

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

**April 14, 2020**

**Meeting held via ZOOM**

The meeting was called to order @ 6:15 p.m. by Nick Rivers; acting-Chair

**Present:** Nick Rivers (Albany, Irasburg); William Douglas (Barnet); Paulette Routhier (Bloomfield, Brunswick, & Maidstone); Bruce Rumball (Brighton); Lila Stevens (Brownington); Ben Davis (Cabot, Marshfield); Pat Austin (Charleston); Bob Sanberg (Corinth, Topsham); Walter McNeil (Danville); Irene Dagesse (Derby); Kirwin Flanders (East Haven); Jack Sumberg (Glover); Ken Johnston (Greensboro); Tim Dailey (Groton @ 7:10pm); Joseph Noble (Holland); Rebecca Hill-Larson (Kirby); Steve Gray (Lyndon); Claude Phipps & John Narowski (Newbury); Newport Center (Steve Barrup); Gene Perkins (Ryegate); Elizabeth Hubbard (Sutton); Miriam Simonds (Westmore)

**Absent:** Concord, Granby, Guildhall, Jay, Lunenburg, Morgan, Newark, Norton, Peacham, Sheffield, Stannard, Unified Towns and Gores of Essex County, Victory, Waterford, Westfield, Wheelock.

**Staff present-** Paul Tomasi

**Updates to the Agenda** – Claude Phipps wanted updates regarding the Vermont Solid Waste District Manager’s Association and Glass.

**Approval of Minutes-** Moved to approve minutes of February 11, 2020 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Motion Approved*

**Line of Credit Renewal-** Paul outlined our financial position and the need for extending our line of credit with Community Bank.

\*Moved to seek increase in Line of Credit from \$40,000 to \$80,000 with Community Bank. 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Motion Approved*

**Hauler Request to Temporarily Lower Surcharge-** Paul explained our current financial situation to the Board. There was little interest in moving this particular motion forward. The Board did; however, sympathize with the concerns of the hauling community. Moved to suspend the imposition of finance charges on late surcharge payments for a period of 6 months. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved with 3 abstentions – Albany, Charleston, Irasburg.

**Updates: Financial-** Paul provided the Board with an overview of our financial situation. It’s too early to tell the impact of the pandemic on surcharge revenues. We are just now receiving reports for the month of March. Paul expects to have a better picture once the April reports begin to come in during the middle of May. This April is a difficult month for us because of 3 pay periods occurring in one month. Months where we have 3 pay periods are usually difficult, especially when they occur early in the year because surcharge revenues are lower until the construction and tourism seasons begin.

**Operational-** Paul provided the Board with updates regarding facilities throughout the District and directed all to our website for the most up-to-date information regarding changes in facility hours and acceptable materials. Steve Gray asked if the District had a policy in place for users of our facility. Paul stated that it was implied that users should follow the recommendations of the VT Department of Health. Paul did explain to the Board the actions being taken internally to clean commonly touched services and encouraging all employees to wash their hands frequently.

**Legislative Update-** Testimony has occurred in both the Senate and House Natural Resources Committees regarding delaying the organics ban, which is scheduled to take effect on July, 1, 2020; and granting the Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources the ability to suspend recycling activities under certain circumstances. Casella submitted a letter to Chairs in both the Senate and House Natural Resource committees that prompted discussion in both committees. The NEKWMD was generally supportive of Casella's positions on moving the organics ban deadline to January 15, 2021 and granting the Secretary of the Agency the authority to suspend recycling activities under certain circumstances. These positions were opposed by many other Solid Waste Districts. It is unclear at this point, what, if any, action the legislature may take on these issues.

**Other Business-** Vermont Solid Waste District Managers Association – given the recent opposition from other waste districts during statehouse testimony, the Board may want to revisit our membership in the organization. Paul told the Board he would try to do a better job of advocating for our District as part of the District Managers Association. Glass – Paul mentioned at a previous meeting that the Attorney General's Office was expected to issue some sort of ruling or determination regarding Chittenden Solid Waste District's alleged mismanagement of glass. As of the meeting, no such ruling/determination has been made public.

A full audio recording of this meeting is available upon request.

Motion to adjourn @ ~7:30pm  
Respectfully submitted, Paul Tomasi