

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

February 13, 2018

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

Present: William Douglas (Barnet); Paulette Routhier (Bloomfield, Brunswick, Maidstone); Joel Cope (Brighton); Lila Stevens (Brownington); Ben Davis (Cabot, Marshfield); David Isles (Concord); Walter McNeil (Danville); Irene Dagesse & Fran Batchelder (Derby); Kirwin Flanders (East Haven); Jack Sumberg (Glover); Ken Johnston (Greensboro); Tim Daley (Groton); Rebecca Hill Larson (Kirby); Derek Blankenship & Steve Gray (Lyndon); Bob Durgin (Morgan); Jan Clausing (Newark); Steve Barrup (Newport Town); John Narowski & Claude Phipps (Newbury); Gina Vigneault -via phone (Norton & UTGs); Gene Perkins (Ryegate); Jack Smith (Sheffield, Wheelock); Tom Gilbert (Stannard); Elizabeth Hubbard (Sutton); Peter Keene (Topsham); Gaston Bathalon (Troy); Yves Daigle (Westfield); Miriam Simonds (Westmore)

Absent: Albany, Charleston, Corinth, Granby, Guildhall, Holland, Irasburg, Jay, Lunenburg, Peacham, Waterford, & Victory

Staff present- Paul Tomasi

Updates to Agenda – No updates to the agenda. Steve Gray had a few questions to be addressed under Other Business.

Approval of Minutes- Moved to approve minutes of November 14, 2017 as written. 2nd. *Motion Approved.*

Food Scrap Collection Contract – Motion to approve the Food Scrap Collection contract between the District and Cloud's Path Farm of Sheffield, VT. 2nd. Motion to amend the contract to become effective March 1, 2018 instead of February 1, 2018 – no 2nd, motion fails. Original motion to approve the contract effective February 1, 2018 approved.

USDA Grant Application – Motion to authorize the Executive Director to apply for the Rural Business Development Grant RBDG) through the US Department of Agriculture 2nd. Approved.

The grant is for \$30,000. The purpose is to conduct a feasibility study to improve the collection and distribution of excess food suitable for human consumption.

Conflict of Interest Policy – The draft Conflict of Interest Policy was circulated to all of the Board members. This policy was provided by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT). Several Board members suggested edits in order to reflect that most, if not all, of our Supervisors are appointed and not elected.

A motion was made to adopt the draft policy with the changes. 2nd, Approved

Once Paul has incorporated the changes, it will be distributed to each Board member for their signature acknowledging their receipt of the policy. The policy will be distributed in advance of the next meet so Supervisors can bring it to the March 13, 2018 meeting.

Financial Update – Paul informed the Board that the year ending December 31, 2017 was a vast improvement over the previous year in terms of generating a surplus. Paul wants to receive the results of the annual audit before announcing the exact amount of the surplus.

The District is running a deficit as of the end of January 2018; however, this is not atypical because of various bills that are due the first of the year and/or the beginning of the quarter.

Paul mentioned that the District sold over \$200,000 worth of recyclables for the first time anyone can remember. This has more to do with higher commodity pricing than a significant increase in recycling tonnage. The amount of material processed through the District was relatively flat compared with 2016.

The Board asked several questions regarding commodity pricing. There was some concern over policies in China. Paul informed the Board that most of the volatility in commodity pricing was with single-stream materials – specifically plastic and paper contaminated with glass. Since we source separate our materials, we generally receive a premium for our materials.

Legislative Update – Paul informed the Board that the bill our committee helped draft, S287, had been introduced by Senator Rodgers and was moving through the Senate Natural Resources committee. A similar bill, S285, was also making its way through the same committee. After receiving testimony on the 2 bills, the Committee Chair, Senator Bray, asked Senator Rodgers to combine the 2 bills and bring one bill back to the committee for consideration. The combined bill is now S285 even though many of the provisions in S287 remain. The Committee is in the process of determining what shall remain in the final version of the bill.

The District Board reviewed the provisions of S285. A motion was made to strike the language that eliminates the requirement for variable rate pricing. 2nd. Approved

The Board's action is in favor of retaining the variable-rate pricing requirement contained in Act 148.

Other Business – Steve Gray had several questions involving personnel issues. It was suggested that these matters be taken up between the Executive Director and the employees before bringing such matters before the Board.

Paul informed the Board that our website has been revamped by Shannon Choquette, Outreach Coordinator. Supervisors were encouraged to review it and contact Paul and/or Shannon with any suggestions for changes.

Copies of the District Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 2017 were handed out during the meeting. A question arose as to why Greensboro trash tonnage was so high. Paul stated that he thought Greensboro's tonnage was being over reported by waste haulers in that area who might be combining loads with surrounding towns that are not part of the NEKWMD

The question of composition of the Executive Committee will be added to next meeting.

Motion to adjourn @ 8:13pm

Respectfully submitted, Paul Tomasi, Executive Director