

Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management District



Andover • Athens • Baltimore • Cavendish • Chester • Grafton • Ludlow • Plymouth
Reading • Rockingham • Springfield • Weathersfield • West Windsor • Windsor

www.vtsolidwastedistrict.org

Board of Supervisors Quarterly Meeting, November 6, 2024, 1:00 p.m. (Held remotely via Zoom.)

Meeting Minutes

At 1:08 p.m., Jeff Mobus, Chair, called the meeting to order.

1. Additions to the Agenda

No action was taken.

2. Roll Call

Supervisors present via Zoom: Derek Suursoo, Chester; Cynthia Gibbs, Grafton; Brendan McNamara, Ludlow; Matt Priestley, Springfield alternate; Brandon Gulnick, Weathersfield and proxy for Reading; Brandon Gulnick, Weathersfield; and Rika Henderson, Weathersfield alternate. Also present via Zoom: Tom Kennedy, District Manager and Mary T. O'Brien, District recycling coordinator. A quorum was not present so no business could be conducted.

3. Approve minutes of July 25, 2024 meeting

No action was taken.

4. Discussion with Dave Allen from Casella on waste issues a. Mattress Charges

T. Kennedy introduced Dave Allen from Casella Waste Management. He is Jim Toher's replacement for our region. D. Allen spoke about the need to increase the price of mattress disposal because they have become a problem material in the solid waste world. Mattresses wreak havoc in a landfill because they're difficult to compact and move around in the landfill, causing issues. Casella has a mattress recycling facility in Willimantic, Connecticut, where mattresses are disassembled, various materials are recycled, and the rest is trashed. Massachusetts has banned mattresses from their landfills.

The cost of transportation per ton of mattresses is high. About 150 mattresses is a typical load. Trevor Mance works for Casella with the mattress recycling process. As of January 1, 2025, Casella will be charging \$45.00 per unit. Casella will send notify the towns of the price increase and send along best practice guidelines for handling the mattresses.

T. Kennedy asked about the recycling commodities market. D. Allen responded that it is impossible to predict the future of that market but that prices have been stable lately.

5. Receive August and September 2024 Financials
 - a. Credit Card
 - b. ACH Banking

T. Kennedy explained that in the most recent audit, the auditors want the District to have its own credit card. He said that the Executive Committee agreed with that recommendation.

T. Kennedy suggested that the District set up Automated Clearing House (ACH) banking to replace the writing of checks each month. Kelly Murphy, District Treasurer, and B. Gulnick would have to sign off on the transactions before they are sent through.

No action taken.

6. Discussion of the Glass Program
 - a. \$15.00/ton charge for glass
 - b. Draft lease with Alva Waste for District's glass facility
 - c. Costs for grinding remaining glass at the Springfield Public Works Department
 - d. Cost to build glass facility

T. Kennedy stated that all of the glass that had been delivered by District towns to the Springfield Public Works collection site, had finally been removed. About 400 yards of glass and gravel were taken out. It was screened and ground up but there was still too much contamination to be able to use the material for drainage. T. Kennedy stated that he didn't yet have exact costs for the transportation, screening, and crushing of the glass. Alva Waste Management built a glass collection site at its transfer station in Springfield to take in glass from the District. The bunker is three-sided and is built of about 60 waste blocks, and asphalt over a bed of gravel.

The Executive Committee recommends that the District begin again to charge towns for the delivery of glass to the site. Previously, the charge was \$40/ton; then it went down to \$0.00/ton. The current proposal is \$15.00/ton because the District has a large fund balance. D. Suursoo suggested that the towns be charged the same amount that SMI charges the District to pick up the glass and haul it away (about \$22.00/ton). About 500 tons of glass/year will be collected. Glass loads will be tracked by town; loads that are contaminated will cost the responsible town \$150.00/ton.

7. 2024 HHW Depot Season

T. Kennedy discussed the HHW 2024 season's data - \$4,321.00 contribution from 284 residents including 16 GUV resident (GUV will be charged a percentage of disposal cost), 2 Windham Co. residents, and 1 from Charlestown. \$530 from 3 CEGs (several more were masquerading as residents). Depot was open 38 days.

Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management District



Andover • Athens • Baltimore • Cavendish • Chester • Grafton • Ludlow • Plymouth
Reading • Rockingham • Springfield • Weathersfield • West Windsor • Windsor

www.vtsolidwastedistrict.org

SWWCSWMD meeting minutes
November 6, 2024
page 3

8. Old Business

T. Kennedy mentioned that he advertised for the Outreach Coordinator position, which is shared between the SWWC district and the GUV district.

9. New Business

T. Kennedy will try to have another Board meeting in two weeks to get a quorum to conduct business.

At 2:03 p.m., J. Mobus made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. O'Brien
District Clerk