

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

September 14, 2021

Meeting held remotely via ZOOM and

The District Office at 224 Church Street, Lyndonville, VT 05851

The meeting was called to order @ 6:37 p.m. by Nick Rivers, Chair

Present: Nick Rivers (Albany); William Douglas (Barnet); Lila Stevens (Brownington); Paulette Routhier (Bloomfield, Brunswick); Bob Sanberg (Corinth); Walter McNeil Jr. (Danville); Irene Dagesse (Derby); Kirwin Flanders (East Haven); Jack Sumberg (Glover); Ken Johnston (Greensboro); Joe Noble (Holland & Morgan); Dustin Sanville (Irasburg); Dave Sanders (Jay); Steve Gray (Lyndon); Steve Barrup, (Newport Town); John Narowski (Newbury); Gene Perkins, (Ryegate); Jack Smith (Sheffield, Wheelock); Emily Cayer (Stannard); Elizabeth Hubbard (Sutton); Gaston Bathalon (Troy); Richard Stodola (Waterford); and Miriam Simonds (Westmore).

Absent: Brighton, Charleston, Concord, Cabot, Granby, Groton, Guildhall, Kirby, Lunenburg, Maidstone, Marshfield, Newark, Norton, Peacham, UTGs, Victory, Topsham, and Westfield.

Staff present- Paul Tomasi, Executive Director

Visitors – Amy Ash-Nixon (Caledonian Record – press)

Updates to the Agenda – Paul notified the Board of the passing of Yves Daigle (Westfield). Not only was Yves the Waste District Supervisor, he served on numerous boards in Westfield for 40-50 years.

Steve Gray asked about attendance at the District office. Paul stated there were 2 Board members attending and there was probably room for up to 6 more. Paul suggested District staff ask each Board member what their preference is concerning meeting in person vs. meeting remotely via ZOOM.

Approval of Minutes- Moved to approve minutes of August 10, 2021, 2nd. Steve Gray wished to amend the minutes by changing “Tamarlane Farm” to “Kingdom View Compost” in the discussion regarding the compost infrastructure grant. While Eric and Kathy Paris own both, Kingdom View Compost is the name on the grant application. Amended Minutes approved.

NEKWMD Organics Infrastructure Grant – Moved to approve \$116,500 to fund the proposal submitted by Black Dirt Farm. 2nd. There was some discussion about why Black Dirt included 4 containers in their proposal. Paul explained the evaluation committee assumed their proposal included the necessary equipment to accomplish their goals. Motion approved.

Moved to approve \$38,856.57 to fund the proposal submitted by MarJo Acres. 2nd. MarJo Acres submitted a 2-phase proposal and the motion included funding of phase I in its entirety. Paul explained to the Board that there will most likely be money left over, which the Board could decide to allocate to partially fund phase II. Motion approved.

Ordinance – Paul re-read the previous version of the Ordinance that was distributed at last month’s meeting and discovered there was some unnecessary language, so that language was removed so the Board could act on the new version. Moved to amend the “Northeast Kingdom Waste Management

District Ordinance Concerning the Collection and Disposal of Solid Wastes, Recyclables, and Compostables. 2nd. John Narowski (Newbury) asked whether or not their hauler would need to be required to report compost tonnage as a facility. Paul said “no”; however, he is required to report tonnage hauled (monthly) as a registered hauler, which he has not been doing. John said he would pass the information along. Motion Approved.

Updates –

Financial – Paul informed the Board that the District is having one of its best years financially in 10-15 years. Markets remain strong and increasing. Paul told the Board that there was no telling how long the strong market conditions would last. Paul also informed the Board that the District is pursuing maintenance and repairs for things that have been pushed off due to lack of funds. Paul expects to have a surplus at the end of the year and to be able to pay down some of the debt. The line of credit will also be paid off. Transferring money to pay off the line of credit will be on next month’s agenda. Steve Gray asked if we had paid our Vermont Solid Waste District Manager’s Association fees. Paul indicated that we had, and that those dues are typically broken down into 2 payments – one in the spring and one in the fall. Paul mentioned that he and Dustin Sanville had discussed resurrecting the “equipment replacement schedule”. The schedule will include the piece of equipment, year it was purchased, year it was manufactured, number of miles, number of hours, and any maintenance performed. Paul hopes to have the replacement schedule by the October meeting, or November at the latest.

Public Meeting Requirements – We are required to have a physical location for our meetings if we wish to continue the ZOOM format for conducting meetings. All Supervisors will be polled to determine their preference – In-person vs. ZOOM. Paul’s preference would be to continue the ZOOM format for most meetings while scheduling 3-4 meetings in person each year. Examples of in-person meetings would be the annual meeting in April and the budget vote in October or November.

Lyndon Property Tax – The mediation process between the town of Lyndon and the Waste District yielded an in-person meeting between the two parties and their respective legal counsels several weeks ago. Paul indicated to the Board there appeared to be a break-through regarding the state education tax. Paul was hopeful the issued would be resolved prior to the October meeting. Paul felt the Town of Lyndon and the District would be pleased with the outcome.

Executive Committee Budget Meeting – The Executive Committee agreed to meet on Tuesday September 28, 2021 at 5pm to begin discussions on the 2022 budget. A ZOOM link will be provided for those wishing to attend remotely.

Other Business – Nick felt the District should donate something in honor of Yves Daigle to the Daigle family. Jack Sumberg informed the Board that options for donating were included in Yves obituary. Motion to donate \$100 to tree planting in Yves honor. 2nd. Approved. The District will reach out to the Town of Westfield to see if a tree can be planted at or near the Westfield recycling center/town garage.

Motion to adjourn, 2nd, approved @ 7:15pm
Respectfully submitted, Paul Tomasi

Note: There is an audio/video recording of the September 14, 2021 meeting. It is available upon request.