



## Technical Management Committee Minutes of the Meeting on September 23, 2020

Pinellas Room, Heritage Village

The meeting of the Solid Waste Technical Management Committee (TMC) was held at the Heritage Village Pinellas Room, 2:00 pm on September 23, 2020. Members present were Earl Gloster, Willie Joseph, Deb Bush, Bob Turner, Bill Pickrum, Tracy Meehan, Michael Gordon, Ray Boler, Tom Nicholls, Rodney Due, Bart Diebold, and Cedric Harris. Pinellas County employee attendees were Jan Tracy Stephanie Watson, Department of Solid Waste (DSW) and Brendan Mackesey, County Attorney. Members absent without an alternate: Andrew Butterfield, City of St. Pete Beach and Scott Witt, City of Tarpon Springs. Carlee Ward, TMC Secretary recorded the minutes.

### Call to Order

Earl Gloster, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

### Citizens to be heard

None present

### Minutes

Mr. Gloster entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2020 meeting. **A motion was made by Deb Bush; seconded by Tom Nicholls to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.**

### Operations Report

#### **Deb Bush, Solid Waste Division Manager**

- The Operations report for July and August 2020 are included in the meeting packet for review.
- July's tonnage was up compared to last year, which was down 5%. August up 9.4% from last year. The amount of megawatts sold is over 100%, based on 12-month rolling average.
- A minor leak in B102 was repaired. No other issues have been reported.
- Based on the results of the pilot program conducted earlier in the year, the Enhanced Metals conceptual engineering is moving forward with the preliminary ideas.
- Advanced Disposal Systems (ADS) continues to work the settling areas along the existing side slope.
- The kick-off meeting for conceptual study for mechanically stabilized berm was completed and information is being collected.
- Since the onset of COVID, commercial waste has been down every month. April and May were down 26.9%. Residential waste is up but not enough to balance the difference; however, June was up 32.4% over last year. Commercial was down 4.1% in June and 23.5% in August.
- The Industrial Water Treatment Facility (IWTF) will be conducting ferric testing over the next couple of months in order to move forward with the Capital Improvement Project.
- The Household Electronics and Chemical Collection Center (HEC3) reopened on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The North County Satellite Site hosted a soft opening in July.
- Business Waste Assessments (BWAS) is conducting inspections via phone and in-person.

- No presentations or tours were conducted in July. BWAS hosted a Regional Regulatory Roundtable in August.
- Two inbound scales will be closed for maintenance on Monday, September 28 and Tuesday, September 29. Closures will be staggered to ensure 3 inbound scales remain open at all times. RFID vehicles are encouraged to utilize (unattended) Scale 5.

## **Financial Report**

### **Deb Bush (on behalf of Linda Larkins)**

- The Financial Report of revenues and expenditures covering October 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 is included in the meeting packet for review. Please direct any questions to Deb Bush for response prior to the next meeting.
- The budget for FY21 has been approved by the Board of County Commissioners and will go into effect October 1, 2020. Therefore, all proposed items have been accepted.
- In addition to the increased tipping fee and user fees, the deposit required upon entry for non-account customers was reduced to from 50% to 35%.

## **Pinellas County Updates**

### **Paul Sacco, Solid Waste Director**

- Paul spoke in response to requests for the TMC to meet virtually rather than in-person. The only option would be a hybrid meeting requiring an in-person quorum as well as a virtual “meeting space” and facilitator for any public attendees/citizens. In order to comply with Sunshine Law and ensure a committee quorum, it’s best to continue with in-person meetings. Solid Waste will continue to provide a meeting space allowing for full committee attendance while maintaining social distancing measures. Brendan Mackesey, County Attorney provided clarification on the County Administrator’s recommendation to continue holding public meetings in-person to ensure compliance.
- SW Capital Projects:
  - The WTE facility Fall outage is planned for October. The diversion schedule will be posted to the calendar on the TMC SharePoint site.
  - Most of the TRP at the WTE plant has been completed. There are a few boiler projects to be completed during the Spring outage at which time they can work with Covanta to close out the TRP. Solid Waste will assume some remaining structural projects.
  - Solid Waste has been working with HDR Engineering to identify alternative uses for ash. One option is to use the ash to build walls around the landfill which would reduce the amount of slope required, resulting in increased landfill volume space.
  - The IWTF treats stormwater and leachate water on site and is sent to the WTE facility for use. During times of low usage by the WTE facility and/or high rainfall, the water must be discharged. To increase the amount of throughput, they have built a new clarifier and will begin ferric testing this week. The ferric acts as a coagulant which should allow water to process through the clarifier a lot faster.
- Pinellas County has entered into an interlocal agreement with Hillsborough County to allow the transfer of waste between WTE facilities in times of need, rather than diverting it to the landfill. Waste can only be accepted if the receiving facility has the capacity for the waste to be incinerated and not landfilled. Drafts of the same agreement have been sent to Pasco County and the City of Tampa; Pasco County has responded with intent to participate. Paul has been invited by Hillsborough County to participate on the evaluation committee for their collection RFT. This is an opportunity to support regional collaboration and may provide exposure to franchise collection.

### **Deb Bush, Solid Waste Division Manager**

- Deb provided an update on the Recycling Materials Composition Study. As of now, she has received commitments from 18 of the 24 municipalities. Most cities are utilizing the funds from their 2020-2021 Municipal Recycling Grant, two from FY2021-2022 and a few have asked to be invoiced. The assessments will be conducted October 12-30 at the Solid Waste facility mini hand unload. Kessler Consulting should have already been in contact with each municipality to schedule a date. Solid Waste should receive the results in January.
- Deb reviewed the Charity Free Disposal Allowance Application Summary which is included in the meeting packet. A total of nine (9) charitable organizations qualified to receive the disposal waiver for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Solid Waste is requesting TMC approval for \$508,717.66 in tipping fee waivers. The Chairman entertained a motion to approve. **A motion was made by Bob Turner; seconded by Michael Gordon. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **TMC Subcommittee - Pinellas Partners in Recycling (PPR) Update**

### **Deanna, Doss, City of Gulfport/PPR Chairman**

- The September membership meeting was held via Zoom on September 9th with record attendance of 50 participants. The meeting notes/updates are included in the TMC meeting packet for review.

### **Jan Tracy, Solid Waste Program Coordinator**

- Pinellas Partners in Recycling (PPR) was established in 1989 as a subcommittee of the TMC. During this time they have been operating under bylaws which provide guidelines for voting, responsibilities of elected Officers, meeting criteria, and the goals of the committee. Jan, on behalf of PPR, is requesting to move from bylaws to Policies and Procedures which would provide more flexibility when making revisions. If approved, PPR would develop the policies and procedures under legal review then submit to TMC for final approval. The Chairman entertained a motion to allow PPR to establish their policies and procedures. **A motion was made by William Pickrum; seconded by Bob Turner. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **Additional Items for Discussion**

### **Michael Gordon, City of Largo**

- Largo will be hosting a ShredFest on Saturday, October 17 at their Starkey Road facility. They will have 4 trucks offering on-site shredding starting at 9:00 a.m. until the trucks are filled.

### **Ray Boler, City of Safety Harbor**

- Safety Harbor will be hosting a shredding event for city residents on Saturday, September 26.
- Ray announced he will be retiring effective January 8, 2021. Renee Cooper has been promoted to Public Works Director for Safety Harbor.

### **Willie Joseph, City of St. Petersburg**

- Willie inquired if other cities have received any push back from residents or councils on approved rate increases in light of COVID?

### **Earl Gloster, City of Clearwater**

- Earl shared that SWANA partnered with Health and Human Services to distribute free masks. He requested and received 1,000 masks. David Biderman (SWANA) is partnering with a corporate sponsor to provide grants to solid waste workers impacted affected by COVID.

## **Adjournment**

**Ray Boler made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Bob Turner. Meeting adjourned at 3:16 pm. The next TMC Meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2020.**

Respectfully submitted,

Carlee Ward  
TMC Recording Secretary