

**NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

December 8, 2020

Meeting held remotely via ZOOM

The meeting was called to order @ 6:12 p.m. by Nick Rivers; Chair

Present: Nick Rivers (Albany, Irasburg); Bill Douglas (Barnet); Paulette Routhier (Bloomfield, Brunswick); Bruce Rumball (Brighton); Lila Stevens (Brownington); Pat Austin (Charleston);); Bob Sandberg (Corinth); Fran Batchelder & Irene Dagesse (Derby); Kirwin Flanders (East Haven); Jack Sumberg (Glover); Ken Johnston (Greensboro); Tim Dailey Sr. (Groton); Joe Noble (Holland); Rebecca Hill-Larsen (Kirby); Steve Gray (Lyndon); Amy Pear (Maidstone); Jan Clausing (Newark); John Narowski (Newbury); Steve Barrup (Newport Town); Gene Perkins (Ryegate); Jack Smith (Sheffield & Wheelock); Elizabeth Hubbard (Sutton); Gaston Bathalon (Troy); Richard Stodola (Waterford); and Miriam Simonds (Westmore)

Absent: Cabot, Concord, Danville, Granby, Guildhall, Jay, Lunenburg, Marshfield, Morgan, Norton, Peacham, Stannard, Topsham, UTGs, Victory, Westfield

Staff present- Paul Tomasi

Updates to the Agenda – none

Approval of Minutes- Moved to approve minutes of November 10, 2020, 2nd. *Motion Approved.*

2021 Proposed Budget – Paul informed the Board that no comments were received during the public hearing for the 2021 proposed budget. The meeting was held via ZOOM on Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 5pm.

Updates: Paul gave the Board an update of the LGER grant. This grant was released by the State of Vermont to provide Waste Districts with funding related to COVID19. We have submitted all of the necessary paperwork and are waiting for reimbursement.

Paul provided a brief update of the ANR compost grant. Shannon and Paul have been working on a Request for Proposal (RFP) to determine potential projects. The RFP should be completed and ready for the Board's approval by the January 12, 2021 Board meeting. Joe Noble agreed to review the RFP in advance of the next meeting. Following the public meeting held by the District regarding the compost grant, the City of Newport withdrew their interest in the project. Additional compost processing capacity has come on-line in Irasburg (15 ton/wk) at the farm of Mark Lawson. There is another compost hauler in the Albany/Irasburg area who is looking to possibly site a facility. NEK Community Compost is currently hauling material to the Paris Farm in Lyndonville. It is unclear if they are hauling more wastes than what is being reported. Paul will follow-up. Paul mentioned contacting our compliance investigator and Eric Paris to see if we can get a better idea of how much material they are hauling. Paul also mentioned that the Board keep an eye to see if they were dumping somewhere else.

The bank transition is nearly complete. The switch is scheduled to be entirely complete by January 1, 2021.

The District is still struggling to move plastic film. We stopped accepting ag-film several months ago. We are still accepting plastic bags. The outlet for film in northern NH keeps pushing us off. We may need to stop accepting all plastic film if we are unable to find a viable market for it. The Board would like to make sure we exhaust all options before landfilling the material. We should be able to delay any sort of decision until the spring of 2021. Paul estimates that we have 120,000 lbs (3 truckloads) of baled film.

There was a question regarding volume of material through facilities. Paul mentioned that e-waste volumes were up dramatically. There does not seem to be a trend district-wide regarding increases or decreases in volume.

CSWD Glass – Someone at the last meeting raised the question of how much glass was involved in the CSWD situation. Paul reported that there was over 11,000 tons of glass involved according to a recent article in VT Digger. The Vermont Attorney General's Office issued a statement several weeks ago saying that a settlement was forth-coming. To date there has been no further word from the AGs office. Pat Austin mentioned the possibility of pursuing a civil lawsuit to restore confidence in the system. The Board discussed the merits of such a suit. There was some discussion of getting other Waste Districts involved. Paul explained why other Districts are not as concerned about this – they contract with private haulers, so they feel it would be the haulers who should pursue this. Paul said he would reach out to some other area towns (Newport City, Lowell, Barton, St. Johnsbury, Burke, Central Vermont Waste District) to see if they would be interested in pursuing some sort of lawsuit. Paul agreed to contact legal counsel prior to the next meeting and invite them to the January 12, 2021 meeting to discuss possible options for the NEKWMD.

Other Business- Steve Gary raised the issue of our Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP). Paul mentioned that we have received pre-approval from the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR). We need to hold 2 public hearings to receive public comment. Once those meetings have occurred, the NEKWMD Board will need to approve the SWIP before ANR grants final approval. We hope to have the 2 public hearings prior to the next meeting.

Steve Gray asked about the baler refinance. The baler has been refinanced as part of the bank switch.

Motion to adjourn @ ~7:21pm
Respectfully submitted, Paul Tomasi

Note: There is an audio recording of the December 8, 2020 meeting. It is available upon request.