

**NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

**April 10, 2018**

The meeting was called to order @ 7:00 p.m. by Joel Cope; Chair

**Present:** Nick Rivers (Albany, Irasburg ); Paulette Routhier (Bloomfield, Brunswick, Maidstone); Joel Cope (Brighton); Lila Stevens (Brownington); Ben Davis (Cabot, Marshfield); Pat Austin (Charleston); Davis Isles (Concord); Bob Sanberg (Corinth); Walter McNeil (Danville); Kirwin Flanders (East Haven); Jack Sumberg (Glover); Kitty Diggins & Timothy Dailey Sr. (Groton); David Sanders (Jay); Libre Drouin, Derek Blankenship & Steve Gray (Lyndon); Jan Clausing (Newark); Steve Barrup (Newport Town); John Narowski (Newbury); Gene Perkins (Ryegate); Jack Smith (Sheffield, Wheelock); Tom Gilbert (Stannard); Elizabeth Hubbard (Sutton); Peter Keene (Topsham); Gaston Bathalon (Troy); Andrea Dinneen (Waterford); Miriam Simonds (Westmore)

**Absent:** Barnet, Derby, Granby, Greensboro, Guildhall, Holland, Kirby, Lunenburg, Morgan, Norton, Peacham, Unified Towns and Gores of Essex County (UTGs), Victory, Westfield

**Staff present-** Paul Tomasi

**Public Present-** Chris Jacobs

**Updates to Agenda-** Add Supervisor/Employee Open House to “Other Business”. Pat Austin would like to discuss the District Manager’s association, as well as Chittenden Solid Waste District (CSWD).

Item #4 moved to first order of business.

**Annual Meeting of the District- Election of Officers & Regular Meeting Schedule-**

Current Slate of Officers:

Chair- Joel Cope

Vice Chair- vacant

Treasurer- Paulette Routhier

Clerk- Libre Drouin

Member(s) at Large- Gene Perkins, Jack Smith, Nick River, Steve Barrup

\*Moved to have the Executive Committee stay at 7 members, not filling the vacant position. 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Motion Approved*

\*Moved to nominate Joel Cope for Chair. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

\*Moved to nominate Walter McNeil for chair. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Paper ballot requested. Joel 18; Walter 7; 1 spoiled.

\*Moved to nominate Nick Rivers for Vice Chair. 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Motion Approved.*

\*Moved to nominate Paulete Routhier for Treasurer. 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Motion Approved.*

\*Moved to nominate Libre Drouin for Clerk. 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Motion Approved*

\*Moved to nominate Irene Degasse for Clerk. 2<sup>nd</sup>

Irene not present, not able to accept nomination. Libre Drouin elected Clerk pending re-appointment from Select Board.

There are 5-6 towns that have not submitted re-appointment forms to Paul, for their Supervisors. Paul reminds them to check in with their Town Clerk or Select board.

\*Moved to nominate for Members at large; Steve Barrup, Jack Smith, Gene Perkins. 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Motion Approved.*

\*Moved to Nominate Pat Austin for Member at large. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pat respectfully declines.

\*Moved to allow Paulette Routhier, Jack Smith, Jan Clausing and Paul Tomasi as signers for District bank account [Jack Smith to fill vacancy left by James Ashley]. 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Motion Approved.*

**Surcharge Waiver Request- Chris Jacobs ACT (Albany Community Trust)-**

Mr. Jacobs joined our meeting representing the group ACT a 501c3 community group. One of their first orders of business is to restore the old Albany General store. In order to accommodate parking they need to purchase an adjoining property. There is a stipulation in purchase agreement that an abandon building on the property adjacent needs to be demolished.

They are asking for a waiver for the District surcharge, in the approximate amount of \$1200.

\*Moved to grant waiver. 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Motion Denied.*

Pat Austin is leery about granting the waiver as he feels it may set a precedent for others to ask.

Jan Clausing asked Mr. Jacobs if their organization has asked the Town of Albany for assistance; he feels if Albany is unwilling to help, as a Representative of his town he would not be willing to vote in favor.

**Approval of Minutes-** moved to approve the minutes of February 13, 2018 as written. 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Motion Approved.*

**Conflict of Interest Policy-** Supervisors all received electronic copies as well as paper option available at the meeting.

**Legislative Update-** Pat Austin spoke; he has been to testify, for the Legislature, several times now in regards to Act 148. We are not the only District to address issues with this Act the way it is written. He feels Chittenden County is strong-arming the debate with their lobbyists, and would like the board to support drafting a letter to send to CSWD opposing their rate structure concerning out of district materials.

Taken from a letter signed by Sarah Reeves, Executive Director, or CSWD, “CSWD will be raising the tip fee at the Districts Material Recovery Facility (MRF) starting April 2, 2018. The new tip fee structure, to be paid by the hauler, will be \$25/ton for in-District materials and \$50.00/ton for out-of-District materials”

He is also concerned that just two years in to Universal Recycling, the markets are causing a collapse in the system.

Moved to send a letter from the NEKWMD to CSWD opposing their rate structure. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion Approved.

Tom Gilbert brought up for related discussion, a House bill regarding the farming community and how they handle food scraps for their business, be it as animal feed or creation of compost to be used on site.

Moved to have Paul submit a formal comment utilizing language from H837 to support S285. 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Motion Approved.*

Compost Capacity Update- Staff has been working with prospective compost sites in the region. The potential facilities are located in Albany, Charleston, and Ryegate.

**Financial Update-** Positive end of year numbers. Expenses exceeded revenues by \$20,201 for the month ending February 2018. For the year expenses exceed revenues by \$44,246.

Recycling markets continue to drop; paper was down \$15/ton at the end of March. Further prices drops for recyclables are anticipated.

Paul met with our auditor and things are looking better though there are still some murky areas. The auditor suggested we wait until the end of the calendar year for truer numbers before we allocate any revenue surplus from 2017.

**Other Business-** We addressed some of Pat Austin’s concerns during our discussion on Legislative updates, additionally Pat had asked to discuss the District Manager’s Association.

\*Moved to send a letter to the District Managers Association to focus their message on their local district, not opposing other Districts ideas, but representing their Board’s interests. 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Motion Approved.*

The Employee/Supervisor Open House tabled until next meeting.

Motion to adjourn @ 8:40

Respectfully submitted,  
Libre Drouin