

**Lee Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**March 18, 2019, 6:30pm**  
**Lee Public Safety Complex**

**Members present:** Amy Schmidt (chair), Dean Rubine, Randy Stevens, Arthur Bradbury

**Officials Present:** Toby Van Aken, Transfer Station Manager, Cary Brown, Selectman

**Members absent:** N/A

**Public present:** N/A

**O. Lee Transfer Station History Blurbs**

2003 Town report-Solid Waste Committee-

Activity and Use Restrictions (AUR): The area of the old landfill now has an AUR that was recorded at the Strafford County Register of Deeds. A storm water management plan will be prepared and hopefully implemented in the upcoming year. The plan will be designed to channel storm water away from the AUR or old landfill in order to mitigate any potential environmental impact on adjacent wetlands. With the implementation of the storm water management plan, coupled with the new transfer facility, the Town of Lee's commitment to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) regarding its landfill closure should be satisfied, at least for the time being. Special thanks are extended to Karen Long for her continued assistance with the AUR and persistent communications with NHDES.

**I. Call to order**

6:48 pm, after some unsuccessful attempts to get the computer working for Randy's presentation

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of 11/26/2018, Amy moved, Arthur 2<sup>nd</sup> approved 4-0

Minutes of 12/17/2018, Dean moved, Randy 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved as amended, mostly Randy's suggestions. 3-0-1, Arthur abstaining

Minutes of 1/28/2019 Amy moved, Randy 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved 3-0-1 as amended, Arthur abstaining

Minutes of 10/22/2018 already approved, no need to amend, no vote

**III. PowerPoint Transfer Station Performance 2018 and historical (Randy)**

Tabled to next meeting due to technical difficulties

**IV. Update on Recycling Markets / Pricing (Toby)**

NRRA meeting last week. Market moving against us, relatively stable.

OCC (Cardboard) down \$5 per ton, Lee income \$55/ton to \$60/ton. We tend to get the higher value because of our clean sorting, thanks for our good townspeople and transfer station staff.

Mixed paper. Used to make \$70/ton, now we pay \$3/ton tippage to discard (plus hauling). No wax coated milk or juice boxes allowed.

#8 newspaper. No more magazines in the newspaper collection (that was quick). \$65/ton income.

Magazine sorting was only netting \$80-\$100 / year anyway.

NRRA getting calls for clean product, Lee in good position.

Plastic: milk: \$0.33/lb income, detergent: \$0.15/lb income, #1 Pete: \$.145/lb income

MSW (landfill trash): \$66/ton + hauling, state average \$85. Lamprey Regional Coop: 5 towns, incl Lee, put in \$100 K each and signed favorable contract with Waste Management; 7 years remaining. Start planning beyond in a couple of years.

Scrap Metal: \$135/ton income (\$175/trip hauling cost), 98 tons per year, about 12 trips

Steel Cans: \$25 - \$105/ton income

Aluminum Cans: was \$.78/lb now \$.52/lb

Amy: Update document on web site: What Can I Recycle?

Toby: New signage for individuals bays due shortly.

Why do we remove the caps from recycled material? The denser caps clog up the crushers, and the result is something that costs \$.14/lb to dispose of.

China no longer wants to take recyclable content as contaminated as we produce.

Franklin NH is doing away with the recycling part of their transfer station – all landfill.

Amy: Lee wants recycling

Toby: NRRA wants to know how Lee does it, keeping their content so pristine. It's the residents. We show them where they money's going. We explain it to them. No curbside,

extensive sorting. Training: Suggest to board members that once per week or so we do a tour of the transfer station to show interested residents the other side of the wall, probably on non-trash days.

Dean: we should have a video. Arthur/Amy: Video, website, e-crier

Toby: The state is creating more landfill area but taking out of state trash at a rate which exceeds that. Over 1 million tons a year to Turnkey (our local landfill in Rochester).

Towns with single stream recycling are paying \$65 to \$112 / ton disposal.

Toby: NRRA and the NHDES want to make a video of horizontal baling of plastic in Lee. Toby will participate, keep committee informed.

Batteries: Still no Alkaline Recycling. Coin cells, rechargables accepted for recycling. Folks should bag separately, drop at bins at entrance.

Shipyards \$78/ton construction debris. Urkel \$83/ton

## **V. Mr. Fox Composting**

Toby: They've mandated restaurants get food waste out of the municipal waste stream (at least to landfills). This will broaden to the general public in 2-3 years

Dean: I thought by then they'd be done rewriting the rules that make it difficult to compost at the transfer station

Cary: Would the committee like to recommend a pilot composting program to the select board?

Amy moved: The committee recommends to the Select Board that we implement a pilot composting program with Mr. Fox in order to determine information about the demand for and costs of composting in Lee. Arthur: 2<sup>nd</sup>

Discussion: Dean: I'm all for composting but I was hoping for a plan that saved money and helped the environment. This costs \$14 per bin, each bin between 200 and 400 pounds. A bin would have to be filled to 350 pounds on average to cost less than \$80/ton tippage + hauling MSW. I don't think that's going to happen.

Committee: It's an opportunity to gather the information.

Vote 3-1, Dean against, Toby in favor

**VI. Policies on public discourse for committee members (Facebook, etc.)**

Committee said Dean riled up the public on Facebook re Pay Per Throw. Don't do that Dean.

**VII. Next Meeting date and topics for Agenda.**

Monday April 1, 2019, 6:30 pm, Safety complex

Agenda:

Mr. Fox pilot planning

Randy presentation

Website doc

Signage

Brush pile

**VIII. Adjournment**

8:20 pm

Respectfully submitted, Dean Rubine, secretary