



Mendocino County

Legislation Text

File #: 17-0519, **Version:** 1

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Gjerde

Meeting Date: June 20, 2017

Department Contact: Supervisor Gjerde

Phone: 463-4441

Item Type: Regular Agenda

Time Allocated for Item: 10 min

Agenda Title:

Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding Re-Opening Westport Transfer Station on Saturdays (Sponsor: Supervisor Gjerde)

Recommended Action/Motion:

Direct Solid Wastes of Willits (SWOW) to open and operate the Westport Transfer Station for six hours on Saturdays, accepting municipal solid waste and single stream recyclables from the public. It is requested that the Board of Supervisors consider waiving the \$1,117 annual County Environmental Health permit fee to operate a transfer station in Westport. Waiving this permit fee will enable SWOW to offer this service without losing money. In lieu of rent, the Westport County Water District (WCWD) proposes a \$1/can and \$5/cubic yard surcharge on solid waste collected at this transfer station, which SWOW will collect and pay to the WCWD. The Westport County Water District, with just 61 water and sewer connections in the town, reports it needs the surcharge, due to its customers already paying very high water and sewer payments to the district, and the need for additional rate increases.

Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:

At their January 24, 2017, meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved an interim one-year agreement with Solid Wastes of Willits (SWOW), which provided SWOW with additional revenue and cost saving measures relating to provision of solid waste services, pursuant to five existing franchise and/or transfer station agreements.

This interim one-year agreement between the County and SWOW included a provision allowing temporary closure of Recycling Buy-Back Redemption Centers in Boonville, Gualala, and Westport. The County retained the right to direct SWOW to re-open these Recycling Buy-Back Redemption Centers in the future.

Summary of Request:

Closure of the Westport Recycling Buy-Back Center had several unanticipated and undesirable consequences, which were not known at the time the Board of Supervisors approved the one-year agreement with SWOW on January 24, 2017. More specifically: Closure of the Westport Recycling Buy-Back Center, required by the County's Franchise Area One (1) contract with SWOW, led to closure of the Westport Transfer Station, which was not required in this contract. Closure of the Westport Transfer Station left Westport residents with more than 45 minute one-way travel time to the nearest transfer stations in Caspar and Laytonville.

Board approval of Recommended Actions will help resolve the issues created by closure in early 2017 of Recycling Buy-Back Centers in Westport. Staff will update the Board periodically regarding the status of solid waste and Buy-Back recycling services in Westport.

Alternative Action/Motion:

Provide direction to staff.

Supplemental Information Available Online at: N/A

Fiscal Impact:

Source of Funding: Westport Transfer Station: **Budgeted in Current F/Y:** No
ratepayers

Current F/Y Cost: N/A

Annual Recurring Cost: N/A

Supervisory District: District 4

Vote Requirement: Majority

Agreement/Resolution/Ordinance Approved by County Counsel: N/A

CEO Liaison: Janelle Rau, Deputy CEO

CEO Review: Yes

Comments: