

MANAGING BOARD MEETING
LOPEZ SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT
Wednesday, May 20, 2020

Approved (6 /17/ 2020)

ZOOM MEDIA MEETING

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Board members present: Gene Helfman, Clark Johnson, Rhea Miller, Clay Smith, and Larry Bailey. Others present: District Manager Laurie Bullock; Facility Manager David Zapalac; TEO Coordinator Nikyta Palmisani; and guest Dan Post. Clark called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM, noting no changes to the agenda.

Gene moved to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2019 Board meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

STATUS REPORTS:

Finance. Laurie reviewed the April financials.

We were 7.4% above budgeted revenues for April, 3.9% above budgeted revenues YTD.

Expenditures were 9.2% under budget for the month of April, 10.1% under budget YTD.

Investments-We have \$230,000 in investments.

Cash on hand-On April 30,2020, we had \$69,363 in our cash account.

Claims and Payroll -LSWDD Claims 20016-20 and April Payroll were approved for payment.Laurie will circulate claims for electronic signature.

2020 Beginning Cash Balance-The SJC Auditor advises our budget estimate was lower than the actual amount, so we have an additional \$27,280 in our 2020 budget. We budgeted \$239,457 for 2020. Our actual beginning cash balance was \$266,737.

Solid Waste Alternatives Project (SWAP).

Swap officers will meet with the bank to set up an account for Venmo/PayPal.SWAP received a \$1500.00 grant from the Thrift Shop to help fund Dump site improvement and has \$1150.00 ready for whatever LSWDD decides would make the site better. This includes equipment.

Farmers' Market – Although the Saturday markets have begun, SWAP is not a part of it, as only essential commodities are involved at this time. SWAP is renting a storage facility on Dill Road and has moved most of its things there.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC). SWAC met via conference call on May 14. and discussed pending legislation which would repeal labeling symbols on plastic items

STAFF REPORTS:

Facility Manager.

SAFETY.

A pump type hand washing sink was purchased for the LSWDD site by the County Solid Waste Administrator for staff and volunteers to use.

Lopez Recovers has provided a dispenser with their handmade paper flu masks for the customers to use in the Recycle Plaza.

On April 28th three LSWDD staff volunteered to be tested for Covid-19 as part of a free county testing program for essential workers who were asymptomatic. Two hundred tests were administered throughout the county and all came back negative.

OPERATIONS/ONGOING ISSUES.

Operations have continued without volunteers as customer counts begin to increase due to heavy occupancy of second homes. Sundays are still the busiest day by far and the Sunday operations team has begun to rely on a third staff being on site from 1 to 3:30 p.m. during the peak traffic period.

The annual Drop Box Report and Storm Water Report have been filed with the Dept. of Ecology.

Our operating certificate with the County Health Department has also been renewed.

David has begun talking with the Lopez Community Center about co-hosting a Swap Meet and Flea Market outdoor event at the Center for islanders to provide relief for reopening TIOLI. The event would be a free to islanders needing to get rid of items that they have been saving for TIOLI.

Laurie and David met by Zoom with Eric and Nikyta to discuss strategies and ideas for reopening the mall. It was agreed that a transitional phase of reopening would be needed to avoid an unmanageable situation.

It was also agreed that a full reopening would not occur until Phase Three of the Covid-19 Recovery Plan was implemented by the County.

The new Household Hazardous Waste roundup date will be September 27.

Summer hours are set to begin the Friday after Memorial Day. Some recycle volunteers who are not within the high risk group for Covid-19 will be asked to return for shifts during peak business times.

District Manager. Laurie again expressed a HUGE THANK YOU! to all staff for their hard work and flexibility as we adjusted work schedules and workloads while continuing to be professional, thoughtful and helpful. The Board agreed unanimously.

Bringing volunteers back to the recycle plaza. Laurie spoke with Mark Tompkins (SJC Health & Community Services Director) about how and when to bring back volunteers. He felt that if our volunteers help support essential services, we can consider bringing them back anytime. So long as we have the proper policies and procedures in place.

TIOLI reopening. Laurie reviewed issues discussed at staff meetings on reopening and recommended we not reopen until we are well into Phase 3 and that we think about limiting capacity. Discussions are ongoing.

IT Support Review. There is a level of work and use of equipment that happens outside the kiosk/onsite and outside regular operating hours that is not covered by LSWDD's contact with Bill Clemes (Jones Bay Co.) for IT support. The office printer and administrative work that is mostly generated by Nikyta and Laurie are also outside the scope of Bill's contract. Both Nikyta and Laurie use their personal computers to complete LSWDD work, as do David and Gary to a much lesser extent. Laurie would like LSWDD to consider providing a technology stipend for those workers who are using their own equipment. She would also like to talk to Bill about expanding his support to the other services we use as well as create organization standards for file management, document creation and data sharing beyond the core Kiosk/Lissy related functions. Laurie will study this further and get back to the Board on this issue.

Administrator. The monthly report has not yet been received from Skagit Recycling

TEOC. Training/Volunteers: They are all staying home, and staying safe.
Education: Pivot to ZOOM

--Recycled Arts on Tues/Thurs at 2 pm. It helps support zero waste education and give parents a break from sudden homeschooling,

Attendance: average 3-kids, sometimes as many as 8-10.

--Plastics Free Salish Sea working group is still meeting via Zoom and working on how to stop the county from rescinding the plastic bag ban.

--Sent out Spring Newsletter.

--Published Great Islands Clean Up article in Islands Weekly and on social media.

--Much work on site signage and education continues.

New Online Events:

--Recycled Craft Time: this is a 4 session class for kids designed to make a puppet show and stage through Zoom using only easily acquired recycled materials and simple art supplies. Participating kids are loving it!

--Creative Visions Salon: to create an online salon of education, learning and discussion of waste and recycling, and then to use the arts to make work for the Sept 2020 Creative Visions Art Show at the Lopez Library.

OLD BUSINESS: All items deferred.

NEW BUSINESS :

November Levy and 2021 Budget.

After discussion, it was agreed that, given the Covid-19 shutdown and resulting economic fallout, it was not possible to do a budget plan at this time or any detailed analysis of revising our annual tax levy needs.

Accordingly, it moved and unanimously passed as follows:

RESOLVED THAT THE 2021 SAN JUAN COUNTY TAX LEVY AMOUNT FOR LSWDD SHALL REMAIN AT \$105,000.

Financial support for lower income individuals.

Concern was expressed for Lopezians suffering financially who cannot pay the cost of dumping their garbage. After discussion, it was decided to confer further with the Family Resource Center.

IDEA POT: None

PUBLIC COMMENT : Dan Post commented that: 1. Skagit Recycling is seeing great traffic flows and he saw a Lopez resident refused use of the facility. 2. Support for lower income Lopezians--he believes this should be left to the Family Resource Center to manage. 3. The amount of garbage dumped at the LSWDD continues to steadily increase with resulting increase in revenues.

2020 Wa State Recycler of the Year:

THE LSWDD RECYCLE DOGS WON !

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm. The next meeting will be another ZOOM EVENT on June 17, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Bailey, Secretary

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