

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT: TIPPING FEE BRIEFING

DEPARTMENT: Environmental Services **DIVISION:** Solid Waste

AUTHORIZED BY: _____ **CONTACT:** David Gregory **EXT.** 2012
David Gregory, Acting Director

Agenda Date <u>05-10-05</u> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Work Session <input type="checkbox"/> Briefing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing – 1:30 <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing – 7:00 <input type="checkbox"/>
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MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:

Informational Item presented to the Board of County Commissioners Concerning Landfill Tipping Fees.

BACKGROUND:

Staff has notified businesses that they will be required to pay the established commercial tipping fee for commercial waste delivered to the landfill for disposal. This notice will not affect how "mom and pop" customers are charged for disposal at the landfill.

Summary Information:

The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) most recently revised fees for use of the landfill and transfer station on September 23, 2003. The "tipping fee" established for commercial waste delivered for disposal is \$33.17 per ton. The BCC also established flat rate fees for the convenience of "mom and pop" customers. The flat rate fees include a \$14 fee for truck or trailer loads up to four (4) cubic yard of waste.

In the period since the hurricanes, the landfill has experienced a tremendous increase in the number of trailers delivering waste. Landfill personnel have also observed that many of the trailers delivering loads are much larger than four (4) cubic yards and have two or three axles. Upon investigating this situation, staff determined that many of these large trailers are hauling commercial waste, and that these haulers expect to pay the "mom and pop" flat rate of \$14 per load for loads weighing 3 to 5 tons. Many of the very large commercial trailer loads contain roofing material generated by commercial roofing companies, and a number of the large trailers are operated by small companies that are paid by roofing companies to haul waste from job sites.

Reviewed by: Co Atty: <u>na</u> DFS: <u>na</u> Other: <u>na</u> DCM: <u>SS</u> CM: <u>[Signature]</u> File No. <u>BESS01</u>

Staff determined that the flat rate tipping fee was not being applied correctly to these commercial loads of waste being delivered to the landfill. In an effort to allow affected commercial entities to address the change in cost that they would experience with the fees being properly applied, staff posted notice and handed out fliers at the landfill advising haulers that per ton fees would be applied to commercial firms in 30 days. This notice was initiated in early April advising customers that on May 9, 2005 commercial fees would be applied to commercial loads.

Flat rates will continue to be applied to "mom and pop" customers delivering material to the landfill and transfer station.

Details Concerning Landfill Tipping Fees:

The Solid Waste Rate Resolution (adopted September 23, 2003) sets tipping fees for the landfill and transfer station. Two rates are provided below:

- Section 1 (c) "Non-Weighed (flat) rates for disposal of more than one (1) pickup truck load up to four (4) cubic yards (approximately two (2) pickup truck loads). Pickup trucks with heaped loads or loads contained by side-boards will be charged this rate. Loads contained in both a truck and a trailer will be charged for two (2) loads. Landfill only, \$14 per load (covered)."
- Section 1 (d) "Weighed rates. For loads of garbage, trash, yard waste, and other waste, all commercial trucks or containers and non-commercial large trailers or trucks with capacity of one (1) ton or greater shall be weighed and the following disposal fees charged: Per ton \$33.17 (covered)."

Additional information:

- The Solid Waste Management Tipping Fees are set for the division to break-even. That is, the \$33.17 fee reflects the division's full-cost to operate.
- Flat rates are established as a convenience to "mom and pop" customers.
- Since the hurricanes, the Landfill has seen a tremendous increase in the number and size of trailers delivering construction debris.
 - March 2004, \$14 flat rate C&D loads = 384
 - March 2005, \$14 flat rate C&D loads = 2,682
- The trailers used to deliver debris to the landfill are apparently commercial in size and scope. Many of these trailers are 12 to 20 cubic yards, have two or three axles, and carry up to 5 tons.
- Recently the Solid Waste Management Division became aware that companies are in the business of locating a trailer at a roofing job site, then hauling the material to the landfill for disposal. It appears that many of these firms do not have Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCNs) or Non-Exclusive Commercial Franchises.

- The businesses operating over-size trailers hauling commercial waste are exploiting the flat rates that were created for non-commercial, "mom and pop" deliveries. Through conversations with individuals hauling to the landfill, these commercial firms are taking advantage of the price differential to establish a competitive advantage over commercial firms that operate under the conditions established by the COPCNs or the Non-Exclusive Commercial Franchises.
- The businesses operating oversize trailers hauling commercial waste indicate that the typical load they carry is 3 to 5 tons. The tipping fee associated with commercial loads this size is \$100 to \$165.
- On or about April 9, 2005 a sign was posted at the landfill indicating that on May 9, 2005, commercial loads and loads larger than 4 cubic yards would be charged by weight. Handouts with this information are being distributed to customers, also.
- Seminole County only operates a Class I landfill. Class I landfills can dispose of household garbage and are required to have extensive environmental controls. Other Class I landfills in the area charge rates similar to Seminole County.
- Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D) or Class III landfills in the area charge rates in the \$17 per ton range. Class III and C&D landfills can dispose of only "non-putrescible" waste like building debris, wood, carpet, etc. and are required to have less restrictive environmental controls. Typically roofing material waste is hauled to C&D or Class III landfills, not Class I landfills like the Osceola Road Landfill.

Attached is a comparison of the tipping fee rate change that was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on September 23, 2003.

Highlights of Tip Fee Rate Resolution Changes Presented 09/23/03

	<u>Description</u>	<u>Tip Fee Before 09/23/03</u>	<u>Tip Fee Adopted 09/23/03</u>
1	Small Self-Haul	\$4 Flat rate Non-commercial disposal up to 8 bags	\$4 Flat rate Non-commercial disposal up to 8 bags
2	Medium Self-Haul	\$14 - Transfer Station \$7 - Landfill Non-commercial disposal over 8 bags - "carload, small trailer or pickup truck"	\$14 - Transfer Station \$7 - Landfill Flat rate disposal over eight bags to one-pickup truck load (2 cubic yards)
3	Large Self-Haul	New rate Old rate resolution requires loads larger than one pickup truck load to be weighed. <i>Description has created confusion in assessing fees for large trailers and heaped loads.</i>	\$14 - Landfill, only For heaped up loads, or larger trailers. Non-weighed (flat) rate for disposal of more than one (1) pickup truck load up to four (4) cubic yards (approximately two (2) pickup truck loads).
4	Weighed Loads	\$33.17 per ton Standard tipping fee	\$33.17 per ton Standard tipping fee
5	MSBU Limitation * * (approved 10/14/05)	New item	Limit MSBU customers w/curbside service to twelve (12) flat rate loads per year.
6	Non-Exclusive Franchise Application Fees ** (approved 10/14/03)	New fee	\$100 application fee \$20 per truck fee

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	<u>Description</u>	<u>Tip Fee Before 09/23/03</u>	<u>Tip Fee Adopted 09/23/03</u>
7	Disposal Discounts	New discount	<p>\$3 per ton for MSBU customers</p> <p>\$3 per ton for Non-Exclusive Franchise customers</p> <p>\$3 per ton for commercial firms working in Cities with interlocal solid waste agreement</p>
8	Clean fill	New fee	<p>\$0 per ton</p> <p>Soil appropriate for use as daily cover, consistent with DEP rules</p>
9	Alternate daily cover	New fee	<p>\$15 per ton</p> <p>Soil like material approved for use as daily cover by the DEP.</p>
10	Public works processing material	New fee	<p>\$0 per ton</p> <p>Material delivered by Public Works and recycled on-site.</p>
11	Tires, each	<p>\$1 at transfer station</p> <p>\$0.85 at landfill</p>	<p>\$1 each</p> <p>Rate changed to be consistent at both locations.</p>
12	Tires per ton at landfill	<p>\$85 per ton</p> <p>Note: most customers charged per tire.</p>	<p>\$100 per ton</p> <p>Rate changed to be consistent with surrounding counties.</p>
13	Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity	<p>\$100 application fee</p> <p>\$20 per truck fee</p>	<p>\$100 application fee</p> <p>\$25 per truck fee</p>