

**Minutes**  
**NWSWD Board of Supervisors Meeting**  
**February 1, 2017**

The Board of Supervisors of the Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District held their regularly scheduled board meeting on Wednesday February 1, 2017 at the District Offices, 158 Morse Drive Georgia, VT at 6:30 PM.

Chairman Bill Rowe called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**Supervisors Present:**

David Clark, Fletcher

Vincent Hickey, Berkshire

Paul Lambert, Georgia

Ben Lowell, Highgate

Tim Green, Richford

Carlo Micheli, Swanton

Jim Richards, No. Hero

Jaime Tibbits, Fairfield

Bill Rowe, So. Hero

Al Voegele, St. Albans Town

**Supervisors Absent:**

Terry Anderson, Isle La Motte

Dave Bennion, Franklin

Barry Kade, Montgomery

James Lintereur, Bakersfield

Amy Mashtare, Alburgh

Dave Supernault, Sheldon

**Others Present:**

John Leddy, Executive Director

Pam Bolster, Business Manager

**Guests:**

- 1) **Agenda Review:** Mr. Leddy requested to add an Executive Session under New Business to discuss communication from the District Attorney.
- 2) **VOTE: Minutes of the December 7, 2016 Board Meeting:** Mr. Rowe asked For a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Voegele made the motion, Mr.Lambert seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed with the correction of the last line from item 7 moving correctly to the last line of item 8. Mr. Green abstained as he was not at that meeting.
- 3) **Public Comment: None**
- 4) **Old Business:**
  - a) **Director's Report:**

Mr. Leddy noted the attachment in the package of the Supervisors report giving informational narrative highlights of FY16 along with the data collection sheet as backup. A brief discussion occurred with focus on

composting and a discussion of District Digesters, Diversion, and trash generation rates. Generation went up, Disposal stayed the same, and Diversion was increased from FY15. HHW collection decreased from 55 tons in FY15 to 45 tons in FY16 while the District served more people in FY16, attributed to the existence of the permanent HHW facility.

Mr. Leddy reported that the legislative session started with the new Governor. An update of Vermont's solid waste was given to the house and senate committees who will in the future discuss Districts and Waste Generation, etc. Two waste bills are on the agenda both regarding plastic bags, one eliminating plastic bags completely, one enlisting a .07 cent fee on plastic bags. .02 cents would stay with the store, the rest going to the state. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Leddy has not to date weighed in with his opinion on this topic.

A discussion of Fletcher trash collection by Fairfield Enterprises who is no longer collecting trash on Saturday's in Fletcher. Fletcher will discuss in the near future whether there is interest in establishing future Saturday trash collection with someone.

Mr. Leddy reported that in composting news the District has added Franklin School, Alburg School in the fall, and will be adding the Alburg Transfer Station. He noted that the District will be applying for a grant that will pay 50% of the cost of compost bins as long as we pass the savings on to the residents given they attend compost training class which we will hold again this year. The District has as well printed material to give.

A Discussion occurred about the new pilot residential compost route in St. Albans which has approximately 20 participants to start. The District is in its third week of collection and will be working to increase participation going forward. Mr. Leddy noted flyers would be inserted in the City Water Bill to help introduce the program.

**b) Financial Reports:**

Ms. Bolster reviewed the Profit and Loss, noted that District Staff are doing extremely well charging for recyclable items such as tires, CFC units, etc. that customers are responsible for. She noted Sales of Recyclables are down in comparison to last year and down to last quarter. She stated that it was expected as the District is now sending a lot of recycling to the MRF as single stream. Discussion of staffing ensued. It was noted that what we are still selling is making a net profit.

Ms. Bolster discussed our insurance increase both for workman's comp and our general liability. She noted that analysis will be done as the increase was so great. Workman's Comp coding was discussed and Ms. Bolster explained how people are coded and the costs associated with that coding. Past workman's comp claims and the costs against our insurance were reviewed and discussed. Ms. Bolster explained that workman's comp estimates are given based on projected staffing levels from our budget and that if things don't materialize related to budgeted

staffing any overpayment for workman's comp is returned after the workman's comp audit which occurs each year.

Ms. Bolster noted expenses in general are slightly high, mostly attributed to timing issues.

In collection news, Ms. Bolster reported that regarding Jim Burns and his past due amount, after legal assistance, the bill will be paid but will be paid by Sylvester's Trucking who purchased Mr. Burns business.

Background of the situation was given, and although this is not the ideal outcome, the District will be paid. Sylvester will pay this off over time, including with their normal monthly payment an agreed upon amount to pay off Burn's bill. Duffy's was discussed with some recent payments having been made. Ms. Bolster discussed the Ben & Jerry's Unilever situation which mandates that we submit invoices through an overseas network in order to be paid. This is not working correctly to date, thus there is a past due amount. Ms. Bolster will work to remedy this issue. Ms. Bolster discussed briefly the high cost of repairs to the CAT Truck which will be further discussed later in the meeting.

Receipts and payments were reviewed for the last two months. Drop Off Site P&L's were reviewed. North Hero was discussed as there have been some high expenses for the site due to compost collection bunkers, leaf collection work etc.

#### **5) Other Business: Discussion of Supervisors Terms**

Ms. Bolster reviewed the Supervisor Terms and the notifications to Towns regarding this. Attendance was briefly discussed with the consensus that meetings every other month have helped with attendance issues. Vacant seats were reviewed and the methods used to attempt to fill those seats.

#### **6) New Business:**

**a) Executive Session Request:** Mr. Rowe asked for a motion to move into Executive Session for a legal update. Mr. Green made the motion, Mr. Voegele seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed. Executive session was entered at 7:35.

**Executive session ended at 8:03 with no action taken.**

**b) Committee Meeting Discussion:** Ms. Bolster will review if any are needed and discuss at next meeting.

#### **c) Discussion of the Caterpillar Truck:**

Ms. Bolster reported 26K in repairs over the last year above what warrantee has covered though not a lot of problems happened with things under warrantee. Discussion of the problems occurred. Discussion of a replacement purchase and what would be realized in a trade in. Discussions will continue as this moves forward. RFP's will be sent.

Full Board Adjourned 8:35 PM.