Patti presented the board with an idea for Solid Waste to fund this program.

**Board Direction:** Talk with Tip and provide an update by 2:00pm

**\*\*Maintenance Department:**

**Public Health Building roof leaks** – Michael informed the board that there is substantial damage to the roof and that the repairs done in house to date cost around \$600.00 plus labor. He stated that eventually the building will need a new roof estimated at about \$100,000.00. In addition, repairs will need to be done in the nurses' exam rooms and downstairs due to the roof leak approximate cost needed for materials is \$1,000.00.

**Board Direction: Patch for now but need to look at other alternatives**

**Lighting improvements at Courthouse and Permit Center** – Michael informed the board that he is getting bids for electrical services to upgrade and replace the old style switches to improve efficiency in the buildings. Light switches don't exist in the permit center for many of the lights and upgrading the electrical would allow lights to be turned off and would be a cost savings in utilities.

There was discussion regarding savings in utilities if the County opted for a short work week. Michael stated that they would see very little savings but added that with investments and controls in place the savings would increase. The question if REET money would be available for implementing better control systems. Mark stated he would talk with Judy. Michael told the board he met with the City of Ellensburg about a rebate program that is available.

**Board Direction: Have a preliminary draft of daily utility cost by building submitted by 2pm. Put together packages for the Courthouse and the permit center reflecting the savings if investments and control systems were implemented.**

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Patti Johnson, Director  
Solid Waste