

Jefferson County  
Board of Commissioners  
Agenda Request

**To:** Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Monte Reinders, Public Works Director/County Engineer/Acting County Administrator 

**Agenda Date:** September 25, 2023

**Subject:** Revising Effective Date of Revised Solid Waste Fee Schedule

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**Statement of Issue:** On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 the Board of County Commissioners adopted a new schedule of fees for the Solid Waste Division by Resolution 28-23. Many of the transaction types within the new fee schedule are only supported in an upgraded version of the software used at both solid waste facilities. This scheduled software upgrade has been delayed owing to staffing limitations and workloads.

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission governs rates that Washington State contractors charge for hauling municipal solid waste and Waste Connections, Inc., as the only contractor licensed by the WUTC to haul municipal solid waste in Jefferson County, must file financials with the WUTC to request a rate increase a minimum forty-five (45) days prior to the requested rate increase. Waste Connections, Inc.'s request was approved by the WUTC and has given notice to its customers of the new rates.

**Analysis/Strategic Goals/Pro's & Con's:** Because Resolution 28-23 cited implementation of the new fee schedule sixty (60) days from adoption, and because delays of more than a month from that effective date are anticipated, a revision to the original implementation date by Resolution is considered necessary.

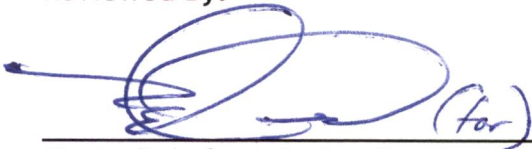
It is also necessary to make the per ton fee adjustment for municipal solid waste effective now in order to allow Waste Connection, Inc. to proceed with its new rates for its next billing cycle.

**Fiscal Impact/Cost Benefit Analysis:** Delay of the new fee schedule causes short term revenue loss.

**Recommendation:** Public Works recommends adoption of the attached Resolution to adjust the effective date of the new fee schedule, excepting for the per ton rate, to no later than January 1, 2024 and to provide notice to the BoCC of an earlier date of implementation if the scale software update is completed earlier than January 1, 2024.

Department Contact: Al Cairns X213

Reviewed By:



Monte Reinders, Acting County Administrator

9.15.23

Date

**STATE OF WASHINGTON**

**County of Jefferson**

**A Resolution Adopting a Revised Effective  
Date for the Department of Public Works,  
Solid Waste Division Fee Schedule**

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**WHEREAS**, Jefferson County is a political subdivision of the state of Washington and may impose fees to recoup the costs of providing services to the public; and,

**WHEREAS**, by the authority provided by [Title 36 RCW](#) and the Washington State Constitution [Article 11](#), on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, by Resolution 28-23, the Board of County Commissioners adopted a new schedule of fees charged by the Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Division (“Solid Waste Division”) to implement the code and statutory duties; and,

**WHEREAS**, Resolution 28-23 was scheduled to take effect sixty (60) days from the date of adoption with the first date of new charges effectively September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023; and,

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of some of the new fees and the low-income discount program is dependent on a scheduled upgrade of the software used for transactions at both the transfer station and Quilcene Rural Drop Box facility; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission-licensed municipal solid waste hauler for Jefferson County which is under contract with the City of Port Townsend for residential curbside service is required to file financial information with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission when adjusting service fees and has done so; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission-licensed municipal solid waste hauler has given notice to its Jefferson County curbside customers of the new rates; and

**WHEREAS**, staffing limitations and workload for the County departments working jointly on the software upgrade have caused delay in the upgrade such that only certain functions within the new fee schedule can be implemented at this time; and

**WHEREAS**, more than sixty (60) days’ notice of the fee revisions has been given to the public

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY:**

Section 1. The per ton charge of \$167.00 shall be implemented at the earliest possible date.

Section 2. The effective date of all other fee schedule revisions adopted by Resolution 28-23 is no later than January 1, 2024.

Section 3. The Board of County Commissioners shall be notified of an earlier date of fee schedule implementation if an earlier date becomes possible with an earlier completion of the scale software upgrade.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Brotherton, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kate Dean, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Eisenhour, Member

SEAL:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carolyn Gallaway  
Clerk of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date