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# MEMORANDUM

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Date: June 11, 2014

To: The Honorable Chair and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator 

Re: **Solid Waste Services Annual Report**

I have asked our Environmental Quality Department to provide an annual report regarding our transfer of solid waste services from a staff-operated function to a contracted function on the anniversary of the date of the transfer.

Tucson Recycling and Waste Services (TRWS) began operating the County's solid waste facilities on June 2, 2013. The attached June 6, 2014 memorandum is a site-by-site summary of current activities. It is apparent the public is now receiving more services; i.e., extended hours of operation and expanded solid waste collection services.

In addition, there are a number of active discussions regarding final closure of at least two facilities – the Tangerine and Ina Road landfills. Pending closure of the Sahuarita Landfill in 2015, there is active development of a solid waste transfer station.

The attached report also includes discussion of the Household Hazardous Waste Program. The County discontinued our financial participation in this program due to a lack of equitable financial participation from other jurisdictions. Our level of program funding was not proportional to the benefits received for unincorporated area residents.

It is important to note that TRWS owner Larry Henk has waived the annual anniversary increase of the three percent Consumer Price Index for next year. We concur with Mr. Henk's conclusion that the end of this year of service transition was "a great success for Pima County and TRWS."

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact me.

CHH/anc  
Attachment

c: John Bernal, Deputy County Administrator for Public Works  
Ellen Wheeler, Assistant County Administrator  
Ursula Kramer, Director, Environmental Quality



# MEMORANDUM

Pima County Department of Environmental Quality

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**DATE:** June 6, 2014

**TO:** C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

**FROM:** Ursula Kramer *uk*  
Director

**RE:** Solid Waste One Year Anniversary Report

One year has passed since the transition of our solid waste services to a private contractor, Tucson Recycling and Waste Services (TRWS). This memo presents information regarding solid waste activities and operations over the past year.

On June 2, 2013, TRWS began operating the County's solid waste facilities under contract to the Pima County Department of Environmental Quality (PDEQ). TRWS is required to provide equal or better services to the residents of Pima County. On the one-year anniversary, TRWS has met that requirement and has demonstrated responsiveness and dedication to providing excellent customer service. PDEQ solid waste staff maintains oversight of the contract and are responsible for all environmental compliance activities, as well as management of facilities not operated by TRWS and for all activities at old solid waste facilities in the County.

### ***Services Currently Being Provided***

TRWS continues to operate all of the County's facilities with the exception of the Tangerine Landfill which is near capacity and currently not accepting waste from the public. The Pima County Waste Tire Collection Facility, formerly operated by TRWS at the Tangerine Landfill, is now operated by Crumb Rubber Manufacturing, Inc. (CRM) at the Ina Road Landfill site.

Ajo Landfill – TRWS operates the County's landfill in Ajo. TRWS has expanded hours of operation to Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon. TRWS continues to accept waste tires for collection by the County's waste tire recycler, CRM. TRWS has added recycling to the activities in Ajo. TRWS has implemented landfill fees for the first time at this facility. There is also a reduced economic hardship fee and almost 70 people are paying the reduced fee. Although residents at all other Pima County locations must complete the low-income demonstration through the County's Community

Memorandum to C. H. Huckelberry  
Re: SW One Year Anniversary Report  
June 6, 2014  
Page Two

Services Department, residents in Ajo may self-certify to receive the low income discount. There have been some complaints that there may be illegal waste hauling businesses in Ajo; PDEQ is pursuing those allegations but has not found any evidence to support the complaints.

Sahuarita Landfill – The Sahuarita Landfill continues to operate in accordance with previous County operations. The landfill will be nearing capacity in the spring of 2015 and will cease to accept municipal waste from the public at that time. However, TRWS will construct and operate a transfer station at the site of the landfill to continue accepting municipal waste and recycling without interruption.

Ryan Field Transfer Station – TRWS continues to operate the transfer station consistent with previous County operations. There are no plans for any changes at the facility.

Catalina Transfer Station – TRWS has expanded operating hours to Monday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. They continue to accept residential municipal waste and recycling, but have expanded operations to also accept commercial waste. In addition, TRWS also accepts green waste year round. TRWS has also made some physical changes to the station to facilitate more efficient transfer operations. They have removed the compactor which allowed improved access for open top transfer trailers for top loading, removed the scales from Tangerine and re-installed them in the transfer trailer chute facilitating optimum load weights, and made improvements to the ABOP and recycling areas.

Tangerine Landfill – The Tangerine Landfill has nearly reached its capacity and is no longer accepting municipal waste from the public. The remaining capacity is reserved for future use by the County. The waste tire collection facility, formerly located at the Tangerine Landfill and operated by TRWS, has been moved to the Ina Road Landfill and is currently operated by the County's waste tire recycler, CRM.

The contract with TRWS specifies that soil from the excavation of WMI's new Marana Regional Landfill will be made available at no charge to the County for landfill closure during periods of cell excavation at the Marana Regional Landfill. The County is responsible for any haul costs. PDEQ and TRWS are currently exploring possible haul routes from the Marana Regional Landfill to the Tangerine Landfill in order to develop the most cost effective route to transport final cover material for eventual closure of the landfill. Although current closure plans do not include future use of the site, it would be possible to modify the closure to allow future use if financially feasible options are available.

Memorandum to C. H. Huckelberry  
Re: SW One Year Anniversary Report  
June 6, 2014  
Page Three

Ina Road Landfill – The Ina Road Landfill previously accepted construction and demolition (C&D) waste but was closed several years ago due to limited revenue generated at the site. As soil becomes available from nearby County projects, it will be made available for final cover material for the Ina Road landfill. Several possible future uses have been explored, including a bicycle course or a dog park.

Waste Tire Program – The County has transitioned the operation of the waste tire program to the County's tire recycling contractor Crumb Rubber Manufacturing, Inc. (CRM). CRM is now fully operating the waste tire collection and recycling program, including receiving of waste tires at the Ina Road solid waste facility, staffing the gate house, maintenance of the waste tire site, hauling and recycling. These changes were accomplished at no additional costs to the County.

Historically, County staff operated the collection facility and CRM was only responsible for hauling and recycling. With the privatization of solid waste operations, CRM was able to expand its operations to include the additional tasks. The waste tire program is funded separately from the remainder of the solid waste operations; it is funded by an allocation from the State based on the sale of tires in Pima County. These funds are restricted for use on the tire program.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program – The City/County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program provided residents the opportunity to dispose of their household hazardous waste, such as cleaners, paint, solvents, CFLs, pesticides and herbicides, for reuse, recycling or proper disposal. The program has been operated by the City and jointly funded by the City and County. The County has operated drop-off sites for waste antifreeze, batteries, oil and paint (ABOP) at its transfer stations and landfills (except for Ajo). The HHW program has collected these materials through an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City and the County. Costs for the program were split between the City and County based on the percentage of population in the area, resulting in an annual cost of about \$280,000 to the County. The County's fiscal constraints and the lack of participation by other jurisdictions have led to the County's termination of funding for the program, effective June 30, 2014. TRWS is exploring possible ways to continue accepting at least some of the material currently collected at the HHW sites. Recognizing that County funding for this effort will not be feasible, TRWS is evaluating a possible fee program for discussion and Board action. For now, TRWS has committed to maintaining the ABOP sites at all landfills and transfer stations. After an assessment period to determine usage and cost, options for continuing the ABOP collections will be explored and presented for further discussion and action.

Memorandum to C. H. Huckelberry  
Re: SW One Year Anniversary Report  
June 6, 2014  
Page Four

### **Landfill and Transfer Station Disposal Fees**

TRWS continues to charge disposal fees approved by the Board of Supervisors at all locations. Included in that approval were periodic disposal cost increases (see attached ordinance).

### **Budget**

Every effort is being made to minimize expenditures for the solid waste program. However, the contract costs with TRWS are approximately \$750,000 per year and include an annual escalation of about 3%. TRWS has waived the fee increase due on June 1, 2014 in consideration of the positive working relationship between TRWS and DEQ and recognition of financial constraints (see attached letter). In addition to the contract costs, the County remains legally and financially responsible for environmental compliance and maintenance of all solid waste facilities.

In order to conduct the tasks that remain the responsibility of the County, Solid Waste has three staff members at a cost of \$250,000 in salary and benefits. Such environmental compliance tasks include stormwater management, monitoring of air, groundwater, landfill gas, and maintenance of those monitoring facilities and landfill soil cover at a cost of almost \$330,000 per year. There are also permitting fees that must be paid to the State of about \$35,000 annually. Solid Waste staff is also responsible for technical work associated with the County's historic landfills, including the review and development of comments for the Broadway/Pantano landfill environmental studies directed by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, the El Camino del Cerro landfill voluntary cleanup and ADEQ technical documents for the site and the Harrison Road landfill. A summary of the budget is attached. The total operating budget for solid waste is about \$1.366 million per year. However, the Solid Waste expenses are far lower than they would have been had the County continued to operate all of its facilities.

Solid Waste Management has been consistent in providing convenient and affordable solid waste disposal facilities for Pima County residents to the extent allowed by fiscal constraints. Since solid waste disposal facilities continue to be needed at more remote County locations, there is an ongoing need for the transfer stations at Catalina, Ryan Field and the planned Sahuarita Transfer Station. With the closure of the Tangerine and Sahuarita landfills to the public, there would have been no low cost disposal options for the County for the waste collected at those facilities. The County would have been faced with either closing those transfer stations and creating a hardship for the areas' residents or continuing to operate the transfer station but entering into disposal agreements with a private landfill operator or with the City. Regardless of the final negotiated disposal rate, it is certain that costs would have increased substantially due to longer hauling distances and the imposition of disposal costs at the final location.

Memorandum to C. H. Huckelberry  
Re: SW One Year Anniversary Report  
June 6, 2014  
Page Five

**Summary**

The transition to private operations of the County's solid waste facilities has gone very smoothly. Services have either remained the same or expanded. TRWS has been very responsive in addressing any needs and issues to improve customer service and operations. The remaining solid waste staff members manage the TRWS contract and provide oversight, as well as ensuring regulatory environmental compliance, at all County-owned facilities and managing the County's historic solid waste sites.

We are available to discuss this issue further at your convenience.

UK/vb

cc: John M. Bernal, Deputy County Administrator  
Dave Eaker, Deputy Director for SW Division, PDEQ  
Richard Grimaldi, Deputy Director for EQ Division, PDEQ

Attachments: Ordinance with fee increases  
Letter from TRWS waiving this year's increase



March 24, 2014

Ursula Kramer, Director  
Pima County Department of Environmental Quality

Ursula,

As you are aware, Tucson Recycling & Waste Services (TRWS) entered into a contract with Pima County (County) effective 6/1/2013 for operation of the County landfills and transfer stations. The terms of the contract provide for an annual increase on every anniversary of the contract for the amount greater of CPI or 3%.

This letter is to serve as a formal acknowledgment that TRWS has agreed to waive its right to increase the fees charged to the County on this first anniversary date. This waiver is for the first anniversary only and TRWS retains the right to the increases as provided for in the contract on all future anniversaries.

I feel this first year was a great success for Pima County and TRWS.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Larry D. Henk", is written in a cursive style.

Larry D Henk

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 PIMA CO CLERK OF THE BOARD  
 PICKUP



SEQUENCE: 20132270881  
 NO. PAGES: 3  
 ORDIN: 08/15/2013  
 18:00  
 PICK UP  
 AMOUNT PAID: \$0.00

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 2013-35**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA, RELATING TO SOLID WASTE; REPEALING THE EXISTING FEE SCHEDULE FOR PIMA COUNTY'S SOLID WASTE FACILITIES AND ADOPTING A NEW FEE SCHEDULE FOR PIMA COUNTY'S SOLID WASTE FACILITIES.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** Section 2 of Pima County Ordinance Number 2010-41 is repealed.

**Section 2.** The Fee Schedule for Pima County's Solid Waste Facilities (Landfills and Transfer Stations) is adopted as follows.

**FEE SCHEDULE FOR LANDFILLS AND TRANSFER STATIONS**

**A. COMMERCIAL HAULERS**

The fees for commercial haulers shall be prorated fractionally based on tonnage.

September 6, 2013	July 1, 2014	July 1, 2015	July 1, 2016	July 1, 2017
<b>TANGERINE LANDFILL</b>				
\$30/ton (minimum \$10)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>SAHUARITA LANDFILL</b>				
\$32.50/ton (minimum \$15)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>AJO LANDFILL</b>				
\$8/CY loose	\$8/CY loose	\$10/CY loose	\$11/CY loose	\$12/CY loose
\$12/CY Compacted	\$13/ CY compacted	\$14/CY compacted	\$15/ CY compacted	\$16/ CY compacted
<b>Green Waste Disposal</b>				
\$10/Pick-up truck	\$10/Pick-up truck	\$11/Pick-up truck	\$12/Pick-up truck	\$13/Pick-up truck
\$20/Pick-up truck w/trailer	\$20/Pick-up truck w/trailer	\$22/Pick-up truck w/trailer	\$24/Pick-up truck w/trailer	\$25/Pick-up truck w/trailer
<b>CATALINA TRANSFER STATION</b>				
\$39/ton (minimum \$10)	\$40.95/ton (minimum \$15)	\$42.95/ton (minimum \$17.50)	\$45.10/ton (minimum \$20)	\$46.50/ton (minimum \$22.50)
<b>SAHUARITA TRANSFER STATION</b>				
N/A	\$40.95/ton (minimum \$15)	\$42.95/ton (minimum \$17.50)	\$45.10/ton (minimum \$20)	\$46.50/ton (minimum \$22.50)
<b>INA ROAD LANDFILL (Construction Debris ONLY)</b>				
Construction debris, loose or compacted; land clearing plant debris; clean landscaping green waste; and inert material			\$30/ton (minimum \$10)	

<b>ALL SOLID WASTE FACILITIES</b>	
Non-Standard Waste Fee	\$100/ton
Special Handling Fee	\$75/load
Evaluation Fee	\$150/evaluation
Uncovered Load Fee	\$20/load

## B. RESIDENTIAL HAULERS

The fees for Residential haulers at, or above, one ton will be prorated fractionally based on tonnage.

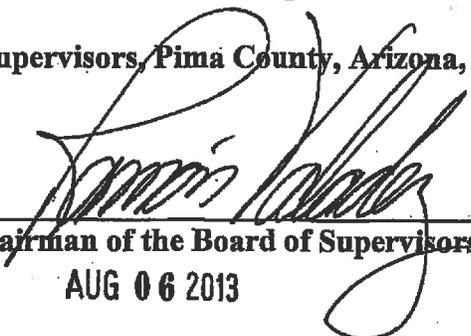
September 6, 2013	July 1, 2014	July 1, 2015	July 1, 2016	July 1, 2017
<b>TANGERINE LANDFILL</b>				
\$10/vehicle (less than 1 ton)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
\$30/ton	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>SAHUARITA LANDFILL</b>				
\$15/vehicle (less than 1 ton)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
\$32.50/ton	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>AJO LANDFILL</b>				
\$5/truck	\$5/truck	\$6/truck	\$6/truck	\$7/truck
\$3/car	\$3/car	\$3/car	\$3/car	\$3/car
<b>CATALINA TRANSFER STATION</b>				
\$10/vehicle (less than 1 ton)	\$15/vehicle (less than 1 ton)	\$17.50/vehicle (less than 1 ton)	\$20/vehicle (less than 1 ton)	\$22.50/vehicle (less than 1 ton)
\$30/ton	\$35/ton	\$39/ton	\$41/ton	\$43/ton
<b>RYAN FIELD TRANSFER STATION</b>				
\$5/vehicle	\$7/vehicle	\$8/vehicle	\$9/vehicle	\$10/vehicle
<b>SAHUARITA TRANSFER STATION</b>				
N/A	\$15/vehicle (less than 1 ton)	\$17.50/vehicle (less than 1 ton)	\$20/vehicle (less than 1 ton)	\$22.50/vehicle (less than 1 ton)
N/A	\$35/ton	\$39/ton	\$41/ton	\$43/ton
<b>INA ROAD LANDFILL (Construction Debris ONLY)</b>				
Construction debris, loose or compacted; land clearing plant debris; clean landscaping green waste; and inert material			\$30/ton (minimum \$10)	
<b>ALL SOLID WASTE FACILITIES</b>				
Uncovered Load Fee	\$20/load			

## C. WASTE TIRE COLLECTION

<b>WASTE TIRE COLLECTION SITE</b>	
Standard, on-road tires	\$30/ton (minimum \$15)
Non-Standard, off-road tires	\$150/ton (minimum \$30)
Tires with rims	\$75/load (in addition to tonnage fee)
Special Handling Fee	\$75/load (in addition to tonnage fee)

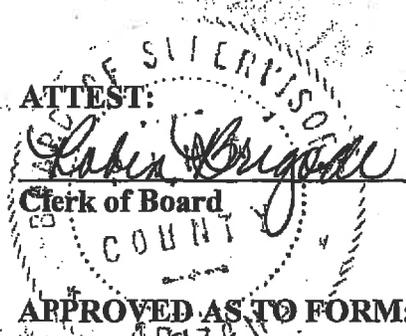
Section 3. This Ordinance is effective 31 days after the date of its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors, Pima County, Arizona, this  
6th day of August, 2013

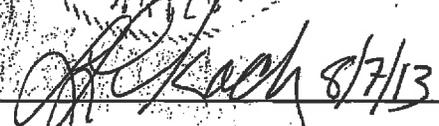
  
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Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

AUG 06 2013

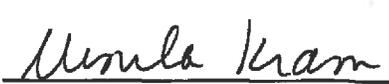
ATTEST:

  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy County Attorney

REVIEWED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ursula Kramer, Director  
Department of Environmental Quality