

msd **METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT**
1220 S.W. MORRISON, ROOM 300, PORTLAND, OREGON 97205
(503) 222-3671

MSD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF MAY 6, 1977

S P E C I A L M E E T I N G

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ray Miller, Chairman
Lyle Salquist
Robert Schumacher

ADVISORS IN ATTENDANCE

Dean Gisvold, Attorney
Bob Brown, DEQ

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

List attached.

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Charles C. Kemper
Merle Irvine
Cordell Ketterling
Jean Woodman

**METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD ACTION**

NO. 77-819 DATE 5-27-77
YES NO ABST.

BARTELS
GORDON
McCREADY
ROBNETT
SALQUIST
SCHUMACHER
MILLER, CHAIRMAN

YES	NO	ABST.
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Jean Woodman
Clerk of the Board

A quorum was not present, however, the Board members present received comments from landfill operators on the following special agenda item:

77-806 SPECIFIC ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES FOR COLLECTION OF USER FEE

Mr. Jim Savage and Mr. Mike Anthony, of Coopers & Lybrand, presented their accounting procedure to be used in collecting and processing the user fees at the landfills. The procedure provided for a list of four alternatives and Commissioner Miller requested comments from the landfill operators on the various alternatives. The following testimony was received:

1. Mr. Ronald Watson, Attorney
Representing Land Reclamation, Inc.

Mr. Watson stated that he was not prepared to make recommendations on the report as he had not had an opportunity to review the report prior to this meeting. He questioned whether the Board was aware of the restrictions outlined in the contract between the City of Portland and Land Reclamation for operation of the St. Johns Landfill, and that the extra cost imposed by MSD could not be passed on. Mr. Watson also objected to the auditing provision in the procedure, and felt that reports as issued to DEQ should be sufficient for MSD.

Mr. Ketterling stated that the City contract did have provisions for passing on the user fee, and that MSD's ordinances had been adopted prior to the City's placing operation of the St. Johns Landfill to bid. He also stated that a meeting had been held to review the procedure with the operators, and that the Solid Waste Committee, of which Gene Plew is a member, reviewed the procedure, and notices of all meetings had been sent to the operators.

Mr. Watson was concerned that reports required by MSD would disclose information that might be valuable in submitting proposals for competitive bid contracts. Mr. Gisvold answered that all MSD records must be available to the public unless specifically exempted by law; however, if Land Reclamation requested that they not be disclosed, a third party would be required to demonstrate the need for disclosure.

2. Mr. Jack Parker
Rossmans Landfill

Mr. Parker was concerned with charging on a basis of weight in that only one scale was envisioned for the sites, which would require that a standard light weight be used. He felt that without two scales, one for loaded weights and one for unloaded weights, MSD would be faced with problems of accurately setting the fees. With regards to the audits he felt they should be confined to confirming the fact that the fee is being paid. Mr. Parker also stated that the cost to the public was too high and would encourage illegal dumping.

3. Mr. Gene Plew
Land Reclamation, Inc.

Mr. Plew objected to using pre-numbered tickets, stating that they would present problems in his weekly posting system.

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He also objected to the multi-total cash register, stating the the cost would be prohibitive.

4. Ben Middleton, Accountant
Land Reclamation, Inc.

Mr. Middleton requested that the Board allow time for a more thorough review of the user fee collection accounting system.

The Board discussed the time schedule for MSD's receipt of user fees by July 1. This May 6 special meeting was held to provide the operators additional discussion of the manual. Mr. Ketterling stated that the Coopers & Lybrand operating accounting manual provided the best procedures with the minimum impact on the operators and should be approved.

5. Larry Plew
Land Reclamation

Mr. Plew suggested that if MSD was under a time schedule they could use the DEQ yardage reports for charging the user fee.

Representatives of Land Reclamation objected also to paying the user fee by the 20th of the month following the month waste was received, in that they felt charge customers might not have paid by this time. Mr. Watson stated that this was taxing on revenues not received and was an unheard of procedure. Mr. Parker stated that he did not feel this would be an impact as most of his customers paid by this date.

As there was no further testimony to be received, Commissioner Miller directed staff to place the Coopers & Lybrand accounting procedures for collection of user fees on the May 13, 1977, Board agenda for consideration by a quorum.

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 P.M.