

**LEWIS COUNTY
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT #1
Regular Meeting
Location: Hearing Room, Lewis County Courthouse, Chehalis, WA
March 22, 2021**

- I. The meeting was called to order by Disposal District New Chair Sean Swope at 1:30 p.m., Monday, March 22, 2021. Those in attendance were:

Sean Swope	Lewis County Commissioner
Lindsey Pollock	Lewis County Commissioner
Terry Harris	SWAC, Chair
Tom Rupert	Lemay/Waste Connections
Edna Fund (ZOOM)	Centralia Citizen
Tina Hemphill	Accounting Manager, Lewis County Public Works
Josh Metcalf	Director, Lewis County Public Works
Greg Gachowsky	Manager, Lewis County Solid Waste (LCSW)
Karen Hirte	Office Assistant (LCSW)

- II. Verified quorum is present.
- III. Minutes from Regular Meeting of February 22, 2021
Motion by Lindsey Pollock and seconded by Sean Swope to approve minutes of the February 22, 2021 regular meeting. Motion carried.
- IV. Public Hearing – None
- V. Board Measures and Proposals – None
- VI. Transfer Station Operations
- A. Community Litter Program Report – 12 illegal dumpsites reported. Utility is still unable to access offender labor to conduct normal litter control program. Still seeing many tires at illegal dump sites.
 - B. Transfer Station Tonnages – tonnage at a normal rate for winter, early portion of the year. One snow-day closure and a shorter month contributes to the lower tonnage compared to other months.
 - C. Recycling Update – *Recycle Reset* continues and commingled will be removed from county transfer stations starting March 1. Noticing an amount of customers in recycling area disposing of garbage. Utility believes these folks are abusing the transfer station and are not simply “confused” on how to recycle.
- VII. Miscellaneous Reports – None
- VIII. Financial Reports
- A. 2020 Year-end Disposal District and Utility Income Statements – The District’s statement showed \$113,077 in expenses from 2020, and the ending balance of District Fund 415 was \$3,089,991. Remaining expenses from 2020 were related to a lingering invoice for hauling/disposal from Fire Mt Farms and late invoice from the Department of Ecology for landfill engineering review.
 - B. 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 \$113,077. Motion carried.
 - C. Disposal District and Utility Income Statements – The District’s statement showed a net revenue of \$12,405 for March, 2021, and the ending balance of District Fund 415 was \$3,027,914. Increased expenditures for the month are related to the annual inspection of landfill equipment, annual inspection of fire suppression system, and crane maintenance.
 - D. 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 \$550,167.00. Motion carried.
- IX. Staff Discussion
- A. Voucher Program Planning – Greg shared figures related to the last 5 years of the residential free disposal voucher program. Only a single-digit percentage of households in the county actually participate in the program. However, the Utility shoulders the entirety of the costs related to the program, including \$68,800 in disposal costs in 2019. Concern was shared whether this program is a gift of public funds, or a misuse of

County funds. One commissioner likened it to socialism, since only a single-digit percentage participates but the costs are impacting the entire Utility.

- B. Feasibility Study Update – Greg presented an update on the feasibility study the Utility embarked on in early 2020 with a consultant, HDR. Currently the study includes identification and review of multiple locations in the county that meet a minimum set of criteria. A further evaluation scored and narrowed the sites down to four locations that appear to be suitable for a future transfer station. The next phase of the feasibility study is to produce conceptual facility drawings and artist renderings of each location. As well, the feasibility study will include development of financial models and rate structures to support each option.

X. Announcements – None

With no further business, ***Motion by Lindsey Pollock and seconded by Sean Swope to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 p.m.***

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Gachowsky
Solid Waste Utility Manager