Members Present
Isaiah Paine, CAL District #3
Shaun Culler, City of Millwood
Andy Hoye, CAL District #2
Joel Kohlstedt, Recycling Industry
Tonilee Hanson, Public Interest
Philip Small, AG Interest
Ken Gimpel, Waste Industry
Jim Simon, CAL District #1
John Dietzman, CAL District #5

Members Absent
Kevin Anderson, City of Airway Hts
Rebecca Johnson, City of Spangle
Brian Burrow, Business
Karen Stratton, City of Spokane
Chris Jordan, Spokane County
Vacant Positions
Health District
CAL District #4

Approval of Minutes – May 17, 2023 – Shaun Culler
All members moved to approve minutes for the May 17th meeting.

2024 Budget Forecast and Increase Request – Deb Geiger
Deb opened the meeting with welcoming newly appointed members, John Dieztman and Jim Simon and thanked all the members for their great attendance and attention to this important discussion. The County has released a request for proposal for transfer station operations, so some areas of the 2024 budget are under a Non Disclosure Agreement (NDA) and unable to be shared. Costs across the board are increasing significantly, but the County has always worked very hard to keep tipping fees as low as possible for the community. Over the past 5 years, the increases to tipping fees have only accumulated by 9% and transfer station costs have increased by 26%. Expenses are increasing significantly in the next few years with the possible North County Transfer Station expansion, funding being needed for our current landfill closures and the possibility of needing to take on the closed Marshall landfill as well. The County and City have a current agreement to keep tipping fees at a similar level. The City is at $120.56 for MSW and currently, the fees for the Transfer Stations are: $114 per ton MSW with a minimum fee of $15 and environmental programs charge of $2 per vehicle that crosses the scales. Deb proposes an increase to County tipping fees by 10% to $125.40 per ton for MSW with a minimum fee of $17 and environmental programs charge of $3. Organics are currently $55 per ton with a proposed increase to $60.50 per ton.

The Capital facilities fund is anticipated to be used in the next few years with the compactor replacement and the expansion project of the North Transfer Station. Public Works Director Kyle Twohig noted that 10% seems like a large increase when historical increases have always been between 2 & 3 percent, but he believes this increase is necessary to avoid a much larger increase of a possible 25% in the next 2 years. Ken Gimpel suggested the County set up steady increases as they seem to be more palatable to customers over the years. For the projected budget year, growth was left at a low 1% to keep projections conservative.
SWAC moved and approved the recommendation of a 10% increase to send on to the Commissioners.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.