

**RECYCLING & WASTE REDUCTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
September 16, 2014**

Members Present: Councilperson Sue Lynch, Councilperson Karen Conover, Councilman James Murphy, Commissioner Nancy Adams, Mayor Jim Snyder, Commissioner Laura Blaney

Members Absent: Commissioner John Evans,

Staff: Therese Davis, Dawn Garmon, Donna Stuckert, Jeannie McCall, Steve Dolak

CAC Members: Walt Breitingner, Duane Davison

OTHERS: District Attorney Clay Patton, Phil Wieland-Vidette Times, Joe Calhoun

Councilperson Lynch brought the meeting to order at 3:30 with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of the **Board** was then taken.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2014-01 – Adjusting the District-Wide Solid Waste User Fee

The Board considered two versions of a resolution to increase the user fee:

Resolution A was an increase of \$5 to residential dwelling units.

Resolution B was an increase of \$5 to residential dwelling units and the institution of the user fee of \$20 on business parcels.

Mayor Snyder read Resolution 2014-01A into the minutes.

Mayor Snyder read Resolution 2014-01B into the minutes.

Mayor Snyder made a motion to accept Resolution 2014-01B. **Councilperson Conover** seconded for discussion.

Councilperson Conover asked **Ms. Davis** about the user fee being assessed on businesses.

Ms. Davis stated that the business parcels that would be assessed the fee would generate about \$81,000. The general concern was the potential of businesses overwhelming the system. That would be an unknown until the fee is instituted.

Councilperson Lynch stated that the only fear she had was that the businesses start over using the drop-off sites requiring additional pulls that would increase the cost to the **District** more than the \$81,000 in revenue that would be generated.

Mayor Snyder stated that he was confident that Ms. Davis would come to the Board if that were to happen and the issue could be readdressed. But right now there were businesses using the programs and the residents were the ones paying for it.

Ms. Garmon stated as a member of the public that she believed businesses should be charged more than residents since they generate a lot more material and are generating an income from that.

Mayor Snyder stated that may happen in the future if the system were to become overwhelmed by business use.

Commissioner Blaney stated that she was still struggling with increasing this fee when there was also going to be a fee instituted for storm water. She supported the **District** and what they were doing and knew the money would be spent wisely and what it was meant to be used for. But some of these things should be spread out.

Ms. Garmon asked how do you choose who gets an increase and who doesn't when that problem exists every year.

Commissioner Blaney stated that had Ms. Garmon been in South Haven and seen people's basements underwater that would not be a difficult decision.

Councilman Murphy stated that he didn't believe residents should have to pick up the fee for the entire service and that businesses should be charged, and like Mayor Snyder, if businesses overwhelmed the system with their use then that would have to be addressed at that time.

Councilperson Lynch stated there was a motion and a second and asked if there was any more discussion. There being none a vote was taken by roll call.

The vote was unanimous with the exception of **Commissioner Blaney** voting no. The motion carried.

Councilperson Lynch stated that there were two open positions on the CAC.

Councilman Murphy made his appointment by appointing Neil Samahon. He is a resident of Valparaiso and the General Manager of Metro Recycling. He has worked with the District with the Earth Day Event as a sponsor and exhibitor and has also worked with the Master Recycler Program.

There was a motion and a second in favor of the appointment of Mr. Samahon to the CAC. Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting would be December 16, 2014 at 3:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business a motion and a second was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.