Minutes

NWSWD Board of Supervisors Meeting

February 7, 2024

The Board of Supervisors of the Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District held their regularly scheduled board meeting February 7, 2023, via zoom and at the St. Albans Town Hall at 6:30 PM.

Supervisors Present:
Buermann, Bob – So. Hero - zoom
Doremus, Mark – Bakersfield - zoom
Getty, Jennifer – Fletcher **-** zoom
Henry, Josie – Alburg - zoom
Kade, Barry – Montgomery
Lambert, Paul – Georgia
Richards, Jim - No. Hero – zoom
St. Francis, April – Highgate - zoom
Sturtevant, Brooks – Franklin - zoom
Tibbits, Jaime – Fairfield
Tuck, Joyce – Isle La Motte – zoom
Voegele, Al - St. Albans Town

Supervisors Absent:
Tanya Dufresne – Berkshire
Micheli, Carlo – Swanton
Peloubet, David – Sheldon

Others Present:
John Leddy, Executive Director
Pam Bolster, Finance

Others Present:

Full Board Meeting

Chair Jaime Tibbits called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

1) **Agenda Review-Additions/Deletions:**
   Ms. Getty requested an addition to discuss Town Meeting Day. Granted.

2) **Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks – Chair**
   Ms. Tibbits was asked to chair the meeting as Ms. Henry was only able to attend via zoom. Ms. Tibbits agreed and welcomed the board to the meeting.

3) **Public Hearing & Public Comments: No Attendees / No Public Comments**

4) **Vote: Minutes of the December 6, 2023 NWSWD Board Meeting:**
   Ms. Tibbits asked for a motion to approve the minutes of December 6, 2023. Mr. Voegele made the motion to approve the minutes of December 6th, 2023 as printed. Mr. Lambert seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

5) **Staff Reports:**

1. **Directors Report:**
   Mr. Leddy mentioned the following highlights but asked Ms. Bolster to give information on the new finance assistant hire. Ms. Bolster gave a brief history of Mr. Millers background, stated that he had just started that week, was in training, and that she has great hopes for his future at the district. She stated that the bond application had been approved and that there would be paperwork in the near future that the board will need to sign.
   Mr. Leddy gave an update on the upcoming project. He updated the board on current operations and that our baler is currently out of service but is in the process of being repaired. In legislative news he stated there is a bill that states for all public meetings there must be a zoom option. He reported that the senate was unable to override the governors veto of the bottle bill and that it is essential dead at this point. There was a review of H688 which proposes to expand the states battery program. He stated he is excited about a bill that would create extended responsibility for tire manufacturers. Some other states have already passed similar bills and Connecticut just passed one. Discussion ensued. He noted the HHW bill that passed last year is being worked on to be turned into an actual program. He is meeting with other District's and industry leaders in the coming weeks.

2. **Finance Report:**
   Ms. Bolster reported all was on track for both income and expense. She reported the headway by Duffy's to get their account caught up. She updated the board on the progress in dealing with Sylvester's past due. She expanded on the information regarding the approved bond with dates of closing and explained to the board that the bond funds will be held by US Bank and requests for funds will be fulfilled by them. She told the board that the funds will be moved into a money market fund that earns interest but remains less than the interest that is being paid on the bond, a pre-requisite.
   Mr. Leddy noted that the board will need to meet again to either sign paperwork and/or to vote to ratify the bond. We will keep the board posted.

6) New Business. **Discussion: Potential New Truck Purchase.**
Mr. Leddy told the board that our Chevy Truck has been deemed un-inspectable and the extensive amount of work and funds that would need to bring it to be so are cost prohibitive especially in light of the fact there is frame rust. The plan has been to purchase a new truck in the fall which would be suitable for all compost routes, but noted this need has arrived sooner than planned. Mr. Leddy provided history of the compost program at the district and as well information on the trucks that have allowed us to do so. Included in his information is the tonnage of both residential and commercial collections of food scraps. Discussion of efficiency and the carbon footprint of transporting this waste along with a comparison of costs in relation to transporting landfilled waste as opposed to transporting compost waste. A description of the type of truck was given including a 100gal. hot water washing unit for totes, a sawdust dispenser, and a tipper for the totes. Discussion. Mr. Leddy recommends with Ms. Bolsters approval, that this new truck purchase if approved by the board, be paid for with surplus funds from FY23 and that no loan is taken out.

Mr. Lambert made a motion that we earmark the anticipated surplus of 113K for the purchase of a compost vehicle. All were in favor and the motion passed.

7.) Committee Reports: None

9.) Other Business: Discussion of Town Meeting Day.

Mr. Leddy said we will deliver to all town offices the District newsletter for them to have on hand for distribution on Town Meeting Day. Ms. Tibbitts requests that information regarding price increases would be included with the information. Ms. Getty wanted to make certain she addresses anything of importance and knowing their will be a newsletter is sufficient.

Mr. Kade asked about negotiations with Alburg about the transfer station. Discussion. Ms. Henry will be discussing with their selectboard whether to pursue the district taking over its operations.

Board adjourned at 8:10 PM