

MANAGING BOARD MEETING
LOPEZ SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT
Wednesday October 20, 2021

Approved 11/17/2021

ZOOM MEDIA MEETING

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Board members present: Rhea Miller, Clay Smith, Ross MacDonald, Pam Stewart, Larry Bailey, Cynthia Smith, Gene Helfman. Others present: District Manager Rick Carr; Facility Manager David Zapalac; TEO Coordinator Nikyta Palmisani ; SWAP Chair Kim Norton ; Public: Tam Paynter, Katherine Sorensen, Chyanne Escalante, Tracey Cottingham, Dan Post.

Larry called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM and Welcomed Cyndi Smith officially as a new board member.

Rhea Miller moved to approve the minutes of the Sept 15, 2021 Board meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

STATUS REPORTS:

Finance. Rick reviewed the August financials.

Budget- LSWDD was 31.7% above budgeted revenues for Sept (13% m/m improvement) YTD LSWDD was 32.3%% above budgeted revenues (equal to Aug YTD) Expenditures roughly equaled budget for the month of September, 33.9% over budget YTD. LSWDD generated net income of positive \$6,574 in September and showed a YTD income deficit of -\$2,827, which is an improvement of \$6,572 since August.

Investments- We have \$247,443 in investments.

Cash on hand- At the end of September 2021, LSWDD had \$45,000 in its cash account; \$292,443 total.

Quarter over quarter we're seeing increased growth and utilization of the facility, justifying expansion of the facility.

Claims and Payroll -LSWDD Claims 21034, 21035, 21036 and Sept Payroll claims are attached in the packet. Rhea moved approval of claims. Approved unanimously.

Larry: asked for clarification that we are negative in operations about \$3K.
Ric: increased fee structure should cover for that by year end. Caused by covid-related increased staffing.

Solid Waste Alternatives Project (SWAP). Kim Norton reported: SWAP board members present: Tam, Chyanne, Katherine.. Calendars are still being printed. Tracey will run intro to surging classes but we need more workers. Signs are up on the island for Levy. Waiting for the Remakery grant. We have paid Remakery rent through December.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC). SWAC did not meet. No word from Kendra as to when next meeting will occur.

STAFF REPORTS:

Facility Manager. David reported: ongoing: unknowns w.r.t. trucking and shipping. The 3 boat schedule increases time drivers spend (1-2 extra hours) which will increase our costs. We have hired Jessica Deckwa as an Operations Assistant and she will begin training this week.

Larry: should we continue with staying open on Mondays. David: Yes, year 'round because of increased numbers. We now average 40 cars/hr, greater than the calculated 35 per hour for safe operations. Without Monday, we'd be at 55 cars/hr which is too many for safe operations.

Clay: Is TIOLI operating effectively and as designed?

David: Friday busy at TIOLI pick up and Sunday Monday busiest overall; Saturday the slowest. We can re-assign personnel to adjust for the differences.

Nikyta: previous to this month we get 60-100 people within the first hour on Friday, creates a crunch. Slows down later in the day.

David: Any other schedule would cause confusion. Parking is always an issue when crowds show up.

Rhea: would like to have a discussion on making TIOLI more available. The revised Fri/Sat—Sun/Mon schedule may limit some users, making TIOLI less of a valuable resource to the community.

Nikyta: from operations perspective, we're having less volunteer burn-out with the new schedule. Makes for a cleaner site, and eliminates waste.

[Katherine: new schedule makes clothing more manageable. We're getting higher quality materials with the reservation process, before we got worthless material].

David: it may be that post-Covid we can think about re-scheduling. Separation of shopping and intake is more convenient and safer for us. We've thrown away 1600 lbs of clothing recently: the operation has been outgrown by the increased population.

Larry: **let's refer this to the Operations Committee and report back to the board for next meeting (Gene, Clay). We should schedule a meeting with the TIOLI staff.** [post-script: events since the meeting led Larry to suggest we hold off on this meeting]

David: the state is considering a grant to the county and we should receive something from it, but we have no specifics. Funds would apply to engineering study for the site expansion, with money dispersed over two years to start this process. Timing is biennial so would be retroactive to July of this year. See Nikyta's report for details.

Pam: we would have 18 months, not 24 to spend any funds, i.e. for hiring a consultant.

SAFETY.

GENERAL OPERATIONS/ONGOING ISSUES. Volumes increasing overall; we're getting more for metals from Recycle Dogs.

CUSTOMER/VOLUNTEER FEEDBACK.

District Manager. Rick reported: Still working on RFQ for developing future Expanded Site Master Plan

TEOC. Nikyta reported:

Training/Volunteers: Thanks to Cyndi Smith for doing data, Nick Teague for doing GICU; we had 59 volunteers which is 60% of the county's volunteer rate.

Larry: Please walk through volunteer analysis. We were 59% unfilled last month. Are there serious issues that need to be addressed? Nikyta: We had an email lapse requesting volunteers last month leading to lower volunteerism. That's been corrected and we need to rely on short-term notification as many people can't schedule far in advance. We need to

adjust the way the metrics are measured to reflect actual volunteer activities.

Cyndi: GICU is growing and LSWDD may need to be more involved, particularly with road clean-up. Now it comes through the county.

Larry/David: it's outside of our site. Larry/Nikyta: Public works and DOE are the authorities with help from Plastic Free Salish Sea and BLM (for liability) volunteers (with DOE grant). Maybe Transitions Lopez could take it on but we can't because of our charter.

OLD BUSINESS:

DOE Grant /Remakery. Nikyta reported:

Rhea: Remakery a success and is wanted. But does it fit in our priorities? Are our projects that previously were funded by SWAP now being affected? Who pays for the garbage dumped by the Remakery? How does the Remakery fit in our budget?

Larry: is the community supporting the Remakery financially? Total so far from SWAP is \$1900; how can we get more from the community so LSWDD is not paying as much?

David: what are the responsibilities of the Maker in Residence and how does this affect the waste stream?

Nikyta: Loss of revenues—1800 lbs diverted thru Remakery is number for first 5 months. That underestimates actual amount. Actual output of garbage is small, generates less than 5 gallons of garbage weekly from food and containers. Textile scraps get re-used. Makers in residence do a lot of the diversion. With the pandemic-affected changes in the recycling stream and breaks in the supply stream, things are changing because we have fewer opportunities for diversion.

Are we falling short of our expected 60% volunteerism; we are losing through ageing out and moving away. Remakery is engaging new elements of the community. \$50K start up paid for early labor costs. We've yet to receive another \$20K retroactive to July 1. So far costs to District is zero except Nikyta's hours which are divided between TIOLI and Remakery, with some overlap to increase efficiency (actual cost is 7 hrs/wk salary).

Strategic Planning. Pam, Ross & Rick: RFQ still under development, nor have we heard about the Baler Shed request. With Mark Ingman leaving, everything is on hold.

2022 Levy. Larry: SWAP has done their work. Now we just wait for the election.

NEW BUSINESS:

2022 Budget. Ric: working with David and Clark gathering information taking into account labor cost increases. Met with David and will meet again with Clark; good numbers will be available within 10 days, before the November meeting, after reviewed by Admin and Finance committee. May require a special board meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS- (RCW 42.30.110(1)g)

At 1439, Larry announced we would go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Issues and that the adjoining Public Meeting would resume at 1445. Everyone but Board members were asked to exit Zoom and reconnect at 1445 if they want to. No one said they would reconnect. The meeting was then adjourned, the Executive Session was held and the Public Meeting reconvened at 1457. No further action was taken.

In attendance at the reconvened Board meeting were the Board members, except Clay, with Nikyta and Kim in attendance.

IDEA POT:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT :

Tracey Cottingham: Remakery is forward thinking as it inspires folks to remove things from the future waste stream. Board should consider to keep Remakery open for two years. Covid complicates teaching in a small space. Things should improve.

Dan Post; Recycle Dogs do a wonderful job, especially getting tires off of rims, largely as a result of efforts by Lynn Sorenson.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:57 pm. The next meeting will be another ZOOM EVENT on Nov 17, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Helfman, Secretary

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