

INFORMAL MINUTES

September 22, 2008

1:30 p.m.

Oval Office

PRESENT: Commissioners Mary P. Stern, Leslie Lewis, and Kathy George.

Staff: John M. Gray, Jr., Laura Tschabold, John Krawczyk, Steve Mikami, Sherrie Mathison, Ken Friday, and Ted Smietana.

Guests: David Bates, News-Register; David Larmouth, 1350 NW Countryside Court, McMinnville; and Laura Leebrick, 394 Atlantic Ave, Astoria.

* indicates item forwarded to formal agenda

Mary called the meeting to order. She recused herself from the discussion about rural recycling, noting that her husband is employed by Western Oregon Waste (WOW).

* Rural Recycling Zones - David Larmouth, WOW, distributed handouts of a proposal for a possible rural recycling program to begin July, 2009 (see Exhibit A). He explained that WOW would like to spend more time collecting data in order to work out the details of the proposal, but only if the Board is supportive of the idea.

Kathy expressed concerns about increased costs causing rural customers to drop garbage service and find alternative methods of disposal, such as burning, burying, or dumping. David stated that WOW has been able to add recycling in other rural areas with out a steep decline in the use of garbage service.

Leslie stated that rural recycling is a good idea, but she is also concerned about what the rate changes would be and how people would react. She encouraged WOW to do more of a survey for its rural customer base and to inform customers of the estimated rate increase. Kathy added that some educational information about recycling would be helpful, since many residents have never had that service before.

* Personnel - Steve presented personnel requests from various departments. See agenda for details.

The Board agreed to offer apparel with the county logo on it to employees receiving recognition for years of service, since the program was well received by employees the previous year.

Land Use - Ken Friday briefed the Board on Planning Docket FT-12-08(SA), an appeal of the Planning Director's approval of a forest template dwelling, applicant Charma Vaage, appellants Friends of Yamhill County. No site visit was scheduled.

* Contracts/Grants - See agenda for details.

* Committees - See agenda for details.

* Minutes - See agenda for formal session minutes to be adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Anne Britt
Secretary

WOW YC-Zones Proposal
April 16th, 2008

Background

As fuel, labor and equipment costs continue to increase, Western Oregon Waste (WOW) is dedicated to operating as efficiently as possible. In part, this means taking steps to ensure that customers pay rates that are appropriate in relation to the costs of providing collection services.

In addition, as the rural population of Yamhill County has grown, WOW has received more and more requests for recycling service from county customers. WOW does not feel it is reasonable to provide this service to all county customers, or to ask all county customers to bear the cost of the service.

WOW feels that dividing the rural county into multiple service zones is the best way to address both of these challenges.

Ordinance Reference

Exhibit A to Yamhill County Ordinance 626, 1997;

Section 8.4.b: Nothing in this section is intended to prevent the reasonable establishment of uniform classes of rates based upon length or haul, type of solid waste stored, collected, transported, or disposed of, or upon the number, type and location of customers served, or upon other factors if such rates are reasonably based on costs of the particular service and are approved by the Board in the same manner as other rates.

Data Collection & Analysis

WOW used GPS data from our Fleetmind truck software to locate all of our rural customers, and entered that information into a MapPoint, a computerized mapping and routing program. From there, WOW used customer density, road type, and terrain information to identify two zones, called Rural and Distant Rural. As the name implies, the Distant Rural Zone refers to those areas of the county that are more remote, less populated, and more difficult to reach. When drawing the boundaries, WOW staff used major intersections, bridges, and other landmarks to make them easy to locate and explain to customers.

During this process, the following question was posed frequently: "Are we willing to drive an additional truck up there/in there/through there to pick up recycling?" These boundaries were then reviewed and revised by Sherrie Mathison, YC Solid Waste Coordinator. Her suggestions were incorporated into the proposal, and are reflected on the attached maps.

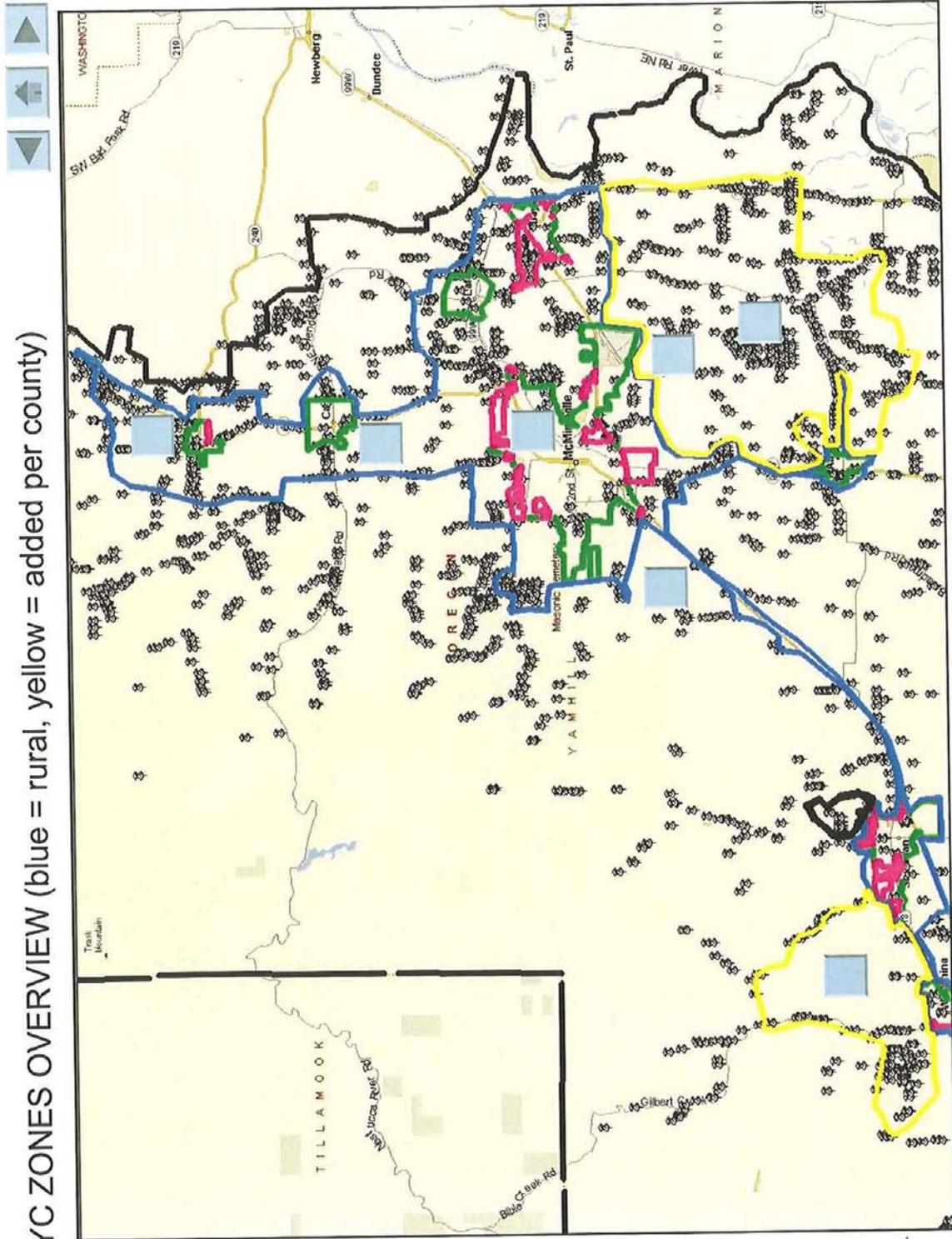
Rate Impact

WOW is not proposing to increase collection rates in either zone at this time. In the future, we do expect to see increased rates in the distant rural zone to account for the decreased route efficiency in that area. In July, 2009, WOW plans to offer residential and commercial recycling to customers in the rural zone. A rate adjustment for those customers will probably be necessary at that time, to cover the costs of the carts and containers, as well as additional labor and equipment, as the added workload cannot be covered using existing trucks and personnel.

At the annual Rate Review, WOW will present financial information for the entire rural area (both zones combined), as well as proposed rate schedules for each zone.

EX. A 1/2

YC ZONES OVERVIEW (blue = rural, yellow = added per county)



Ex. A 2/2