



# **TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

## **Department of Solid Waste Conference Room**

**Minutes of the Meeting – March 27, 2019**

The meeting of the Solid Waste Technical Management Committee (TMC) was held at the Department of Solid Waste (SW) Conference Room, 2:00 pm on Wednesday, March 27, 2019. Members present were James Walker, Earl Gloster, Deb Bush, Willie Joseph, Bob Turner, Bill Pickrum, Tracy Meehan, Michael Gordon, Ray Boler and Tom Nicholls. Pinellas County employee attendees were Paul Sacco, Stephanie Watson, Linda Larkins, Joe Morrissey, Senior Assistant County Attorney and Brendan Mackesey, County Attorney. Members absent without an alternate: Scott Witt, Dean Scharmen and Patricia White. Deann Baker, TMC Secretary recorded the minutes.

**Call to Order:** James Walker, Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm.

**Citizens to be heard:** None present.

**Minutes:** Mr. Walker entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2019 meeting.

***A motion was made by Earl Gloster and seconded by Mike Gordon to accept the TMC Minutes as written. Motion approved. Motion carried unanimously.***

Mr. Walker acknowledged the newest TMC member, Bob Turner. Bob is with the City of St. Petersburg and is the Assistant Director of Sanitation. He's been with the city for about 15 years.

**Operations Report:** Deb Bush, SW Division Manager

- Deb gave the Operations report for the months of January and February.
- System performance started out great. On the first day of the year, Solid Waste had over 5,100 tons come in the gate.
- For the Waste to Energy Facility, the boiler availability for January was 97.5% and the turbine availability was 100%.
- The spring outage began on February 18<sup>th</sup>, so the numbers for the Waste to Energy Facility reflect the lower boiler and turbine availability. Outages are a little longer as we're still completing Technical Recovery Program (TRP) work. Targeted date for completion of the spring outage is May 9<sup>th</sup>. Diversions will occur during the outage.
- Solid Waste is currently working on the DEP report, which is due to the DEP on April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Preparing for three public stakeholders meetings which is part of the Master Plan. Meetings are planned for the middle of April. These meetings will be held at the East Bay Library for the North County, Gulfport Casino for South County and the Magnolia Room at the Co Operative Extension for mid County. A press release will be forwarded to the TMC. (Sent 3/28/19)

## Financial Report: Linda Larkins, Pinellas County OMB

- Linda Larkins reviewed the Financial Report which covers revenues & expenditures from October 1, 2018 through November 30, 2018.
- Noteworthy on the revenue side are the electric and capacity revenues. The Duke Energy revenue is 1 month in arrears.
- Recovered metals were behind, as there was a late posting in December of \$112,000 that was not included in the report.
- Interest was ahead of the mark. OMB has budgeted more conservatively for FY19.
- For the “other” revenue, we’re currently anticipating \$563,000 to come in for Hurricane Irma reimbursement. OMB is expecting the first check to arrive in the next couple of weeks. No specifics on how they will be portioning it out, or when Solid Waste should see the first check. Linda will follow up and report back at our next meeting on May 22.
- On the expense side, personal services were favorable due to some open positions. Operating expenses are running favorable due to consulting, utilities, chemicals and repair and maintenance (R&M).
- Plant Management is favorable, because of late postings in December. There was a \$3.3 million Covanta service fee and a \$1.1 million operating TRP to Covanta.
- Landfill Management is favorable to budget. We had \$2.2 million dollars from Advanced Disposal Systems (ADS) posted in December, which did not make the report.
- Capital Equipment is timing of asset purchases.
- ***Paul asked Linda about Red Tide reimbursement. Have we been reimbursed and should we expect to be.*** Linda has researched this and here is the response received after our meeting:
  - Pinellas County must submit the reimbursement request to FDEP no later than March 29.
  - The County’s total request will include approximately \$102K in waived tipping fees.
  - The state will review our request and make determination regarding how much they will remit to Pinellas County.
  - We anticipate that the state will remit funds by the end of the state’s fiscal year (Jun 30).

## Pinellas Partners in Recycling (PPR) Update: Stephanie Watson, Program Manager for Recycling and Outreach Programs

- Stephanie reported on the March 13<sup>th</sup> Pinellas Partners meeting as the Chair and the Vice Chair were unable to attend. Strategic Materials, which is a local glass processor in Sarasota attended the PPR meeting and gave a presentation. There were other material processors in attendance at the meeting. They talked about glass and how they make glass into fiberglass and bottle containers. There is now a demand and a viable market for recycled glass. The company wants glass from Material Recovery Facilities (MRF’s). They are able to take up to 30 – 40 percent contamination. Stephanie provided 2 pictures of the glass to the TMC that she took on a recent visit to Strategic. The pictures were of the incoming material coming from MRF’s and no glass was visible. They’ve created a pre-processing line that will clean up the glass prior to it going into the processing portion of the plant. The output is clean glass in three different colors and is then marketed. Strategic Materials has partnered with a few MRF’s and has invested capital to put in equipment that will clean the glass prior to it arriving at their facility. The slide presentation that Strategic Materials presented to the PPR will be provided as an attachment with the meeting minutes.

- Paul commented that the outcome of the previous Recycling Workshops was the formation of three sub-committees. The glass sub-committee members visited Strategic and reported back that there is a market for glass. It's important for the Municipalities to understand that there is a viable market for glass and to push back on haulers when they are told that there is not. We're in talks with the Communications group to get messaging out in the next year or so about some of the opportunities that exist for the various markets in recycling. Another outcome from the workshops was that there was a contract transparency and an enforcement subcommittees formed. His request is that these subcommittees continue with their efforts.
- Tracy Meehan spoke about sitting on the PPR's Enforcement Committee. They currently have a meeting scheduled for tomorrow, 3/27 in St. Pete. A Contract Transparency meeting is also scheduled for the week of April 16. There hasn't been any meetings since the last time that the TMC met. Waste Pro had their Division/MRF Manager at the last PPR meeting. Waste Pro is now taking a couple of trial loads of glass from their MRF to Strategic.

**Master Plan Update:** Deb Bush

Currently in Phase II, the technology review. The level of review and comment by staff on the work presented by HDR was much more than expected. On March 18, the County met with HDR where they announced a new project manager and presented their plan for completion of the project. They're scheduled to deliver us a Master Plan on June 18, 2019.

- Master Plan updates, schedules and completed documents can be found here:  
<http://www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste/masterplan>

**Additional Items:**

- Linda spoke about the Board adopting the rate increase. The rate increase proposed and recommended by the TMC was approved by the BCC. The 6% increase will be effective October 1, 2019. Pinellas County is developing our budget now, incorporating this change into the new budget. Jimmy Walker requested clarification on the 6% per year for the next 3 years. The TMC will follow their normal practice of reviewing the rates each year and providing their rate recommendation to the BCC, pursuant to Code 106.
- The County is tasked with pulling together user fee schedules, reviewing them and providing suggested rate changes, which usually occurs in the June timeframe. There are proposed rate changes for tires as well as a change in the flat rate for passenger vehicles. The increase will be from \$2 to \$3 per vehicle. We're also looking at the 2 types of Special Waste Handling procedures and processes, looking at what it would take to recover our costs to do them. The first type is Special Handling where the customer calls to schedule an appointment. Solid Waste does the research, making sure that there's no hazardous material and looking through any laboratory data that's required, making sure that we're compliant with our permit. The second type is if there's a need to witness evidence destruction, such as the Sheriff's Department. This would mean that one of our operators would need go out to witness the destruction, so there's additional charges due to the additional time the employee spent going out on site. Another fee that will go to the Board to be reenacted is the out of County waste disposal fee. This fee will be twice the amount of the in County tipping fee.
- On 3/26 there was an issue with a transformer that led to a turban generator going down. Only unit 3 is up right now. We'll be in diversion until early next week.
- Solid Waste will be meeting with Duke Energy on April 4 to begin negotiations for the Purchase Power Agreement. A report will be provided at the next TMC meeting.
- Tire Amnesty day will be held on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. This will coincide with other clean up events. There are 4 locations this year: Walsingham Park, Lealman Exchange, John Chesnut Park & Eagle Lake Park.

- The SWANA Road-E-O was held in Pinellas County on March 23. The heavy equipment portion was held here at Solid Waste. The trucks were at the Highpoint Elementary School. This year the Road-E-O was held in conjunction with the SWANA Safety Symposium. Pinellas County municipalities walked away with the awards for drivers. City of Clearwater came in 1<sup>st</sup> for the tractor trailer and side loader. City of Largo came in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> for the side loader. Solid Waste recognized the winners publicly by posting the names on variable message boards.
- The wording for Ben Shirley's plaque has been completed and the plaque ordered. The TMC would like to present the plaque to Mrs. Shirley at the next TMC meeting in May. Willie Joseph will invite Mrs. Shirley to the next meeting.
- Mike Gordon is on the Board for SWANA and was a judge at the Road-E-O. He would love to see all of Pinellas County's solid waste divisions participate. Collections is still the 5<sup>th</sup> most dangerous job in the country. Earl Gloster is the Safety Ambassador for SWANA and spoke about safety being a priority at this event and how it was dedicated to safety operations. Moving forward, every SWANA event will have a workshop dedicated to safety. Education is key for both public and private haulers.
- Mike Gordon stated that Largo's recycling went out to bid prior to the contract expiring in February with Waste Connections. No bids came back. Went out to bid again and 2 vendors did bid and they've met with both vendors 3 times. They will be going out to bid again in April. There's new language that they're asking for about "moisture". Temporarily Largo is taking recyclable material to the Waste Management MRF paying \$50.00 per ton for processing.

**Adjournment:**

***Ray Boler made a motion and was seconded by Earl Gloster to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 pm.***

***The next TMC Meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2019.***

*Respectfully submitted, Deann Baker, Recording TMC Secretary*