



RSC 12 Waste Management Committee

Meeting of March 11, 2015

650 Main Street, Woodstock

Attendance:

Eugene Anderson (Chair)
Jim Kennedy
Keith Helmuth
Luc Marcoux
Joe Weston
Jo-Anne Lockhart (Executive Director)

Absent:

Leonard Foster

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6.30 p.m. by the Chair.

Agenda: It was moved by Jim Kennedy and seconded by Luc Marcoux that the agenda be adopted.

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: It was moved by Jim Kennedy and seconded by Joe Weston that the minutes of the January 13, 2015 Finance Committee be adopted.

Motion carried.

Conflict of Interest Declaration: None

Business Arising:

- **Transfer Station Contract Update**
 - Jim Kennedy gave an update on the status of the Transfer Station contract which expired on December 31, 2014. The contract is in the negotiation stage and should be finalized by March 31, 2015. The proposed term of the contract is 7 years, with a 3 year renewable clause. Issues to be addressed in the new contract are: a) a fuel adjustment to avoid large fuel price changes; b) removal of the performance bond requirement in favour of a Letter of Credit; c) level of insurance required to limit risk for the Commission in the event of an environmental mishap.



RSC 12 Waste Management Committee

Meeting of March 11, 2015

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New Business:

- **Big Blue Ad**

- Jo-Anne Lockhart notified the members of the successful newspaper article and ad about Big Blue which resulted in 4 potential sites: Knights of Columbus Hall (who have since withdrawn), Dimock property on Chapel Street, former Save Easy property on Houlton Road and Keenan property on Heller Road. Peter Morin is investigating the three remaining sites and bins should be in place soon.
- Luc Macroux stated the Superstore bin location is often a mess with litter around the bin. Jo-Anne Lockhart responded there are a lot of calls to the RSC office which are re-directed to Bellis. Jo-Anne Lockhart explained Bellis' collection staff monitors the bins on a regular basis and should be picking up when full. If the bins are full the telephone number for both Bellis and the RSC office are on the side of the bins.
- Keith Helmuth shared his experiment with a full bin; he used a broom to push down the waste and opened up more room. It is agreed this may not be a practical solution because not everyone has a broom in their vehicle. However, it was suggested someone from Bellis could tamp down the bins so more goods could be added (checked with Bellis and they do tamp down the bins with a special tool).
- Jim Kennedy pointed out the bins had been remodeled from a system with hinged doors. The hinges would constantly break and it was difficult for some people to hold open the door to the bin and put their goods in the container at the same time.
- Keith Helmuth asked if the new locations still needed to be decided on. Jo-Anne Lockhart replied the Dimock and Houlton Road properties were close to agreement. Jim Kennedy gave a brief history of the Save Easy property and stated Brian Hayden, who is the realtor for the property has arranged with the owner for the RSC to locate a bin there.
- There was general agreement the new bin locations would take pressure off of the Superstore location. Jim Kennedy stated a curbside recycling project was undertaken in the early 1990's for a year; then the provincial funding was removed and it was abandoned.
- Jo-Anne Lockhart handed out a newspaper article about Miramichi's curbside recycling programme which will be effective September 2015. Jim Kennedy asked what method they were using for pickup and Jo-Anne Lockhart replied small blue bins. Luc Macroux asked about whether the



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cost of recycling is extremely high and Jo-Anne Lockhart stated costs are continually decreasing. Jim Kennedy wanted to know how they convinced their citizens to agree. Eugene Anderson stated one of the sore points with recycling in Nova Scotia was garbage pick-up every other week which resulted in unpleasant smells in the hot weather. Eugene Anderson stated the biggest stumbling block in RSC12 is the population does not generate enough volume.

- **Blue Bins Painting & Signage**

- Jo-Anne Lockhart informed the Committee Jim Kennedy had noticed some of the bins need a paint job. Jo-Anne Lockhart stated Peter Morin has been informed and the painting will be done as the bins are brought into his facility. At the same time the new signage for Western Valley Regional Service Commission will be completed.

- **Used Blue Bins**

- Jo-Anne Lockhart stated because of Miramichi's curbside programme, used blue bins are available to purchase. There were 20 available and the cost is thought to be about \$5,000 each. Discussion ensued as to the refurbishment requirements and transportation costs which would be incurred. Jo-Anne Lockhart was asked to confirm the cost and how they unload the bins because Peter Morin may not know. Nearest bin of this type is in Boiestown. Eugene Anderson will check out the bins next month when he is in the area. Luc Marcoux asked if extra bins were needed and Jo-Anne Lockhart replied there are some communities that do not have bins. More bins should encourage more recycling.
- Jim Kennedy mentioned the successful pilot with a blue bin in North Lake last summer which started in June. Hopefully the start date can be earlier this year.

- **Education and Marketing Facilitator**

- Jo-Anne Lockhart shared an outline prepared for an Education and Marketing Facilitator to work in the Waste Management programme at WVRSC. This idea is only at the preliminary stage, but the Commission would like to bring back the level of service given to education and promotion by Solid Valley Waste Commission. We do not currently have budgeted dollars for this position. Jo-Anne Lockhart shared her visit to the Crane Mountain education centre a few weeks ago and how interesting and informative it was.



RSC 12 Waste Management Committee

Meeting of March 11, 2015

650 Main Street, Woodstock

- Jo-Anne Lockhart asked for suggestions regarding the position and if anyone had any ideas about someone who would be suitable for this position, a volunteer would be wonderful.
- Jim Kennedy stated WVRSC, due to limited resources, have not been able to continue with the prior level of the Valley Solid Waste Commission. Other communities such as Saint John did not drop the ball, but they have a lot of permanent staff because they have a landfill and a higher population. Jim Kennedy stated it will take some time to educate the Board about these types of activities; however, the Board would support this initiative if the Committee is in agreement.
- Luc Macroux suggested this position could include communications.
- **New Schools Recycling Needs**
 - Jo-Anne Lockhart will approach the new schools in the Woodstock area to see what their recycling needs are. Jim Kennedy stated every class originally received a blue bin and a container for recyclable bottles was placed in the cafeteria. Jo-Anne Lockhart stated it might help to solidify the new education position once the school needs are known.
- **2014 Waste Tonnages**
 - Jo-Anne Lockhart passed around a 2013 and a 2014 spreadsheet showing the waste tonnage amounts and allocation to each landfill site – Northwest and Southwest.
 - Jo-Anne Lockhart asked if the members would like to receive these spreadsheets on a regular basis. The members agreed it would be useful information to have at the meetings.
- **Bio-waste Proposal**
 - Jo-Anne Lockhart told the Committee about a visit received from Ken Neilson and his proposal is to develop a pilot zero landfill facility (bio-waste) in the Woodstock area. Jo-Anne Lockhart shared the technology is coming from Edmonton where the diversion target is 90%. Real intent is to sell the technology to other provinces and countries. Ron Neilson is also looking at Miramichi as a pilot location.
 - It was agreed once Ron Neilson has his proposal ready the Committee would like a presentation. Jo-Anne Lockhart pointed out this is not a solution just for RSC12, but for the whole province. Jo-Anne Lockhart explained garbage tonnage was not a real problem because a lot of other materials can be input into the system such as wood.



RSC 12 Waste Management Committee

Meeting of March 11, 2015

650 Main Street, Woodstock

• **Promotion**

- Jo-Anne Lockhart handed out a number of printed items related to ads for Earth Day and Enviro Week run last year, and asked the members to review and come up with some new ideas.
- Jo-Anne Lockhart provided the members with a letter from the Hartland Trade show asking if the Committee would like to participate May 1 to 3 this year. There was discussion about the value of the show and perhaps it should not be limited to only the Waste portion of the RSC's business. It was pointed out hand-out materials would have to be updated with the WVRSC logo. Jim Kennedy stated the materials would be fine with the existing logo; it is the message which is important.
- Jim Kennedy stated in the past they hired a university student to man the booth. Luc Macroux stated he would be away the weekend of the trade show, but he knew someone who would probably be willing to work at the show and will contact this person. The members were asked to volunteer their time at the show and/or suggest suitable people who could help out. Jim Kennedy suggested members of the former Solid Valley Waste Commission might be available and would be a very valuable resource.
- It was agreed the Hartland Trade Show would be a worthwhile educational investment and Jo-Anne Lockhart will contact the organizer for an inside booth.
- Spring Clean-up handout from Dalhousie was passed around. Jim Kennedy informed Peter Morin has two clean-up days for the LSDs.
- There was discussion about the use of newspaper ads as an effective communication tool given the current technology environment. Luc Macroux suggested it might be more effective to develop posters for the show instead of using newspaper ads.
- Jo-Anne Lockhart informed one of best promotional tools is the RSC website; however, the information in the Waste section may be out of date and need to be updated. A lot of children would use this site for school projects. Jim Kennedy mentioned in the past a lot of hits occur in September when school reconvenes (200/day).
- There was discussion about the battery recycling programme. The agreements with the locations need to be reviewed. Jo-Anne Lockhart suggested a Committee member go to the battery recycling sites and ask if the programme is effective. Jim Kennedy pointed out retail sites where you buy batteries would be preferable. Jim Kennedy explained as a



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store owner how the battery recycling programme works; you tape the box and take it to the post office (prepaid); then you receive a new box when the company gets the filled box.

Next Meeting – Wednesday May 13, 2015 at the Woodstock office, 6.30 p.m.

In Camera Session: None

It was moved by Luc Macroux to adjourn the meeting at 8.00 p.m.

X


Jim Kennedy for Eugene Anderson, Chair