

MANAGING BOARD MEETING

**LOPEZ SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT Wednesday
November 17, 2021**

Approved 12/15/2021

ZOOM MEDIA MEETING

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Board members present: Rhea Miller, 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: Katherine Sorensen.

Larry called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM

Minutes of the Oct 20, 2021 Board meeting approved unanimously.

STATUS REPORTS:

Finance. Rick reviewed the October financials. LSWDD was 6.2% above budgeted revenues for October. YTD LSWDD was 28.4% above budgeted revenues. LSWDD generated net income of positive \$26,723 in October and showed a YTD income of \$23,896. Both of these percentages are higher than expected, based on October influx of Levy funds (\$25K) and payment timing of fuel and transportation costs. November's report should show a lower monthly and YTD surplus. Rhea moved to accept.

Pam: where are the investments? Ric: sit with San Juan County, otherwise details unclear.

Investments- We have \$249,866 in investments. [secretary note: this is an increase of \$2,423]

Cash on hand- At the end of October 2021, LSWDD had \$45,000 in its cash account; \$294,866 total.

Claims and Payroll -Claims requiring board signature include:

- LSWDD Claim 21037 ○ LSWDD Claim 21038 ○ LSWDD Claim 21039 ○ October Payroll Claim . Claims will need **digital signatures** (via Adobe Sign).

Solid Waste Alternatives Project (SWAP). Kim Norton reported: SWAP board members present: Katherine Sorenson. Meeting won't happen until this evening when SWAP will meet. Will discuss ReMakery then. Kim will be leaving SWAP in December. Her service is greatly appreciated.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC). SWAC met yesterday. State wide plastic bag ban went into effect October, supercedes county ban. 8 cent charge to purchase paper bag. Single use service wear ban to come. Other bans (e.g Styrofoam, soup containers, trays, etc) under consideration. LSFA grant (local solid waste assistance grant) has come from state to county, could help fund ReMakery, hazardous waste, master plan engineering study, composting activities; details to follow.

Ric: funding set for three tasks, how to be filled to be determined.

Cindi: wants to discuss home composting. David: maybe small scale industrial approach would be feasible but on-site facility unlikely because of vermin problems. Need to encourage at-home composting.

STAFF REPORTS:

Facility Manager. David reported:

SAFETY. Nothing new

GENERAL OPERATIONS/ONGOING ISSUES:

CUSTOMER/VOLUNTEER FEEDBACK. Larry: how is volunteering going? David: two is average in the recycling area. We lost a few key volunteers to the vaccine mandate, so we have two or three shifts that aren't being covered. 56/109 on active list have reported as vaccinated. 25 on site this month.

District Manager. Rick reported: We've completed initial budgeting process. We expect \$574,334 in revenue, 534,317 in expense expected, making a 40K surplus at end of 2022. Still working on RFQ for site expansion. Some of the new county money will go to our expansion. Two items are not yet in the budget: New boxtruck and new loader, \$90-100k. Will come from operating expenses.

TEOC. Nikyta reported:

Training/Volunteers:

Nikyta: has resigned from TEOC effective end of year, but will continue on at the ReMakery. Rhea moved to accept. Position announcement has been posted to find a replacement.

OLD BUSINESS:

Remakery. Nikyta reported: operations are normal except two dates covered by volunteers. Next maker in residence will tackle textile piles.

Ross: what is the balance of volunteers in Remakery vs. Dump?

Nikyta: ReMakery volunteers don't all volunteer at Dump. Many work daytime so can't work during Dump hours but can volunteer weekends/evening at ReMakery. We should revisit our volunteer model because of aging out, leaving island, etc.

Pam: any end in sight to turn around drop off in volunteer numbers?

Rhea: we need to figure out how to mine the new population that's moved onto island in the last year.

Cyndi: we need a strategy: newspaper article, some way to educate them.

* Strategic Planning-Pam/Ross: Nothing new to add. \$380k total from county may be available overallk; we're asking for a tenth of that.

Ric: waiting to hear on that proposal; in person virtual presentation of bailer shed expansion was received well. We are asking for less than other islands. Hoping for sign off by end of year. The grant from the state to public works will be source for the site plan. We're hoping for \$39k.

* 2022 Levy-Larry/Rhea/Ric: 84% positive on the vote! DAVID: our highest yet. Levy is \$105k. We need to send a certificate to county (enclosed in packet) and have it authorized. Rhea moved to certify. Approved unanimously.

Kim: need to thank all those who helped advertise the levy. Will happen at next month's meeting.

* 2022 Budget-Ric/Larry Ric reviewed the proposed budget in the board packet

Levy stays static, excise tax goes up with population, garbage tip fees increase with fee increase and population increase. On actual expenditure sheet, prime item is labor (increase in hours and hourly wages by 6% for staff, change in making David's a salaried position). Expense side involves planning for worse case, we should still show a \$40k surplus for future site expansion, box truck, hoe (which now comes out of reserve fund so this surplus will recharge the reserve fund).

Pam: how much has reserve fund fluctuated? Rhea; maybe \$20k before so it's inching up).

Larry: Clark set up the process to create a form for figuring budget for future projections, for which we are grateful.

NEW BUSINESS:

2022 Budget.

Gene moved to finance rent for the ReMakery: LSWDD will budget \$5100 for ReMakery rent, Jan-June 2022, six months @\$850/month, at which time any further financial commitment to the ReMakery will be evaluated. At June 2022 Board meeting, ReMakery staff will give the LSWDD board a full report on financial status of the ReMakery. Motion failed for lack of second.

Rhea: moved to approve budget as presented by district manager. No comments. Budget approved unanimously.

New Business: none

IDEA POT:Cyndi: there are grants available for supporting home composting. How would we pursue these grants. Is there a way to find out how many people are home composting? Rhea: some exploration in the past, people are concerned with rats. As far as a public system is involved, there are zoning issues.

Pam: would like to know what grants are available. Are there standard composters available? Worm bins? Fits in with district's desire to reduce waste stream. Should be assigned to TEOC coordinator. Larry asked Cyndi to spearhead this effort.

PUBLIC COMMENT : Kim: LSWDD budget will not support ReMakery. Is there something out there that will fund ReMakery so SWAP knows what to do? Katherine says SWAP will discuss this at today's meeting. Can the ReMakery be supported by the local solid waste assistance grant if it isn't supported by LSWDD? As much as \$34k to fulfill Task 2 could be directed to ReMakery via this grant. Can the ReMakery apply for these funds? Or should it go through SWAP?

Ric: state says and county confirms anyone can apply for these grants as long as they can meet standards. Maybe SWAP can apply directly; they need to ask the county. Ric will give Katherine the names of two people to ask. LSWDD has not applied for these funds.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 pm. The next meeting will be another ZOOM EVENT on Dec 15, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Helfman, LSWDD Secretary

<geneh@lopezsolidwaste.org>