

Minutes
Board of Supervisors
February 1, 2012

The Board of Supervisors of the Northwest Vermont Solid Waste District held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at the District Office, 158 Morse Drive in Georgia, VT.

Supervisors Present

Bill Rowe, South Hero – Chair
Paul Lambert, Georgia
Chris Leach, Swanton
Dave Clark, Fletcher
Dave Supernault, Sheldon

Joyce Tuck, Isle la Motte
Jim Lintereur, Bakersfield
Barry Kade, Montgomery

Supervisors Absent

Bill Cioffi, St. Albans City
Jim Tomlinson, Richford
Gary Lockerby, Alburgh
Pierre Letourneau, Enosburg
Dave Jacobs, North Hero

Berkshire – Vacant
Fairfield - Vacant
Grand Isle - Vacant

Others Present

John Leddy, Executive Director

Pam Bolster, Business Manager

7:00 PM – Board Meeting

The Board Chair Bill Rowe called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

1. **VOTE: Approval of Minutes of NWSWD Board meeting of December 7, 2011. Mr. Kade moved to approve the December 7, 2011 meeting minutes as written. Mr. Supernault seconded the motion. Mr. Rowe asked for comments. There were none. All were in favor of approving the minutes as written. Jim Lintereur abstained.**

2. Old Business.

- a. Directors Report: Mr. Leddy began his director's report by drawing the board's attention to the handout of the state H485 Conservation, Solid Waste and Recycling recap. The discussion is tabled until new business. He then told the board that NWSWD has received the Georgia location full certification draft. He will do public notice and in 15 days we will be receiving the approved full certification. Mr. Leddy went on to state that since we have been slower in the warehouse as of late we are planning on doing a test run in Georgia to ensure that there are no kinks in our traffic and dumping flow plan for our opening to collect household trash at the Georgia location.

Mr. Leddy mentioned to the board that we held a staff meeting last week in which we discussed goals for The District. He provided a handout to the board recapping that meeting.

Mr. Leddy informed the board that he has had some discussion with haulers about recycling. He said that a call was received from Wetherby Trucking. He stated that he is being charged at Highgate a fee of \$60.00 a ton to dump his recycling. This is putting a serious cramp on his business. He as well as other haulers has expressed interest in being able to drop their recycling here. A discussion ensued regarding assistance to haulers, hauler relations in general. Mr. Leddy clarified for the board that the idea might be to accept single stream here from the haulers at a small tip fee and then we transport it to the MRF for them. Noted was the fact that we would need to determine if the District driver would be able to incorporate this into his allotted time. The MRF has said that they might consider paying us \$10.00 a ton for these loads. The MRF pays the higher volume recyclers for their drops. Highgate is charging. In addition Jim Burns called and spoke to Ms. Bolster about whether he could charge his customers for recycling or not and expressed concerns about the effects to his business with the opening of the Georgia Drop Off Site.

Mr. Leddy stated that he has been working on the collection schedule for the summer, that he has planned 10 collection events and some out-reach events as well, i.e.: green up day, maple fest etc. at which we will have an educational booth as well as collecting recyclables. Ms. Tuck asked if HHW will still be collected at each special collection, to which Mr. Leddy answered yes and explained that we will be utilizing our staff (specifically Mr. Micheli a drop off site attendant who has worked for Clean Harbors and Pollution Solutions in the past) to collect at these events. He stated that the event schedule shows a slight reduction from last year's schedule.

A brief discussion of composting occurred with a review as to who we are hauling composting for at this time. Mr. Rowe asked if this would ever expand to the islands and Mr. Leddy stated that Mr. Reynolds had recently spoken with a farmer in the islands who is interested in being a host site. It was questioned whether any of our composting runs incorporate anyone who is not in a district town. Mr. Leddy answered yes, Ben & Jerry's. Mr. Clark asked that we consider a policy for non-district town composting involvement at a non-subsidized rate.

- b. Finance Report: Ms. Bolster reported that warrant letters went out to the towns for their annual assessment. She noted that the .HSA accounts for the High Deductible Medical Plan that began on Jan. 1, 2012 have been set up after an excruciating amount of leg work and all is working well and staff is happy with the plan. Mr. Kade asked for a recap of the approval of the .HSA plan by the executive committee. Ms. Bolster stated that the Executive Committee did approve the plan that Mr. Leddy and Ms. Bolster recommended with the stipulation that we review this plan with other options earlier next year (suggestion was September).

She reported that receipts for the month are down slightly but that this is the time of year. She indicated no concerns with the finances for the month. In relation to A/R the two problem accounts remain and there are strong conversations going on with them regarding this. In reviewing A/R it was brought to the board's attention that there is an issue with All Cycle in Williston with them sending reporting on the incoming trash but paying out on the outgoing trash – (after any recyclables or other items had been pulled out). Ms. Bolster will be looking into that situation. Ms. Bolster's plan is to have a meeting with the All Cycle District Manager regarding this issue as well as discussing with him the possibility of obtaining a lower tipping fee.

3. New Business.

- a. Hauler participation, rates, and data: Mr. Leddy and Ms. Bolster have discussed the need for increased and better hauler relations. The board has asked us to initiate formalized dialogue on a higher level with the haulers and for The District to provide a tactic for this approach. Mr. Leddy and Ms. Bolster have decided to begin with a letter inviting further dialogue and a survey asking key questions, developing a true understanding of the haulers and their business to enable development of further tactics. A discussion ensued. A draft of the letter and draft survey have been requested by the board for the next meeting.
- b. Franchising: A discussion of franchising occurred with key elements being the definition of franchising and its cost effectiveness as well as any other benefits or disadvantages. This discussion will continue at a later date.
- c. H-485: A brief review occurred of the H.485 state bill from the recap handout that Mr. Leddy provided. Policing and penalties were discussed. Mr. Leddy stated that this bill has drawn enough attention that toy producers are lobbying against it. This discussion will continue as time goes on.
- d. **Board Participation Discussion and Vote:** A discussion began about town representative participation at the board meetings. **Mr. Kade asked for a motion to allow NWSWD to draft a letter to select boards asking towns to appoint a representative in the towns that have not done so and as well draft a letter to towns that have a representative that is not active. Mr. Supernault seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion is passed.**