

Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management District



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Board of Supervisors
Quarterly District Meeting
Thursday, July 23, 2015
Springfield Select Board Hall, 3rd Floor, Springfield, Vermont

MINUTES

1. At 6:03 p.m., Forrest Randall, Chair, called the meeting to order. The roll was called with the following supervisors present: F. Randall, Gary DeRosia, Cynthia Gibb, Frank Heald, Tom Kenyon, Joe Fromberger, Derek Suursoo, Jim Mullen, Bruce McEnaney, and Wayne Wheelock. A quorum was established with ten towns represented.

Also present: Tom Kennedy, District Manager, Mary T. O'Brien, District Clerk, Bob Forguites, District Treasurer, Ham Gillett, Outreach Coordinator for District, and Matt Priestley of ALVA Waste.

2. T. Kenyon made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2015 minutes as published. D. Suursoo seconded the motion. Correction – change "...Joe Ruggiero and his brother..." to "...Joe Ruggiero and Jeff Ruggiero..." All voted in favor.

3. B. Forguites distributed copies of *Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2015 through June 2016* and *Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison as of June 30, 2015* for the supervisors to review. He noted that no money had been taken from the reserve; the Total Equity came in at \$49.84 to the good. The District has received about \$10,000 more in tip fees than had been budgeted.

J. Fromberger stated that it was an excellent report and that it shows good management on the part of the treasurer. D. Suursoo made a motion to accept the report and to hold it for audit. G. DeRosia seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

a) T. Kennedy noted that tonnage has been going down over time, but not by much.

4. T. Kennedy discussed the Town of Athens' request to become a member of the District; the Executive Committee has recommended that the District allow Athens to become a member. According to the District's bylaws, Athens will have to vote on becoming a member with a town-wide vote. J. Fromberger expressed concern that Athens should not have access to the money that the District inherited when it was part of the NH/VT Solid Waste Project. D. Suursoo agreed that the District must set conditions for Athens to enter the District and one of those conditions is that they would not have access to restricted revenues. T. Kennedy said that the District does need to draw up terms and conditions and that at the Executive Committee meeting, a sum of \$3,000 was decided upon to serve as the entrance fee. T. Kennedy explained that the fee was based on the approximate cost of each carload attending a household hazardous waste event (\$85-\$100) multiplied by the approximate population of Athens (300). D. Suursoo made a motion to accept the Town of Athens as a member of the District pending a positive public town-wide vote by Athens to direct the District manager to proceed forward with the following conditions: the cost of the admission process will be borne by the applicant, the Town of Athens will not have access to the District restricted

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funds (which are the reserve accounts), and payment of a \$3,000.00 entry fee plus legal fees incurred. J. Fromberger seconded the motion. All voted in favor. T. Kennedy stated that the Executive Committee would work on the terms and conditions with Steve Ankuda, Esq.

5. T. Kennedy explained the reasons for the proposal that District employees become employees of the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission. The Executive Committee has already made a motion to proceed with this process. T. Kennedy explained the budget implications for the District. The budget as it is currently, only pertains to M. O'Brien. Jason Rassmussen will continue to be the supervisor for personnel issues for the District employees. B. Forguites noted that in June, M. O'Brien had a monitoring visit from the Department of Environmental Conservation for the Solid Waste Implementation (SWIP) grant. DEC noted that the District didn't have any personnel policies. So this move would take care of that. The District will, essentially, be contracting with the RPC for District management and operations. J. Fromberger made a motion to request that the RPC supply management and operational controls of all personnel needs that the District has with the understanding that the RPC will be fully reimbursed for these services. T. Kenyon seconded the motion. The RPC has not yet accepted this proposal. All voted in favor.

6. T. Kennedy stated that he now had the Casella contract that is acceptable to the District with Schedule A and changes in language desired by the District. D. Suursoo made a motion to ratify the Casella contract as updated for a two-year period from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017 and to authorize the Chair to sign the contract. G. DeRosia seconded the motion. All town managers will sign the contract, also. All voted in favor.

7. M. O'Brien talked about the State's marketing "toolkit" for Act 148 Universal Recycling which had arrived in her e-mail Inbox weeks after the July 1, 2015 implementation of several mandates and months after expected. T. Kennedy stated that DEC is requiring each district/alliance/group to conduct a survey to assess its residents' knowledge of the new solid waste "initiative" (vs. "law"). Another survey will have to be done in five years to re-assess residents' knowledge.

8. C. Gibb stated that a hauler in Grafton has trash dumpsters but no recycling containers. T. Kennedy responded that he would ask Carl Mitchell, the auditor, to go around the District in September to verify whether or not haulers are complying with the variable rate pricing ordinance and offering recycling. T. Kennedy said that the District will talk with haulers to make sure that there is a level playing field for the ones who are complying with the law. J. Fromberger asked if the State was playing a role in regulating the haulers.

9. Old Business: none

10. New Business: none

11. J. Fromberger made a motion to adjourn at 7:03 p.m. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. O'Brien
District Clerk

The next quarterly District meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, October 22, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.**, same location.