

BOARD ORDERS AND MINUTES

IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON

FOR THE COUNTY OF YAMHILL

SITTING FOR THE TRANSACTION OF COUNTY BUSINESS

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF YAMHILL COUNTY (“the Board”) sat for the transaction of county business in special formal session on June 15, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. in the Oval Office of the Fenton House, Commissioners Leslie Lewis, Kathy George, and Mary P. Stern being present.

Also present were Laura Tschabold, Administrative Services Director; John Krawczyk, Budget Director; Sherrie Mathison, Solid Waste Coordinator; David Bates, News-Register; Matt Stern, 1850 NE Lafayette Ave, McMinnville; Sharon Bjorn, 19462 Calkins Ln, Newberg; Joe Cook, 410 NE 12 St, McMinnville; Dave Larmouth, 1350 NW Countryside Court, McMinnville; and Merlin LaJoie, 20855 Williamson, Newberg.

Commissioner Lewis called the meeting to order.

A. **AGENDA:**

Solid Waste

1. **B. O. 09-273** - Consideration of authorizing a new recycling rate for Zone 1 - Suburban within territory served by Western Oregon Waste (WOW); rate effective July 1, 2009, recycling service to begin not later than December 7, 2009.

Ms. Stern recused herself from the discussion because of an actual conflict of interest caused by her husband’s employment at WOW.

Sherrie Mathison stated that WOW’s request for rural recycling pickup in some parts of the county was previously approved and they have now submitted proposed rate sheets. Matt Stern explained that the Suburban Zone will see a 10% rate increase effective July 1, 2009, and a similar increase on July 1, 2010. He said that the rates for Zone 2, which has no recycling pickup, will not be adjusted at this time.

Ms. George moved approval of item A(1). The motion passed, Commissioners Lewis and George voting aye and Commissioner Stern abstaining.

2. Consideration of authorizing the following operating ratio adjustments for solid waste disposal:
 - a. Western Oregon Waste, 1.3% decrease; *[Application withdrawn.]*

Ms. Lewis noted that the Board had received a letter withdrawing the application.

b. **B. O. 09-274** - Newberg Transfer & Recycling Center, Inc., 5.2% increase;

Sharon Bjorn stated that she has been diligent about making reasonable cost projections and providing appropriate information to the Board. She said that if the CPI increases had been taken in past years, the request for a rate increase now would not be necessary.

Ms. Stern stated that last year's letter from Riverbend about rate increases has no bearing on this year and, without something new in writing from Riverbend, there is no basis to project an increase from them. She added that the Board needs to be consistent with Newberg Transfer and Newberg Garbage in determining whether to accept the projected increase from Riverbend. Ms. Lewis stated that the projected increase from Riverbend is 2.98%, but if a rate of 2% or less could be negotiated, Newberg Garbage would not be outside of the operating ratio limit. She added that she believes a better rate could be negotiated, given the current economy. She said that a 5.2% increase, rather than the requested 5.95%, would be necessary to reset the operating ratio to the required 88% if the Riverbend rate increase is not included. Ms. George expressed her hope that in the future, negotiations regarding cost increases will be completed by the time the Board has to set new rates.

Ms. George moved to authorize a 5.2% increase for Newberg Transfer & Recycling Center, Inc., effective July 1, 2009. The motion passed, Commissioners Lewis, George, and Stern voting aye.

c. Newberg Garbage & Recycling Service, 3.74% increase; *[Application withdrawn.]*

Ms. Bjorn agreed to withdraw the application. Ms. Lewis noted that the Board has the ability to amend the ordinance to allow another rate review. She invited Newberg Garbage to approach the Board again if they get a rate increase that puts them outside the operating ratio limit.

Anne Britt
Secretary

YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Chair LESLIE LEWIS

Commissioner KATHY GEORGE

Commissioner MARY P. STERN