

**Minutes
NWSWD Board of Supervisors Meeting**

June 6, 2018

The Board of Supervisors of the Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District held their regularly scheduled board meeting on Wednesday June 6, 2018 at the District Offices, 158 Morse Drive Georgia, VT at 6:30 PM.

Chairman Al Voegele called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Supervisors Present:

Jennifer Bright, Enosburg
David Clark, Fletcher
Barry Kade, Montgomery
Tim Green, Richford
Mike Kemsley, Grand Isle
Paul Lambert, Georgia
Leitz, Tom, St. Albans City
James Lintereur, Bakersfield

Carlo Micheli, Swanton
Jim Richards, No. Hero
Bill Rowe, So. Hero
Jaime Tibbits, Fairfield
Al Voegele, St. Albans Town

Supervisors Absent:

Terry Anderson, Isle La Motte
Vincent Hickey, Berkshire
Amy Mashtare, Alburgh
Dave Supernault, Sheldon

Others Present:

John Leddy, Executive Director
Pam Bolster, Business Manager

Guests:

Full Board Meeting

1) Agenda Review-Additions/Deletions: No Changes, Additions or Deletions.

2) VOTE: Minutes of the April 4, 2018 NWSWD Board Meeting:

Mr. Voegele requested a motion to accept minutes of April 4, 2018.
All were in favor and the motion passed with two abstentions.

4) Old Business:

a) Directors Report:

Mr. Leddy noted the following District areas of business. The upcoming District Swip report which is looking at waste disposal, special State programs including bulbs and electronics etc. all of which the District is

collecting data on for the state report requirement. Mr. Leddy will report on his analysis at the next meeting.

Composting news included Barry Domina's success since the last board meeting of bringing on 11 new participants to our commercial collection program. With the anticipated addition of two new schools that are holding discussions now, the district will have 100% compliance of all the schools in the District. Five new residential customers have signed on as well and the District has held five backyard composting courses so far this year with good attendance. A composting discussion ensued. The hauler mandate for curbside collection is being reconsidered by the state. Three options could be on the table which will be presented by the Universal Recycling Stakeholders group. A. Haulers are not required to offer the service; B. Hauler's do have to provide it, C. or some mechanism around village centers and dense populations. Discussion. Over the next few months Mr. Voegele will be talking with District staff regarding site improvements.

Mr. Leddy is planning later in the summer, a Board retreat to discuss long term spending plans for capital improvements.

Mr. Leitz noted that the climate and process of charter changes has become less difficult and that if charter changes are being considered now is an effective time. Discussion.

b) Finance Report:

Ms. Bolster directed the board to the profit and loss with projection of estimated expenses and income for May and through June 30th. The following points were noted. Higher surcharge income for April with the estimation for June and July based on this increase along with averaged historical information. A review of income line items brings the bottom line to appx. 1.28M an increase from the budgeted 1.27M. Expenses were reviewed with a total over budget of approximately 25K. Noted were personnel expenses which will come in under budget for a myriad of reasons, discussion ensued. Truck expense for the fiscal year was noted coming in at appx. 20K over budget partially due to the sale of the CAT, purchase of the International, the loss of our driver and having to hire Casella's for pulls during the search and process time for a new driver. Trash disposal is anticipated to come in at appx. 94K, higher than the 75K budget, due to both higher tonnage and to increase in disposal. Compost expenses were reviewed with under budget items explained. Total direct services should come in appx. 241k against a budget of 216k.

Benefits were discussed as the increase in expenses against the decrease in gross wage was noted by Mr. Green. The district will look at and consider the plans available once plan pricing is approved by the state, usually sometime in October.

The District should end up with a small surplus for FY18.

Mr. Leddy noted that in fiscal year 2018 we had included for the first time money for capital maintenance essentially part of the surplus.

Discussion of possible FY19 budget amendment based on changes to disposal costs, surcharge increases, composter grant changes. Ms. Bolster will bring an estimation of these changes to the board at the next meeting and the board can make the decision as to whether to amend the FY19 budget.

Current outstanding AR was discussed with things looking good. Current Drop Off Site income and expense was reviewed.

5) New Business:

a) Discussion and Vote: Trash Bag Price Adjustments.

Ms. Bolster reported that the finance committee was not able to meet to review the analysis of raising bag pricing at our drop off sites, driven by the increase of disposal costs both for trash disposal and for recycling disposal. The increases were reviewed, both for Casella's Highgate Transfer Station from \$104.00 per ton to \$111.56 per ton, and for the MRF which disposes of our combined glass, tin, plastic recycling from \$21.00 per ton to \$50.00 per ton. Per state law we could not charge customers for recycling disposal however we could bury the cost into our other trash disposal charges. We calculated the fee's we incur (all costs including wages and trucking) for collection and from disposal of both recycling that we pay to dispose of and trash by volume and came to a price per gallon then associated that with our bag sizes (an average that we have researched). Price per gallon comes to .17 cents. This shows the need for an increase of \$1.00 per bag to cover the additional expense of disposal in this current market. An in-depth discussion about bag pricing, recycling, assessment income, surcharge income, the mention of the benefits of a scale, potential increases in gas pricing, and the recent change by the state that allows us to charge a recycling fee and how that affects this and the District going forward, etc. Mr. Rowe made a motion that the board endorse the proposed fee increase of \$1.00 per bag. Mr. Kemsley seconded the motion. All were in favor with the exception of Mr. Kade, and the motion passed. The new fees will go into effect July 1, 2018, giving sufficient notice to patrons.

b) Discussion: Recycling Markets. Global and Local Markets, International Politics, Evolution of Recycling as it relates to The District and how it ties into District operations.

Mr. Leddy directed the board to his Powerpoint presentation being displayed and gave a description of how The District is currently handling its recycling stating that we are currently dual stream with containers being co-mingled, paper and cardboard being baled and sold separately. Global Markets, International Politics, Evolution of Recycling the focus of this discussion. Scrap is the number one

recyclable and is sold mainly to China. The presentation explained the current political climate along with how the changes to China's recyclable allowances have changed over the years and where they are today with a large domestic recycling program, their ban on recyclable materials, and how this is changing the US market. The banning of imports by the end of 2017 included Plastic and Paper very effective to US Markets. In depth recycling discussions occurred throughout this presentation including discussions on glass disposal, a discussion of the state waivers for recycling can go to the landfill that have been caught with stock piles of material with no outlet, our processing, the cleanliness of our material, how financially this could affect us, landfill capacity, among other discussions. Mr. Leddy noted that China has purchased two paper mills in the US essentially creating a domestic market when the US is vying for domestic markets. Discussion continues and will continue at later meetings.

Full Board Adjourned 8:50 PM.