



TMC RATE REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Solid Waste TMC Conference Room
May 27, 2009 @ 1:00 P.M.

Minutes of the Subcommittee Meeting

Bob Cyr, Chairman of the TMC Rate Review Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Present at the meeting were the following subcommittee members: Bob Cyr, Bill Pickrum, James Walker, Mike Sweet, and Ben Shirley. Also, in attendance were Bob Hauser, Lisa Ledoux, Steve Carroll, Deb Bush, Joe Going, Luke Koon, Flo Riggie, Mike Connors, and Charles Jordan. Judy Lund, TMC Secretary, took minutes.

Bob Cyr stated that the subcommittee was going to review the FY '09 – '10 budget year report sent to each member by Lisa Ledoux. Bob asked Lisa to review the financial package and tip fee calculation. Lisa reviewed the projections, revenues and expenses for FY '09 - '10. Lisa asked Bob Hauser to detail the new programs for the next year. Bob explained that the costs for the Curbside Recycling Program were estimated in the budget for \$22M. He noted that the reason for the increase was the initial cost for the purchase of over 250,000 64-gallon collection containers. Bob stated that the Litter Program also would be initiated next year throughout Pinellas County. Bob responded to several questions regarding the new programs and indicated that several of the new containers were available for viewing.

Lisa explained that the tip fee was calculated at \$101.18 and that the current rate could be maintained through the use of reserves. Ben Shirley asked what the reserve balance was and Lisa stated that projections indicated that the 113.4M; with the expenditures we have projected for next year the balance would be \$48M, which is less than the \$51.5M that was discussed at prior TMC meetings as the reserve amount to keep on hand. Bob also responded to questions about the WTE operations and construction projects regarding the proposed CIP budget. Pinellas County Solid Waste staff said they were recommending maintaining the tip fee at \$37.50.

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Bob Cyr opened the floor for discussion and asked Bob Hauser to review the status of HB1750. Bob Hauser responded this bill was originally proposed by FDEP for a \$1.25 fee on the disposal of all solid waste in the state. The money was to be used for recycling programs. When the bill was first initiated in Committee it was rewritten to charge \$1.25 - half going to recycling and the other half going into the General Fund. When the bill came out of Committee and went to the House floor, it became \$1.25 all to the General Fund, so FDEP walked away from it. Bob stated that it did pass the House although it was never taken up in the Senate. There was strong opposition from counties and the private sector.

Bob Cyr opened the floor for discussion regarding the tipping fee. James Walker asked for a point of clarification; first we began with \$125.2M this year; by the time we get through this year we will be at \$113.4M based on projects that have already been budgeted. At this time next year, we will be looking at \$48M. Lisa stated that was correct; tipping fee revenue and tonnage is going down. We have approximately \$31M more O&M expenses and capital improvement projections for this year which are about \$40M - the budget for next year is \$62M.

After additional discussion, Bob Cyr asked for a motion to vote on the tipping fee.

A motion was made by Mike Sweet and seconded by Bill Pickrum for the tipping fee to remain at \$37.5/ton. The motion passed by a 4-1 vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Lund, TMC Secretary

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