

**NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 6:30PM via ZOOM
Video Conference Contact the Waste District for Meeting Code
In-Person Location – District Office 224 Church Street, Lyndonville, VT 05851**

The Board meeting was called to order @ 6:35 p.m. by Nicholas Rivers, Board Chair

Present: Nicholas Rivers (Albany, Irasburg); Paulette Routhier (Bloomfield, Brunswick, Maidstone); Betty Ritter (Cabot); Walter McNeil Jr. (Danville); Irene Dagesse (Derby); Ken Johnston (Greensboro); Tim Dailey Sr. (Groton); Dave Sanders (Jay); Steve Gray (Lyndon); Bobbi Brimblecombe (Marshfield); Gina Vigneault (Norton, UTG); Gene Perkins (Ryegate in person); Jack Smith (Sheffield & Wheelock in person); Emily Cayer (Stannard); Elizabeth Hubbard (Sutton); Calvin and Karen Altland (Topsham); Anne Quirion (Troy); Richard Stodola (Waterford); Jacques Couture (Westfield); and Miriam Simmonds (Westmore)

Absent: Barnet, Brownington, Brighton, Charleston, Concord, Corinth, East Haven, Glover, Granby, Guildhall, Holland, Kirby, Lunenburg, Morgan, Newark, Newbury, Newport Town, Peacham, and Victory

Staff present- Paul Tomasi, Executive Director

Visitors –Paul Hayes, Caledonian Record and Shannon Choquette, minutes clerk

Updates to Agenda – Administrative rules.

Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve minutes of December 12, 2023 meeting as written. Motion 2nd. Motion approved.

ANR Organics Grant – Grant is coming to a close. Most of the information was provided in notes. Extension was granted, all grantees have been notified that we would like final reimbursement request by Friday, March 1. That will give us time to complete the paperwork process and determine if there are funds left over. Funds allotted to approved projects which are not utilized will be reallocated to other approved projects. A few grantees have submitted in excess of what they were awarded, so some of the remaining funds could be distributed with Board approval.

Updates – We are experiencing some staffing issues due to some employees being on light duty. We had to stop accepting e-waste but will resume picking up e-waste this coming week.

2023 Annual Report – All the data to complete the report is ready so it should be complete in advance of town meeting. It will be available on the website, and we can provide hard copies when requested. All supervisors and town clerks will be informed when it is available.

Financial – Paper markets look encouraging. OCC prices are beginning to rise, as is mixed paper, which are up around \$100 per ton. Plastic prices are stagnant, with small payments for shipments. Glass prices are steady for shipment and processing, currently around \$60-65/ton.

Foam shipment to Soprema in Quebec has not yet occurred and still trying to coordinate shipment.

IT – still working through some issues with IT-related things like phone and voicemails. Still trying to migrate email system to newer service. Upgraded internet service. IT company is working to move storage system to the ‘Cloud’.

Health Insurance – Question: is the highlighted cost in the budget for each month? No, monthly cost is \$4,200 for remainder of the year.

Grants – Closed out USDA grant for foam densifier for \$36,000. Still waiting for ANR funds for \$37,000.

Programs- One of the trucks was damaged and we are still waiting for a vendor to replace the box. We have the box and have been working with VLCT. Need to transport truck to Hinesburg and will use towing company who will secure the box of the truck to the body. The current replacement truck is covered by insurance until fixed truck can be used again.

Outreach Survey at Lyndon facility – non-district town participation was low, but anecdotally people did walk away when they saw the survey occurring. Most non-district residents were from Burke and St. Johnsbury. How should we use this information? Suggestion to charge non-district residents, however this could be difficult to administer. While some recyclables generate revenue from non-district residents, glass and some other materials off-set these gains. Also, these non-district towns have no interest in offering residents services of the waste district. Active recruitment of non-district towns does not typically happen; however, we do follow up with inquiries from town officials. It is questionable if the district has enough capacity to add new towns, especially ones which are not within the immediate vicinity of Lyndon.

Other Business – Administrative Rules – Paul is about half way through the edits in the draft of the Administrative Rules.

Motion to adjourn, 2nd, approved @ 7:27pm

Respectfully submitted, Shannon Choquette