

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

January 14, 2020

The meeting was called to order @ 7:03 p.m. by Nick Rivers; acting-Chair

Present: Nick Rivers (Albany, Irasburg); Paulette Routhier (Bloomfield, Brunswick, Maidstone); Bruce Rumball (Brighton); Lila Stevens (Brownington); Ben Davis (Cabot, Marshfield); Pat Austin (Charleston); Walter McNeil (Danville); Fran Batchelder & Irene Dagesse (Derby); Kirwin Flanders (East Haven); Jack Sumberg (Glover); Ken Johnston (Greensboro); Joe Noble (Holland); David Sanders (Jay); Rebecca Hill Larson (Kirby); Derek Blankenship & Steve Gray (Lyndon); Jan Clausing (Newark); Claude Phipps & John Narowski (Newbury); Steve Barrup (Newport Town); Gene Perkins (Ryegate); Jack Smith (Sheffield, Wheelock); Elizabeth Hubbard (Sutton); Gaston Bathalon (Troy); Otis McKinstry (Victory); Richard Stodola (Waterford); Miriam Simonds (Westmore)

Absent: Barnet, Concord, Corinth, Granby Groton, Guildhall, Lunenburg, Morgan, Norton, UTGs, Peacham, Stannard, Topsham, Westfield

Staff present- Paul Tomasi

Minutes- Libre Drouin

Updates to Agenda- none

Approval of Minutes- Moved to approve minutes of Dec 10, 2019 with corrections per Steve Gray (Lyndon).

- Pg. 2 under heading *Hauler Ordinance* second sentence after the Motion; correct "44 days **is** will become . . .", to **it**
- Pg. 2 under *Updates/Host Town Agreement*, it is written the NEKWMD had been on the Lyndon select board's agenda "the previous evening" correct to "2 weeks prior"
- The items mentioned under *Updates to Agenda* were discussed but not noted in the minutes.
- There were discussions around Claude's concerns over Casella, as well as a discussion about the budget as requested by Steve G. He has submitted a hand written note outlining topics discussed during budget discussion.
- Steve Gray wanted the minutes to reflect that he thought the Board had misappropriated funds collected from the per capita fee that were originally meant for the baler to pay off the line of credit.

2020 Legislative Agenda- In our "Notes for January" Paul outlined a few of the bills that have recently been introduced in Legislature.

- S159- is the bill Senator Rogers introduced last session & contains many of the provisions our Board approved last fall, i.e. Hauler's being allowed to charge a specified fee for picking up recyclable materials.

Elimination of organics requirement for haulers.
Economic safeguard(s) if the cost of hauling and/or processing mandated items exceeds revenue.

- Bottle bill
- EPR program to put cost of disposal of HHHW on manufacturers in the form of reimbursements to collectors.
- Food Collection- farms/facilities transporting and/or collecting food scraps for the purpose of animal feed, to be exempt from Act 250 permitting through the Department of Environmental Conservation, this is the status quo. This issue was part of a House Ag bill last session.

Paul is looking for ideas how full Board can discuss new bills or issues related to our support, or lack of, regarding issues being address this session in Legislature.

He feels if by chance the full Board cannot convene in February it's possible 10-15 new bills could be introduced by March. He urges Supervisors to keep an eye on *VT.gov* (then click Government, then Legislature) to follow the House, Senate & House of Natural Resources.

- H576- proposes to exempt agricultural fairs and festivals from diverting food waste from landfill disposal.

*Moved to oppose H576. 2nd. *Motion Approved.*

There was concern discussed of the cost of disposal inhibiting events from happening.

Paul reminded the board the NEKWMD is available to any District town to help and support during many types of events.

*Moved to authorize Paul & Executive Committee to make decisions on proposed legislative bills to support, should there be a time constraint and the full Board is unavailable. 2nd. *Motion Approved.*

For time's sake Paul will provide a more detailed list of proposals with identifying Article numbers, for our next meeting.

District Manager's Association (VSWDMA) Membership- Letter- *Moved to approve drafted letter VSWDMA with corrections as discussed [and noted by Paul]. 2nd. *Motion Approved*

Pat A. suggested Paul send copies to some additional parties like the Attorney General, Full Boards of some of the other Districts, & our local reps. Full Board agrees.

Updates: Financial- We ended the year 2019 a deficit of \$16,116.38. Considering the year we had we'll consider this reasonable.

As requested, Paul provided a breakdown sheet of all loans & schedule of payments, current as of Dec 31st, 2019.

Hauler Compliance- We have a court date of February 21, 2020 to pursue an on-going case against Jeff Hooker. We believe him to currently be (and has been for quite some time) hauling without proper registration. We have been dealing with this as an ongoing issue since 2015.

Regional Impact Fee (RIF) - Paul shared the e-mail he received December 5th, from John Gay, regional engineer for Casella Waste Systems, regarding our request to propose a RIF on waste disposed at the Coventry landfill.

Some on the Board voiced distaste for the wording of the letter and felt Mr. Gay may be trying to establish a quid-pro-quo based on our outward support of certain permitting initiatives at the Coventry facility.

Host Town Agreement- Paul has received a response from the Lyndon select board. They are holding strong to the belief that we owe them taxes.

Paul has heard back from our attorney & they will be working with the tax department to try and get a definitive answer. We are really hoping this does not have to be settled through the court.

Hauler Ordinance- The hauler ordinance will become effective on February 10, 2020 if we do not receive a petition to conduct a vote that would disapprove the proposed changes. The timing for this is part of State Statutes.

SWIP Amendment- The amendment to add the food hierarchy to our SWIP has been submitted to the State, once we receive approval from VT ANR, our Board can adopt the SWIP amendment. Our new SWIP is currently being worked on and should be ready for review by March or April. The new SWIP will be due by July 1, 2020.

Other Business- Steve Barrup gave us his summary of a meeting he attended on Monday January 13th, 2020 called by the group DUMP, regarding concerns over the Coventry landfill and possible runoff and contaminates related to the landfill.

Motion to adjourn @ 8:45

Respectfully submitted, Libre Drouin