

FINAL Minutes of Special Meeting
Juneau Commission on Sustainability
Tuesday, November 25, 2014, 5:30pm

Commissioners present: Lisa Weissler, Darrell Wetherall, Ben Haight, Duff Mitchell, Bob Deering, Steve Behnke (via teleconference); Beth McKibben – CBJ Liaison

Quorum established
Call to Order at 5:42pm
No changes to agenda
No minutes for approval

Public present: Tim Felstead – CBJ Planner, Samantha Stoughtenger – CBJ WW Superintendent, Rachel Rivers – student, Eriana Hintermeister - student

Action Items for tonight's meeting: Discuss and approve a draft letter pertaining to the biosolids evaluation and recommendations to Assembly

Note: Assembly rescheduled biosolids agenda item from December to January meeting

Samantha gave a brief overview of the problem and the consultant evaluation process:

Sludge accounts for 25% of Juneau's MSW stream and Waste Management no longer accepts at the Juneau landfill. As of 2010, sludge is dried with diesel and then shipped to Oregon landfills through private contractors (WM). Tetratex was hired to review 10 or so long term options for dealing with the biosolids problem. These were reduced to 4 preferred options. CH2M Hill was then contracted to evaluate these options and concluded that thermal drying with a heat-recovery furnace was the best option. \$20M of the \$50M longer term capital budget has been earmarked for a drying system with an expected additional \$9M for a furnace with heat recovery, which could be offset from decreased O&M costs.

Bob and Lisa acknowledged the draft letter was a result of work sessions and the MSW sub-committee of JCOS with support from the CBJ waste water utility. The draft letter urges further exploration of opportunities to address other community problems and goals: reducing use of fossil fuels, sourcing of local fuels and creation of a local energy economy, reduction of the MSW stream, increasing landfill lifespan.

Bob commented that a diesel furnace would have high fuel costs using a non-renewable fossil fuel source.

It was noted that pellets are not available locally.

The idea of using locally sourced biomass and diverting from the MSW stream was discussed. Sources included tree trimming operations, stumps and wood disposed of at the Montana Creek site, construction materials, cardboard, newspapers, grass clippings, etc.

Burners/furnaces are designed around a specific fuel-source necessitating a consistent product and steady supply stream of that fuel type.

Risks of locally sourced biomass were discussed: whether the volume would suffice, need for consistency in fuel type and matching to furnace burner design; Juneau lacks a biomass fuel manufacturing plant, storage of biomass, drying, and a formulation of locally sourced biomass to furnace design. Duff added that more work and research needs to be done with burner technology to see what

can be done to handle a wider variety of fuel sources. Duff would also like to see further investigation on injecting mines with sludge in solid or liquid form and composting.

Final review of the draft letter was done with some minor additions and deletions (see final draft).

Bob moved to approve the letter.

Ben seconded. (as did Steve)

The motion was unanimously approved with no objections.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm.