

Minutes

NWSWD Board of Supervisors Meeting And Annual Election of the Board

June 4, 2025

The Board of Supervisors of the Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District held their regularly scheduled board meeting on June 4, 2025, via zoom (noted) and at the NWSWD Georgia Recycling Facility at 6:30PM.

Supervisors Present:

Buermann, Bob – So. Hero - zoom
Blake, Jared – Franklin
Doremus, Mark – Bakersfield - zoom
Getty, Jennifer – Fletcher
Kade, Barry – Montgomery - zoom

McCracken, Alex – Alburgh – zoom
Manahan, Mike – St. Albans City
Richards, Jim - No. Hero - zoom
St. Francis, April – Highgate

Supervisors Absent:

Lambert, Paul – Georgia
Shepard, Kristin – Richford
Micheli, Carlo – Swanton
Sylvester, Mary – Berkshire - zoom
Voegelé, Al - St. Albans Town

Others Present:

John Leddy, Executive Director
Pam Bolster, Finance
Dale Chapman, Operations Manager

Full Board Meeting

Acting Chair Jennifer Getty welcomed all members and called the meeting to order at 6:34PM. Mike Manahan was noted as the new representative for St. Albans City and introductions were made.

1) Agenda Review-Additions/Deletions: None

2) Opportunity for Public Comment: None

3) Approval of Minutes for June 4, 2025. Jim Richards made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Alex McCracken seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed with abstention from Mike Manahan. Mr. Kade requested future documents be sent in PDF format for readability issues.

4) Staff Reports:

a) Directors Report:

John Leddy noted the following:

- The expansion project has entered the final stages. A couple of issues had to be dealt with. The intrusion of groundwater in the area for concrete was fixed by over excavate and bring in extra stone for drainage assistance. The fix has worked and the concrete was poured.

The paving should occur this coming week and the anticipated date of completion is just three weeks away. Noted that there will be cost overruns by appx. 1-1.5%. Certificate of Occupancy should come on or around June 18th. Discussion about a sort of ribbon cutting ensued with the issue to be revisited.

- HHW collection has started off strong. Three collection events were held in late April/early May and users were slightly higher than in recent years.
- The Draft SWIP (Solid Waste Implementation Plan) is due at the end of the month. Data is being collected. Reported areas include Waste Disposal and Diversion for the Entire District, a Report of All Collection Programs we offer, and All Outreach and Education Efforts. Once the draft is submitted and pre-approval is received, the District will have two public hearings, then the full board will approve the plan before the end of the year.
- VT Legislature passed one bill with impact to waste management in relation to HHW collection. A summary of H484 was included in the package. It will increase what the state pays NWSWD towards the collection of pesticides as well as giving the state additional time to develop the Extended Producer Responsibility Program, and moves more paint and paint related waste into the Paint Care Program.
- Discussion of Alburgh's Free Waste Collection Day, noting this is an Alburgh Town Funded Event and we are working on the details. Alex McCracken noted he would be at the event.

b) Finance Report:

Pam Bolster noted the following:

- Continued audit issues with the FY24 audit with surcharge income being overstated and drop off site income being understated even after two rounds of corrections. Final payment will not be made until the audit is correct. FY25 audit has not been scheduled yet.
- RFP for audit services for FY26 will be going out within a week, direct to firms and listed on the VLCT website. FY25 was the last contracted audit with the current auditors.
- Healthcare for FY27 budget will need to be explored. BCBS has requested a 17% increase, MVP 7.5%. The state has not yet approved either. Requested are a committee meeting sometime in late August to start the review of our benefit plan (s).
- Financial review of the projection to June 30th. Though the projection shows us close to our budgeted surplus, caution is given for unexpected expenses. Noted was the purchase of a new Ford E450 truck to handle the compost route while the Isuzu is being retrofitted. Bonds for the building project have been drawn down to just some residual interest which will be applied to the next interest payments of the respective bonds. Noted that the first bond of 1M earned appx. 12K in dividends from investment.
- A comprehensive report of project expenses and funding sources will be presented at the August meeting.
- Drop Off Site Income Review. Income has been good showing an increase from FY24 through April. Users have increased.

5) New Business: None

6) Other Business:

John Leddy and Pam Bolster Noted the Following:

- Education and Outreach by Mikhala Kaseweter has consisted of Workshops at local libraries and public spaces, focusing on Recycling, Natural Cleaning Processes. Noted was her passion for environmental initiatives and her outreach to local businesses. As well the facebook page reaches 1.2M people per month and while it can be challenging it is a valuable resource. It was suggested that she record some of the workshops which could then be shared online.
- Board members were requested to alert Pam Bolster or Shannon Plant if they wished to volunteer for committee's.

Meeting adjourned 7:50PM