

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

June 9, 2020

Meeting held via ZOOM

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

Present: Nick Rivers (Albany, Irasburg); Paulette Routhier (Bloomfield, Brunswick); Bruce Rumball (Brighton); Lila Stevens (Brownington); Ben Davis (Cabot, Marshfield); Pat Austin (Charleston); Bill Humphrey (Concord); Walter McNeil (Danville); Fran Batchelder & Irene Dagesse (Derby); Kirwin Flanders (East Haven); Jack Sumberg (Glover); Tim Dailey Sr. (Groton); Joseph Noble (Holland); Rebecca Hill-Larson (Kirby); Steve Gray (Lyndon); Claude Phipps (Newbury); Newport Center (Steve Barrup); Jack Smith (Sheffield & Wheelock); Elizabeth Hubbard (Sutton); Richard Stodola (Waterford); Miriam Simonds (Westmore)

Absent: Barnet, Corinth, Granby, Greensboro, Guildhall, Jay, Lunenburg, Morgan, Newark, Norton, Peacham, Ryegate, Stannard, Topsham, Troy, UTGs, Victory, Westfield

Staff present- Paul Tomasi

Updates to the Agenda – None.

Approval of Minutes- Moved to approve minutes of May 12, 2020, 2nd. *Motion Approved*

Authorization to Make Final Truck Payment from the Capital Improvement Fund - \$18,475.31 – Moved to authorize final truck payment in the amount of \$18,475, 2nd. *Motion Approved.*

Compost Grant - Paul informed the Board that he and Shannon (Outreach Coordinator) have a meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 18, 2020 to look at a possible compost site owned by the Town of Westmore. Paul mentioned that this is in the very early stages and that if any other town has interest to reach out. Paul also explained that the District would most likely want to pursue a medium scale compost facility certification in order to maximize the potential for greatest food waste diversion. The proposed Westmore site is part of their existing transfer station property.

The map of state-wide potential compost capacity was discussed briefly. Paul mentioned that the map is not necessarily accurate. Pat Austin mentioned the possibility of the map changing based on various legislative proposals and that it is somewhat misleading in the information on the map.

Paul also mentioned that the July 1, 2020 organics landfill ban will present compliance issues in our region even with the grant we've received.

Vermont Solid Waste District Managers Association Membership (VSWMDA) – Moved to discuss VSWDMA membership, 2nd. Annual membership costs equal approximately \$3,200 with \$1,900 due currently. The 2nd installment of approximately \$1,300 is due sometime in the fall.

Paul mentioned the benefit of the compliance investigator program as part of our membership, which in many years recovers the entire cost of membership.

Pat Austin mentioned that the initial push to leave the organization was related to the mis-management of glass by the Chittenden Solid Waste District and opposition to efforts by us and others to make changes in the legislature.

The original motion was not acted upon.

A new motion was made to remain in the VSWDMA and pay our dues, 2nd. *Motioned Approved*

Updates: Financial- Paul provided the Board with an overview of our financial situation. It's still too early to tell the impact of the pandemic on surcharge revenues, but so far surcharge revenues have not varied greatly from previous years. Revenues exceeded expenses by approximately \$7,800 for the month of May. Pat and Nick both mentioned brisk activity for construction/demolition projects so far this spring. Pat cautioned that the situation could be vastly different if there is a resurgence in COVID19 later in the year

Paul mentioned that cardboard prices have gone down. Pat suggested we may want to shop around for better pricing. Paul mentioned that our rigid plastic outlet was accepting material again. We are still having trouble moving soft plastics.

Paul explained to the Board how we have brokered our materials over the years.

Paul informed the Board that he reached out to Passumpsic Savings Bank in an effort to refinance our baler loan to free up resources to meet our other debt obligations. Paul will provide more detail for the next meeting.

Operational - none

Legislative Update – VT Senate passed S349 as a COVID19 relief bill to assist municipalities, but specifically excluded Solid Waste Districts. Paul encouraged Supervisors to reach out to members of the House Appropriations committee in order to ask that we be included. Paul mentioned that our COVID19 related expenses now totaled just over \$20,000 with about \$800 being costs for supplies. The remaining amount consists of “hazard pay” for the period we reduced our workforce. It was suggested that the District Managers’ Association pursue something, which Paul agreed to push.

Other Business- none

Motion to adjourn @ ~7:00pm
Respectfully submitted, Paul Tomasi

Note: There is an audio recording of the June 9, 2020 meeting. It is available upon request.