

## Minutes for December 2019

### White River Alliance Solid Waste Board December 11, 2019

**Those in attendance** Sandy Conrad, Moe Brigham, Robert Young, Chet Brown, Judi Brigham, Jenn Bartleman

**Absent** Grace Adams, Joshua Powers

**Call to Order** 7:02pm

**Minutes for November 2019** Moe moves to accept November minutes as written. Motion seconded by Sandy. Motion approved by vote.

**Financial Report** Question from November 2019 minutes re: retirement going up in budget. The state raised retirement by 3%, so Chet brought retirement up from \$18,000 to \$20,000 to meet the new state policy. Health insurance is still slightly under-budget. The budget status report does not include roughly \$65k, which needs to be added in. Payments on new equipment start at the beginning of next month, which the Station is in good shape for. Hazardous Waste Days should come in under-budget. Metal is not selling well – while the Station is not losing money on metal, it is not profiting much from sale of recyclable metals because the \$/ton is down. Overall revenue is still greater than expenditures, but the Station is going into its slowest season.

**Update on Doors** Chet received a check for about \$7,000 from the insurance company (\$1,000 deductible not included). The Board agrees that the insurance company should get the \$1,000 deductible from the insurance of the person who caused the damage. The repair team is ready to fix the doors as soon as Bethel signs off on the \$4,000 deposit check.

**Manager Report** Everything is in pretty good shape. Discussion on books at the Station – Goodwill takes all the books for free, which is great for the Station because books are hard to recycle and can be a pain to deal with if they get wet, etc. The new zero-sort process was difficult to work through. There is not a great system in place throughout the State for zero-sort recycling, and there is no back-up plan for if it doesn't work.

Christmas and New Year's schedules have been posted. The observed Holiday schedule for 2020 also needs to be posted online – Chet will send to Rose. The Station is closed on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> for the Bethel employee luncheon.

The Station brought back number signs for the scale and, overall, customers seem to like that system. A person receives a number when they get off the scale, and then they hold it up for the cashier when they drive by. Each customer needs a number to use the scale. This is quicker and more accurate for both the customer and the Station.

Jenn expressed concern over icing problems and has asked Rose if Royalton can salt the parking lot. Last year, the Station called Bethel whenever there was heavy ice because Bethel was responsive and uses almost pure salt. The Board agrees that if Royalton's plow trucks are going up Waterman Road anyways, then they should cover the Station's parking lot as well and make that part of the regular route. Rose already has the key to the gate to give to drivers.

**Other Business** Jenn hired a new cashier: April Redickar of South Royalton. April will start the first day the Station is open in January. Question on whether Doug returned his key – Chet or Jenn will call to check. Question on security of cashier – does the system need to be updated/improved? Receipts are typically checked on the floor, but there is currently no one to do that job. The floor position needs to be filled still – no applications so far. Start pay is \$12/hr (near minimum wage). The manager transition is tough right now because the Station is short-staffed, but so far so good. Robert has received a few compliments on the Station being more neat and tidy. However, a major clean-up project awaits, as there are still some complaints about the Station being dirty.

SWIP paperwork is moving along and will be complete by the time Chet retires. Chet will run the school program on Thursdays and Friday, which is a 4-course program for each school involved. The courses cover environmental information, trash and recycling, and identification of carcinogenic or allergenic chemicals that can cause air pollution inside the building. The program helps schools replace harmful chemicals in their cleaning supplies with environmentally safe alternatives. The cost of the program is \$2,000 per school, and the Station has been participating for five years.

Moe moves to adjourn. Motion seconded by Judi. Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.