

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

November 14, 2023

**Meeting held via ZOOM and in-person at the NEKWMD Office,
224 Church St. Lyndonville, VT 05851**

The Board meeting was called to order @ 6:38 p.m. by Steve Barrup, Board member

Present: Paulette Routhier (Bloomfield, Brunswick, Maidstone); Bruce Rumball-Petre (Brighton); Walter McNeil Jr. (Danville); Fran Batchelder (Derby); Irene Dagesse (Derby); Kirwin Flanders (East Haven); Ken Johnston (Greensboro); Tim Dailey Sr. (Groton); Dave Sanders (Jay); Steve Gray (Lyndon); Jan Clausing (Newark, in person); John Narowski (Newbury); Steve Barrup (Newport Town); Gina Vigneault (Norton, UTG); Jack Smith (Sheffield & Wheelock); Elizabeth Hubbard (Sutton); Calvin and Karen Altland (Topsham); Anne Quirion (Troy); Richard Stodola (Waterford); Jacques Couture (Westfield); and Miriam Simmonds (Westmore)

Absent: Albany, Barnet, Brownington, Cabot, Charleston, Concord, Corinth, Glover, Granby, Guildhall, Holland, Irasburg, Kirby, Lunenburg, Marshfield, Morgan, Peacham, Ryegate, Stannard, and Victory

Staff present- Paul Tomasi, Executive Director

Visitors –Shannon Choquette, minutes clerk

Updates to the Agenda – none

Approval of Minutes – Motion to accept minutes of October 10, 2023 with typographical errors noted. Motion to approve. Motion 2nd.

Discussion: October 10 meeting minutes had the following typographical errors in the section dealing with the 2024 budget: the word ‘the’ should be replaced with the word ’to’; ‘Mac’ should be spelled ‘Mack’; and the word ’not’ should be deleted.

Motion approved with edits.

Vermont ANR Organics Grant – Consideration of Possible Deadline Extension -

Paul was contacted by ANR about the status of the grant. To wrap the grant up by end of 2023, all documents must be submitted by approx. December 1, 2023. Paul is considering a grant extension of 3 months to get reimbursement requests in, process requests and/or payment, and for ANR to make payments. This extension is not so grantees can extend projects, rather this is an administrative extension to complete all paperwork. All projects are nearly complete, and three out of four grantees have submitted reimbursement requests. Motion to extend ANR organics grant for three months (March 31, 2024). Motion 2nd.

Discussion: This grant was offered to gain capacity in this area – is there any proof this has happened? Some of these projects are not fully completed, we should know the full extent of capacity increase in 2024. All projects in some way will improve and increase local composting capacity at 4 locations.

How does the November 13th deadline fall into play with this extension? The 11/13 deadline was established by the District to give grantees time to request an extension. After further consideration, the District felt the extension was needed in order to process paperwork. One grantee expressed an interest in extending the grant for similar purposes.

Motion approved.

Updates –

Compliance- No additional Bloom Farm site complaints.

Administrative Rules Update – Paul started to make some edits but has not completed yet.

Financial – Budget process update: The District is required to have one public hearing, but has scheduled two. Meetings are scheduled for Nov 30 and Dec 7, 2023. At Board of Supervisors meeting on Dec 12, 2023, Board will act on the budget if there are any comments at the hearings. It is important that supervisors attend Dec 12 meeting, as this will be the only budget vote taken. Following the December 12, 2023 vote, budget will be passed along to member towns for inclusion in their budgeting process.

Financial update: District is doing well even with repairs on trucks and equipment. Flood surcharge revenues have been received, mostly in the month of September. Surcharge revenues remain strong.

Future In-Person Meetings – Some interest in meeting in person, mostly in June or September. Paul recommends April and October in person meetings, or April and September.

Motion to do two in-person meetings a year, in April and October. Motion 2nd.

Discussion: How did one's vote get counted who did not specify a month? A tally mark was added into each month. April may be difficult for some due to tax season volunteering. This month was suggested as it is the annual meeting. Will zoom still be available at these meetings?

Yes, we can have that capability by April.

Motion approved.

Grants- The District is still in the process of submitting USDA foam densifier grant. Still looking into funding for truck, the deadline of which is closely approaching.

Programs – Foam program is going well. District will be shipping foam with another regional location's material. E-waste issues are behind us, and e-waste is moving, we are working through backlog. When we go to a new contract for e-waste, we may ask to get a better price for e-waste coming through Derby, as we need to make extra trips at that location. Derby is the regional location for many non-district towns, and the law states they must accept TVs and computers from all VT residents. Derby pays every time we go to town for pick-up, they should not need to bear cost of second trip to pick up out of district e-waste. Paul will update the Board when e-waste plan is updated.

Discussion: Can we charge residents or towns for e-waste? As the law is written, we are not able to charge residents or towns for e-waste brought to any location. District could consider not billing the town for additional recycling picks-ups if e-waste program provides additional reimbursement.

Baler update – A small part was replaced two times, both times part was defective. We now have proper part and pressure on all the bales is as it should be.

Other business- None

Motion to adjourn, 2nd, approved @ 7:05pm

Respectfully submitted, Shannon Choquette