



Technical Management Committee Minutes of the Meeting on September 25, 2019

Department of Solid Waste Conference Room

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, September 25, 2019. Members present were Jimmy Walker, Bart Diebold, Earl Gloster, Deb Bush, Willie Joseph, Bob Turner, Bill Pickrum, Tracy Meehan, Michael Gordon, Ray Boler, Scott Witt and Tom Nicholls. Pinellas County employee attendees were Paul Sacco, SW Director, Linda Larkins, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Brendan Mackesey and Joe Morrissey, County Attorneys. Also in attendance were Deanna Doss, chair of Pinellas Partners in Recycling (PPR); Susan Walker, City of Pinellas Park; Calvin Warren and Daric Hunt, Waste Pro. Members absent without an alternate: Andy Butterfield, City of St. Pete Beach, and Dean Scharmen, Indian Rocks Beach. Deann Baker, TMC Secretary recorded the minutes.

Call to Order

Jimmy Walker, Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

Mr. Walker announced that he will officially be retiring on October 25, 2019, after over 38 years of service with the City of Pinellas Park. He introduced his wife Susan, who also works for the City of Pinellas Park and will be retiring at the same time. Jimmy introduced Bart Diebold who will be his replacement on the TMC. Jimmy expressed gratitude for the comradery shared over the years with the TMC members.

Citizens to be heard

None present

Minutes

Mr. Walker entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2019 meeting.

A motion was made by Deb Bush, seconded by Ray Boler to accept the TMC Minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Plaque Presentation

Earl Gloster, vice chair, presented Jimmy a plaque for his many years of service on the TMC.

Election of Officers

Jimmy asked for a nomination to fill his position as Chair of the TMC. Deb Bush nominated Earl Gloster. The nomination carried unanimously.

Deb Bush nominated Willie Joseph for Vice Chair. The nomination carried unanimously.

Operations Report

Deb Bush, SW Division Manager

- Operations report presented for July and August.
- Boiler availability was 96.1% in July and 97.1% in August.
- She gave the TRP and Operations updates.
- An update was given on the Enhanced Metals pilot project. An additional 250.53 tons of nonferrous metals were recovered during June and July. 70.91 tons of ferrous metals were recovered by this program in June and July with an estimated 31 tons of ferrous metals also recovered. Ash stockpile for processing being built to provide inventory during the fall outage when ash generation will be reduced.
- The 2019 Commercial Recycling Awareness Survey has been completed. The report is being finalized and will be shared once complete.
- County staff are continuing to complete action items in the Communications Plan related to the tipping fee and rate increases. Earl Gloster asked if we were receiving any feedback from the public with regards to the rate change. Feedback has been received and has not been negative towards Solid Waste. We received calls from customers of one hauler that their collection rate doubled and the hauler indicated it was due to our 6% tipping fee increase. Calvin Warren asked about the excess water in the pond. Deb responded that we are discharging water, in order to maintain an inward gradient as required by Operations Permit. We've done what we could to increase our storage. Paul Sacco commented that our permits were opposing each other; the department worked with the FDEP to extend the consent order and NPDES permit, which allows us to discharge the water to maintain an inward gradient.

Financial Report

Linda Larkins, Pinellas County OMB

- Reviewed the Financial Report of revenues and expenditures for October 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019.
- Electric and capacity revenue reporting is always one month in arrears from Duke.
- Interest earnings are up, as they are budgeted conservatively. We should exceed the budget for FY19 interest earnings.
- Other revenue is hurricane reimbursement which we will likely see in FY20.
- \$102,000 for red tide reimbursement will be realized in FY19. In future meetings through the end of FY19, we should start seeing the monies as actuals.
- Expenditures are running favorable. Operating expenditures are also favorable, primarily in consulting, legal, utilities, chemicals, R and M and timing of needs and usage of these items.
- Plant management – after April closed, the Clerk processed May, June, July and August payments to Covanta. This included 8 million dollars in service fees and 9 million dollars of TRP payments. Once those have all been accounted for, Linda believes we will have expended 100% of our plant management budget by end of FY19.
- Landfill management – after the Clerk closed April, they processed 3.8 million dollars of Advanced Disposal Service fees for May, June, July and August.
- CIP is primarily timing of the CIP work.
- The Board of County Commissioners adopted the FY20 budget on September 24th at a public hearing.

Charity Free Disposal Allowance

Cassie Tierney, SW Division Manager

There were a total of 9 applicants requesting a waiver of fees. This is an effort to encourage and support the recycling operations and reuse of materials at charitable organizations. Solid Waste is requesting that the TMC approve a total of \$412,408.16 in tipping fee waivers. There were no new applicants this year; however Solid Waste intends to reach out to more of the 501c3/Nonprofit organizations next year.

Jimmy Walker requested that a motion be made to approve the waiver of tipping fees for charities as recommended by the department. Scott Witt made the motion, seconded by Mike Gordon. Motion approved unanimously.

Pinellas Partners in Recycling (PPR) Update

Deanna Doss, PPR Chair

- PPR met on September 11th. A presentation was given by the City of Clearwater on behalf of Ocean Allies. They assist businesses in certifying them to become “ocean friendly”. She encouraged everyone to bring this information back to their cities and become ocean friendly. Applications can be found on their website at www.oceanallies.org. They have resources that will come out to the business and help them become ocean friendly, moving away from the single use of plastics.
- Great information was received from the FDEP with regards to House Bill 73. The bill has been reintroduced with regards to contamination levels. There is not a companion bill in front of the Senate at the present time.
- Laura Thomas who is the Vice Chair of the PPR has moved on to a new position and has resigned. At the November meeting, PPR will be holding elections for Vice Chair and Chair.

Master Plan Update

Deb Bush, SW Division Manager

- HDR presented the Master Plan to the County Administrator on September 24, 2019. They went through the entire plan, since the Administrator had not been previously briefed. They discussed how it evolved, the stakeholders and the development of the 83 strategies and how they were paired down. The presentation was done to seek his direction on how to proceed to present to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). The Administrator recommended bringing the presentation to the TMC first. He recommended to bring to the BCC at a Thursday Board workshop after the first of the year. The Master Plan presentation by HDR will be added to the TMC agenda for the November meeting. Bill Pickrum asked if the Master Plan was going to be presented to the City Managers and the Mayors Council. Deb responded that they will be presenting to them, however, it will be after the Board presentation. Paul has requested that the presentation that was originally scheduled for them in November be pushed to December allowing for the presentation to the TMC first, as the TMC represents the municipalities and the haulers. So, if there is any input that’s given, we can make the changes prior to presenting the plan to the council. The Board presentation will be in the January timeframe. Bill requested that the TMC be given some time after the presentation to provide input. Paul replied that this is a 30 year plan and there should be no problem adjusting the schedule to accommodate the extra time.
- Master Plan updates, schedules and completed documents can be found here: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste/masterplan>

Additional Items

- Solid Waste will continue to work on our Strategic Plan which dove tails into the BCC’s Master Plan. This is a 3 to 5 year look ahead and we will be taking some of the short term items from the Master Plan. An action plan has been created with performance indicators.

- Once the document has been finalized, it will be shared with the TMC, so that you know what is being done on a daily basis. Staff has been very involved with the entire process of the Strategic Plan. Paul's goal was to provide the staff with the ability to look at the plan and see how they each fit into the plan. Once the Master Plan and the Strategic Plan are in place, the next step for Deb is the accreditation process have the Department accredited through the American Public Works Association. This was requested by Paul's boss, Assistant County Administrator Rahim Harji. The Solid Waste Master Plan and Strategic Plan are foundational in obtaining accreditation.
- Solid Waste staff has had good collaborations with Hillsborough County in a couple of different formats. One is that they've had some operational issues/challenges with their Waste to Energy facility, so we've been taking some of their waste during this time, making it more manageable for them over the past few months. As we move through with the rate and fee changes that are required, we're working with the County Attorney's office to put an inter-local agreement in place. This is in hopes that if we have issues, they will assist us as well. Secondly, they're in discussions and doing research to possibly put in a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and possibly a mixed waste processing facility or a dirty MRF. Solid Waste has been attending and participating in some of these meetings. They're also looking at refuse derived fuel. We'll continue to work with Hillsborough County, as they've been a good match on a regional level for us to partner with.
- The PPA (Purchase Power Agreement) has stalled. Nothing has changed since the last report to the TMC. County Administrator thinks he can assist by talking with the president of Duke, which will most likely be in the November/December timeframe. Solid Waste needs to do another rate study, bringing another recommendation to the Board, the PPA is not going to be part of the discussion, but may include more of the Master Plan discussion.
- Ray Boler inquired about the Solid Waste Rate Study. He requested that it be done by February so that it can be included in the municipalities 2021 budget planning. The rate model is already built, so we would just be asking Raftelis to update with FY18 actuals, FY19 non captured actuals, FY20 budget and any other modifications or assumptions for any of the components, any possible revisions in the CIP and any Master Plan and any non Master Plan related items. We won't need the consultant to do as much work moving forward, minimizing the cost, as there will be less onsite visits. There would be a presentation to the Rate Review Subcommittee, which they would then take the refreshed numbers to the TMC and then eventually to the Board. The 6% increase needs to be reviewed each year, which results in a recommendation made every year. The Board has approved the increase for the next three years however, we're still required to make a recommendation yearly. Joe Morrissey spoke about the TMC's responsibility to review the rate every year as required by the Ordinance.
- The North County Satellite site, which is behind the Clerk of the Circuit Court building in Clearwater is still under construction. Drainage had to be added, so the timeline has been pushed out from April until August. In the interim, the Countryside High School is where the collections will be held for the Household Electronics and Chemical collections. There will be promotional materials put out when the US19 site is up and running.
- Congratulations to Jimmy Walker on his retirement! Congratulations to Earl Gloster elected as the new Chair and Willie Joseph, elected as the new Vice Chair of the TMC.

Adjournment:

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

The next TMC Meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2019.

Respectfully submitted, Deann Baker, Recording TMC Secretary