

**LEWIS COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT #1  
Regular Meeting**

**Location: Hearing Room, Lewis County Courthouse, Chehalis, WA  
September 27, 2021**

- I. Disposal District Chair Sean Swope called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., Monday, September 27, 2021. Those in attendance were:

Sean Swope	Lewis County Commissioner
Lindsey Pollock	Lewis County Commissioner
Josh Metcalf	Director, Lewis County Public Works
Tina Hemphill	Deputy Director, Lewis County Public Works
Rocky Lyon	Manager, Lewis County Solid Waste
Melanie Case	Recycling Coordinator, Lewis County Solid Waste
Teri Lopez	Admin. Assistant, Lewis County Solid Waste
Tom Rupert	Lemay/Waste Connections
Terry Harris	SWAC Chair
Austin Majors (Zoom)	BOCC, County Admin.

- II. Quorum verified.
- III. Motion by Lindsey Pollock and seconded by Sean Swope to approve minutes of the August 23, 2021 regular meeting. Motion carried.
- IV. Public Hearing – None
- V. Board Measures and Proposals  
**Resolution #003-21** – In the matter of noticing a hearing on proposed fee increases for municipal solid waste received at Lewis County Dept. of Public Works' Transfer Stations. Proposed fee increases as follows: tipping fee \$100/per ton with a minimum of \$15/200lbs, bulky waste \$120/ton with a minimum of \$15/200lbs, yard waste (grass & leaves) \$90/ton with a minimum of \$10/160lbs, yard waste (tree limbs) \$60/ton with a minimum of \$10/160lbs and tires (passenger/light truck) \$5 with or without the rims.  
**Motioned by Lindsey Pollock and seconded by Sean Swope. Motion carried.**

Discussion regarding resolution was as follows: Josh Metcalf, Director of Public Works began by stating the proposed rate increases were presented to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) at the regular meeting on September 8, 2021 as directed by the commissioners. SWAC did not have a quorum at the meeting; therefore, no formal recommendation was made. Josh further stated that part of his plan for LCSW is to look at rates on an annual basis. This is how other utilities handle rates. Josh values the historical approach to limiting the number of times rates increase but sees that in this economy that may not be the most realistic approach. Commissioner Swope stated that annual incremental increases are often easier for customers to handle. He also stated that Lewis County would still have one of the lowest rates regionally. Commissioner Pollock stated that annual review is probably the best way to go, also stating that most businesses review on an annual basis. Commissioner Pollock asked if it would be helpful to delay the Notice of Hearing for one month to give an opportunity for SWAC to meet again, as the commissioners value SWAC and their contribution. Terry Harris, SWAC Chair, spoke on the matter of the rate increases on behalf of SWAC. He stated that Solid Waste Staff has done a good job putting the rate proposal together. He has not heard from any of the SWAC members that they disagree with the proposed rate increases and that SWAC does not want to get in the way of proceeding.

- VI. Transfer Station Operations – Presented by Rocky Lyon, Solid Waste Manager
- a. Community Litter Program Report – Litter program coordinator cleaned up 11 illegal dumpsites, removing 4,160 pounds of garbage and 31 tires. In addition, 10 volunteers spent 39 hours picking up 27 bags of litter.
  - b. Transfer Station Tonnages – Total tonnage for August was 8,649, which was 8% higher than the previous year. Customer count for August was 15,114, which is 2% higher than the previous year.
  - c. Recycling Update – Presented by Melanie Case, Recycling Coordinator
    - Melanie stated that the price of commodities is up. This time last year comingled recycling was still in place. Most of which was so contaminated it could not be recycled and the cost to dispose of the contaminated recycling was absorbed by the utility. Thanks to recycle reset (the separating of recyclables), recycling is now making a small profit instead of being a financial burden and saves items from ending up in the landfill.
    - Melanie explained about the community events funded by the Ecology grant, happening in lieu of the voucher program. Communities have been very appreciative of the events. Very preliminary numbers include collection of several hundreds of tires, hundreds of pounds of Hazo material including florescent light bulbs, TV's and computers, hundreds of pounds of sensitive documents were shredded and recycled and a full trailer of Styrofoam was collected. A volunteer group in Packwood did a litter cleanup project that filled a 40yd trailer. Melanie thanked the commissioners for the ice cream and beverages provided at the Winlock event. Melanie highlighted the upcoming events and provided flyers. Additional event planning for 2022 is in the works.
- VII. Financial Reports – Presented by Rocky Lyon, Solid Waste Manager
- a. Monthly reports July 2021
    - Fund 415 showed a net income of \$87,467 and an ending balance of \$3,281,513. Fund 415 revenue per the Paradigm scale report for the month of August was \$838,962.
    - Fund 401 expenses, Tire disposal (5 invoices), excavator maintenance and invoice for phase 4 chipping
- VIII. Miscellaneous Reports
- Rocky stated that communication with HDR is continuing regarding a new facility and improvements to the existing facility. LCSW should conclude business with HDR by end of the year. Commissioner Swope asked about the possible new facility locations. Rocky stated that the plan is to have the proposed locations by the end of the year.
- Rocky further stated that the tipping floor office that was previously rendered unusable would soon be under construction. This will eliminate the need to rent the mobile office.
- IX. Approval of Transfers from Solid Waste Disposal District #1 to Lewis County Solid Waste Utility – Motion by Lindsey Pollock and seconded by Sean Swope to approve payments and transfers in the amount of \$751,495. Motion carried.
- X. Staff Discussion – Presented by Rocky Lyon, Solid Waste Manager
- Rocky explained rate increase breakdowns using pages 11-12 of the meeting packet.
- a. Proposed Rate Increases
    - Tipping Fee/Minimum
    - Bulky Waste Fee/Minimum
    - Yard Waste Fees/Minimums
    - Tire Disposal Fee
  - b. Equipment Replacement – Excavator
- Rocky explained that the 2000 excavator caught on fire due to age of machine and usage. A new one was ordered and is similar in model to the 2018 JD135 excavator in use. Commissioner Swope asked about the average life expectant for excavators. Rocky stated 7-10 years.
- XI. Announcements – Terry Harris stated that he needed an item put on record. Lewis County Solid Waste received an email sent via [contact@lewiscountywa.gov](mailto:contact@lewiscountywa.gov). The email indicated it was from Terry Harris requesting that the contents of the email be read aloud during the public comments section of the Disposal District meeting. Terry confirmed during a phone call prior to the meeting, that the email was not from him and he did not think it should be read considering the identity of its producer was unknown. Terry wanted it on record that he did not send the email and was not in support of its contents.

XII. Adjournment – With no further business, Motion by Lindsey Pollock and seconded by Sean Swope to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Teri Lopez".

Teri Lopez  
Solid Waste Utility, Admin Assistant