



# Work Session Summary Minutes

OREGON

## Cost of Services Analysis (COSA) for Franchise Haulers Follow Up

December 3, 2024. 11:00 AM

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem  
5th Floor, Suite 5232, Commissioners Board Room

### ATTENDANCE:

**Commissioners:** Kevin Cameron, Danielle Bethell, and Colm Willis.

**Board's Office:** Matt Lawyer, Jan Fritz, Chad Ball, Chris Eppley, Alvin Klausen, Toni Whitler, and Trevor Lane.

**Legal Counsel:** Steve Elzinga.

**Public Works:** Andrew Johnson, Dennis Mansfield, Brian Nicholas, and Cory Swartwout.

**Republic of Marion County Services:** Kimberly Chambers, Gary Nelson.

**D&O Garbage:** Gary M

**Loren's Sanitation North Marion Recycling & Disposal:** Shawn Edmonds.

**Pacific Sanitation:** Carson Kinsey.

**Mid-Valley and Suburban:** Shane Kinsey, Dan Strandy, and Kevin Hines.

**Valley Recycling and Disposal:** Ryan Willis.

**Bell and Associates:** Chris Bell

Kevin Cameron called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

### **Summary**

Discussed the cost of services, focusing on rate increases and medical waste disposal. Key points included the need for accurate reporting from Republic of Marion County Services, which has been inconsistent, leading to concerns about fairness in rate setting. The board debated capping residential rate increases at Consumer Price Index (CPI), noting historical inflation rates and the impact of Senate Bill 488. They also considered a 70% increase in medical waste disposal costs due to the closure of Covanta, recommending Bio Clean for the new service.

### **COSA Rate Discussion**

- The commissioners' decision to cap residential rates at CPI, using a national average of 2.5% as a reference.
- Concerns about the disparity in rates for different haulers in the same service area.
- Difficult to explain higher rate increases to constituents without clear justification.
- Lack of timely and accurate information from Republic Services, despite multiple requests and meetings.
- Challenges in comparing costs across different haulers due to inconsistent reporting.

- The need for consistent reporting and transparency from all haulers to ensure accurate rate setting.

### **Medical Waste**

- Bio Clean and Trilogy provided proposals, and Bio Clean offered the lowest rates.
- There are proposed rates for different volumes of medical waste, with a 70% increase in costs.
- The board requests transparency and collaboration in addressing medical waste rate increases.

### **Next Steps**

- The board is good to go forward with rate increases for residential services and addressing the box issue separately.
- Schedule a meeting with the county's consultant, haulers, and Marion County Public Works to discuss the specific information needs and reporting requirements
- The board and haulers will collaborate on the language and messaging to be included in the rate increase letters to customers
- The medical waste rate increase and transition to Bio-Clean as the new provider will be approved by the board.

**Adjourned** – time: 11:57 p.m.

**Minutes by:** Mary Vityukova

**Minutes by:** Gary White

**Reviewed by:**

**Reviewed by:**

**Reviewed by:**