



## Whitley County Solid Waste Management District

701 S. Line St. Columbia City, IN 46725

Monday, August 12, 2024

### Joint Meeting of CAC and WCSWMDB

Present: Theresa Baysinger, Jenny Middleton, Ryan Daniel, Rob Schuman, Thor Hodges, and Madalyn Sade-Bartl

Absent: Chad Banks

Public Present- Director Tara Meyers, Jennifer Shinabery, Matt Shipman, Jake Mortensen, Tiffany Deakins, Kay Gatton, Zachary Coe, Jane Stroup, Deb Shinneman, Kim Erdly

Theresa Baysinger called the meeting to order at 9am

**Previous Meeting Minutes 7.8.24-** Mrs. Sade-Bartl made a motion to approve meeting minutes from July 8, 2024, as presented. Motion seconded by Mrs. Middleton. Motion passes unanimously 5/0. With Mr. Hodges absent during this vote and Mr. Banks Absent.

**Vendor Payables-** Mr. Daniel made a motion to approve vendor payables as presented. Motion seconded by Mrs. Sade-Bartl. Motion passes unanimously 5/0. With Mr. Hodges absent during this vote and Mr. Banks Absent.

**SW Director Report-** Mrs. Meyers stated she had been working on the upcoming waste tire amnesty day. She advised the board that she and Mrs. Sade-Bartl meet on Thursday 8/8/24 with the CAC for them to review the proposed 2025 budget for the district. Mrs. Meyers informed the board that there were some issues discovered during the meeting with how she assigned appropriations. Mrs. Meyers and Mrs. Sade-Bartl corrected the errors and renamed the appropriations to ensure accuracy on assigning appropriations moving forward.

### Old Business

Mrs. Baysinger asked the board if there was any old business to discuss. There was none.

### New Business

**Resolution 2024-07 RFP Bid Acceptance-** Mr. Daniel informed the board that the RFP committee meet on 7/16/24 to review the bid received from GFL. All members present at the meeting unanimously agreed that there were no issues found in reviewing the bid and we would like to accept it. Mr. Daniel also noted that in year 4 of the contract we would need to start discussing and potentially raise user fees in year 5. Mr. Shipman stated to the board that he and Mrs. Meyers meet with the Joint Board on 8/1/24 along with Mrs. Gatton, Mrs. Deakins as ex officio members. Mr. Shipman said that the Joint Board understands what their role is for the district and will be able to investigate user fees and review the interlocal and be able to make recommendations to the board when the time comes to discuss those things. Mr. Schuman asked how many companies we sent the RFP to. Mrs. Meyers stated the RFP was sent out to 11 companies. Mr. Schuman asked why we only received 1 bid back. Mrs. Meyers stated that she had received responses from a few companies that were interested in bidding, but they didn't bid because of sticker shock on rates. Mr. Schuman stated that he is not for mandatory participation in recycling. Mr. Daniel made a motion to unconditionally



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accept Resolution 2024-07 as is. Motion seconded by Mrs. Sade-Bartl. Motion passes unanimously 5/0. With Mr. Hodges absent during this vote and Mr. Banks Absent.

Mr. Hodges arrived at the meeting.

**Solid Waste Proposed Budget 2025-** Mrs. Sade-Bartl put together the budget for the Solid Waste district and gave an overview of the budget to the board with an explanation of how the budget was calculated. There was discussion over the budget specifically around the Director/Controller appropriation budgeted amount. Mrs. Sade-Bartl stated that the budget included a 4% increase for the Director in 2025 but that appropriation amount in the budget included a buffer for unexpected expenses. Mrs. Sade-Bartl stated that as a board they have typically mirrored the county on yr. pay increases. Mr. Hodges stated that he didn't think that a 4% increase was enough of an increase for cost-of-living. He requested the board consider a 6-7% increase for the director. Mr. Hodges explained that while he recognizes and appreciates the job Mrs. Meyers has done this is not a merit-based increase, this is for the cost of living, and that has gone up significantly. Mr. Hodges asked if there were any appropriations that money could be pulled from to increase the budgeted amount for the Director/Controller appropriation but leave the overall dollar amount of the budget the same. Mr. Shipman said while he has been more heavily involved with the district this year than he ever had been in previous years that he didn't foresee that same level of involvement coming into 2025. It was his opinion that money could be pulled from the Professional & Legal Services appropriation and be moved to the Director/Controller appropriation. Mrs. Baysinger asked those present from the public and the CAC what their opinions were. Mrs. Shinneman stated that we had law enforcement leaving Whitley County to go work in Allen County because the pay was better. Mr. Coe stated that he served on the CAC as well as works for the district. He stated that Mrs. Meyers runs a small business and handles everything that goes along with running a business and that he supported a 6-7% pay increase for the director. Mrs. Shinabery brought it back up to the board that she was under the impression that this position was for 37.5 hr. work week to mirror the county back before the position was filled by Mrs. Meyers and her pay was based on a 37.5 hr. work week and not a 40+ hr. work week. Mrs. Gatton stated that she was one of the lowest paid positions in the county and she was not in support of 6-7% pay increase to the Director. Mrs. Deakins stated that the auditor's office would like to discuss with the commissioners, Mrs. Meyers, and Mrs. Sade-Bartl about potentially taking over payroll for the district. The district is currently under contract with the Town of Churubusco for payroll. Mrs. Deakins stated that would potentially be a cost savings to the district budget. Mrs. Meyers is going to schedule a meeting with all to discuss in more detail to present to the board before yr. end and the contract with the Town of Churubusco is up. Mr. Daniel asked Mrs. Meyers to prepare a salary ordinance for the district and put it on the agenda for next months meeting. Mr. Hodges stated he would like to up the Director/Controller appropriation to \$70,000 and decrease the Professional & Legal Services appropriation to \$13,600 leaving the overall presented budget for the district at \$1,084,800. Mrs. Baysinger said she would entertain a motion. Mr. Daniel made a motion to approve the budget as presented with the following two changes #1 increasing the Director/Controller appropriation to \$70,000 and #2 decreasing the Professional & Legal Services appropriation to \$13,600. Motion seconded by Mr. Hodges. Motion passes unanimously 6/0 with Mr. Banks absent.



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**Public Comments-** Mrs. Baysinger asked if there were any additional public comments. There were none.

Mr. Daniel made a motion to adjourn; Mrs. Middleton seconded. Motion passes unanimously 6/0. Meeting adjourned at 9:47 am

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T Baysinger", written over a horizontal line.

Theresa Baysinger- President

A solid horizontal line intended for a signature.

Rob Schuman- Secretary