

June 10, 2008

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT

The Board of Commissioners of the Solid Waste Disposal District met at the County Commission Chambers, 1801 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida, on Tuesday, June 10, 2008. Present were Chairman Sandra L. Bowden, Vice Chairman Wesley S. Davis, and Commissioners Joseph E. Flescher, Peter D. O'Bryan, and Gary C. Wheeler. Also present were County Administrator Joseph A. Baird, County Attorney William G. Collins II, and Deputy Clerk Leona Adair Allen.

Chairman Bowden called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

15. SPECIAL DISTRICTS AND BOARDS

15.B. SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT

15.B.1. REQUEST TO TRADE EMISSION OFFSETS OF LANDFILL GAS ON THE CHICAGO CLIMATE EXCHANGE

Managing Director of the Solid Waste Disposal District Himanshu Mehta, recapped his memorandum dated May 27, 2008. He explained how the \$1.5 million gas control system, installed in 2004, captures the landfill methane gas and converts it to CO₂ by flaring off the methane, preventing it from escaping into the atmosphere. He revealed that this system was installed on a voluntary basis, permitting the County to now take advantage of a system that sells carbon offsets, or credits, on the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX).

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Director Mehta reported that a third party verification company had reviewed the County's records, flow rates, and emissions offsets. This verification proved that the County would have the ability to sell about 19,000 metric tons of CO2. He said that the market rate of \$7.40 per offset could bring the County a net revenue of about \$90,000.00, and by the year 2010, with about 160,000 metric tons of CO2, this process could net between \$350,000 and \$700,000.

Director Mehta told how staff has been considering other ways to earn money with the methane gas, including a process that converts it to energy so it can be sold as electricity.

MOTION WAS MADE by Commissioner Flescher, SECONDED by Commissioner Wheeler, to authorize: (1) the County Administrator to execute the verifier report; (2) the County Administrator to execute further documents to the extent needed to facilitate the transfer and sale of the offsets upon review and approval by all appropriate staff; and (3) the Chairman to execute the sale contract with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. for exchange of landfill methane emission offsets with direction to sell the market day following the deposit of emission offsets by CCX into Geosyntec's account, as recommended in the memorandum of May 27, 2008.

Under discussion, Commissioner Flescher supported staff's recommendation; however, he urged Director Mehta to go beyond selling it on the exchange. He wanted to see the methane gas harnessed and used for energy within the County.

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Commissioner Wheeler echoed Commissioner Flescher, and felt that it would benefit the County to recoup some of the money that was initially spent on the project.

When Vice Chairman Davis questioned the County's commitment with CCX, Director Mehta acknowledged that the County would be in control of any agreements/contracts.

Assistant County Attorney Marian Fell informed the Board that the signed document would allow the County to contract with Geosyntec, and that before the County would sell the offsets, the documents would be reviewed and coordinated by her office, the County Administrator, and all appropriate staff.

Commissioner Flescher wanted confirmation that if a better resource is found for utilizing the methane gas, that the County would have a "clear avenue to move forward." Attorney Fell acknowledged that there would not be a continuing obligation should the County decide to take a different direction.

Director Mehta concluded his presentation by expressing the importance of protecting the environment.

The Chairman CALLED THE QUESTION and the Motion carried unanimously. The Board unanimously authorized:

- (1) the County Administrator to execute the verifier report;
- (2) the County Administrator to execute further documents to the extent needed to facilitate the transfer and sale of the offsets upon review and approval by all appropriate staff;
- and (3) the Chairman to execute the sale contract with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. for exchange of landfill

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methane emission offsets with direction to sell the market day following the deposit of emission offsets by CCX into Geosyntec's account, as recommended in the memorandum of May 27, 2008.

CONTRACT ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK TO THE BOARD

ALL BACKUP DOCUMENTATION IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK TO THE BOARD AND IS HEREBY MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

ATTEST:

Jeffrey K. Barton, Clerk

Sandra L. Bowden, Chairman

Minutes Approved: _____

LAA/SWDD Minutes

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