

TCSWMO MEETING MINUTES
Liberty Town Office
January 23, 2025

The following directors were present: Thomas Pitzi, Lee Shane, Scott Esancy, Henry Hall, Dana Philippi, Elaine Porter, Jacob Tobias, and Norman Casas.

Also present were David Stanley, Facility Manager, and Gail Philippi, Administrative Assistant and guest Danny McGovern, Selectboard member from Liberty.

Tom Pitzi called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Lee made a motion, and Norman seconded it to postpone discussion and voting on the October 24th minutes until the April meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Norman Casas and seconded by Jacob Tobias to accept the minutes of the December 18, 2024, meeting. Motion carried with one abstention.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The checking account balance as of today is \$152,432.97 the Reserve Account balance is \$75,584.68 for a total of \$228,017.65. Lee Shane made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and Norman Casas seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Scott Esancy spoke about how Appleton would like to change how they make their assessment payments. Langley Willauer, Appleton Town Clerk, Treasurer & Tax Collector sent an email to Gail which she forwarded to David. Their auditor proposed backloading the payments to pay a bit less in the first two payments and to split the balance in the second two payments. Tom Pitzi feels we need to check the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) to see how this decision should be made.

Jacob likes David and Gail's Tri-County shirts made by Bunny Stanley.

Dana Philippi reported that some members of Liberty's Budget Committee were taken aback by the increase of the Annual Assessment and Dan McGovern stated that the Selectmen were not bothered by it. They expected it to go up and knew that we bought the backhoe and did paving. Dan also doesn't see a problem with carrying debt.

Tom explained fluctuations in money and that we take in a lot of income from out-of-town demo. Some years we put more money into the reserve account.

The old backhoe has not sold yet, that money will go into the reserve account.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Dan says the station looks nice and organized.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Facility Report: Volumes have dropped and trash bag sales down. We had a couple of loads come in from Waldoboro. Grimmel doesn't want char, they don't like burned wood. This is on their list of prohibited items. David will call them now that we know there might be a burned house coming in from the Town of Union.

The snow scoop arrived, and we had hooks welded on to attach it to the backhoe.

The Roll off is on order and engineering drawings are being done.

David used the gift card received from Union Farm for purchasing the backhoe to purchase DEF. In the 500-hour service they do oil analysis.

David met and had a good conversation with the new Town Manager in Union. There is a bridge between

the Town and Station. David has yet to talk with Eddie Blake about future woodlot work.

Copies of the proposed **Final 2025 Budget** were handed out and discussed.

Tom stated that if we are going to make changes to the budget, we need to reach out to John Shepard who can be reached to vote by phone.

David said that the numbers on Page 8 are minimally less than as presented in December: Lincoln County gave us an actual number in January that was lower than David's estimate. For trash disposal David realized that we are not going to do 43 loads, so he reduced that number. If we take more in, we will have more revenue than budgeted for.

2024 Actuals are actual end of year numbers. At the December meeting, they were estimated using November actuals.

Page 8 Town Assessments aren't exact due to rounding. Per the ILA, population numbers are now DHHS numbers which only change every 10 years.

Jacob asked about Woodlot Management. A few years ago, we decided to have it cleaned up, Ed Blake did the cutting, and the forester was Nolan Steele who worked for Robbins Lumber. We have a ten-year plan. They were going to cut more and didn't. Our lot is adjacent to Blake's woodlot, so he didn't need to go on posted roads. We received revenue of about \$20,000. David budgeted for it so that we have money allocated to pay the Forester. David will reach out to them. This is a separate piece of property, and we own about 90 acres in that lot. David said that at one time there was a concerted effort with other towns and transfer stations to have a demo processing facility which would have been located on that property. An engineering study was done by Gartley and Dorsky. It would have been separate from Tri-County. The lots are on the Town of Union Tax Maps. Danny mentioned that we started it because Tom Sawyer in Bangor was looking into that kind of facility.

Jacob made a motion to accept the budget as presented, seconded by Henry. Passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Reserve Account: Tom reported that the latest challenge is that we have over \$250,000, which puts us over the FDIC insurance limit. In talking with Camden National Bank another option is a CDAR FDIC insured CD. The bank goes out to the company, and they buy FDIC insured CDs on our behalf. The CDs would be insured individually. A 6-month CDAR is available at 3% interest. The interest is a bit lower for being in the CDAR. We could do up to \$12 million in these accounts. We could do a ladder approach though a 12-month CD is not in our best interest.

David said we have a Rolloff = \$12,500 and the trailer repair to pay for. Trailer repair will be out of Station income or Town Assessments.

Tom called for a straw poll on how much to put into the CDAR \$50,000 or 75,000.

Lee made a motion to put \$75,000 in a 6-month CDAR at Camden Nation Bank and Tom seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Tick Management: David researched this and both companies he has contacted use Bifenthrin which is Tick specific and is approved by the Board of Pesticide Control. The two quotes are very different. Tick Talk's Paul McFarland out of Rockport has done the Northport Transfer Station for years. He came to the Station and went over everything with David. His fee is \$1300.00. The Turf Doctor didn't come out and did estimates from Google shots of property. Their fee is \$600. David said it's like comparing apples and oranges. TCSW is 36,000 sq ft. A quote on David's much smaller Rockport property was 1/3 the cost. Even with the price difference David said he'd go with Tick Talk. Jacob mentioned that he has been in

situations with good salesmanship and feels like he's paying for the salesmanship. Spraying will be done in the spring, probably in April, and fall. This is in the budget and David will go with Tick Talk.

Bradley Leeman has surfaced again. He approached the Town of Union and their Town Manager because he has exhausted his options with us. He may approach the other member towns as well. He wrote to the Town of Union stating that he feels we are not operating a safe facility, and our lawyer wrote back to him saying that this was settled. TCSW is not a municipal organization, and if a town is approached, they should let Tom or David know. According to the lawyer this is not harassment yet.

Scott Esancy requested that meetings be recorded and posted on the website. After brief discussion **Scott made a motion that we begin recording meetings and have the recordings posted on our website. Vote was 6 in favor and 1 abstention.** Tom requested that Jacob as Secretary do the recordings and post them on the website.

The next meeting will be on 4/24/2025 in Somerville.

Tom made a motion that we adjourn at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Philippi, Administrative Assistant