

Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District
29 Sunset Drive, Suite 5
Morrisville, VT 05661

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' BUSINESS MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022
CONDUCTED BY ZOOM

SUPERVISORS

Cathy Mander-Adams	Belvidere	Dana Sweet	Cambridge
Absent	Craftsbury	David Whitcomb	Eden
Jane Oliphant	Elmore	Marilyn Zophar	Hyde Park
Howard Romero	Johnson	Charles Cooley	Morristown
Willie Noyes	Stowe	Absent	Waterville
Phillip Wilson	Wolcott	Carl Witke	Worcester

STAFF

Susan Alexander	District Manager	Donna Griffiths	Clerk
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Chair Willie Noyes called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

2. APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 9, 2022

Dana moved and David seconded to approve the minutes of August 9, 2022. Dana had one correction. He, not David, is the one who should be shown as abstaining in the vote to approve the minutes. **The motion to approve the minutes with the suggested change was passed unanimously.**

3. FY 2022 FINANCIALS

a. Approve July 2022 Financial Reports

Susan said the first month of the year we were \$7K in the red. We did a significant amount of work at the Stowe Electric Department building in July and we made our first quarterly insurance payment, so she is not terribly concerned.

Charles asked what the maintenance expense was for. Susan said to fix the concrete in front of the doors that had been crumbling and was a trip hazard. It also needed to be recontoured because water was flowing into that area. Charles asked, that \$17K expense is part of the \$29K budgeted for the year? Susan said yes.

Charles moved and Dana seconded to approve the July 2022 financial reports. (Carl joined the meeting.) The motion was passed unanimously.

b. Ratification of Check Register

Cathy moved and Marilyn seconded to ratify the check register. The motion was passed unanimously.

c. *Pre-payment Authorizations for Large Checks*

Susan said the large checks to be approved include payment for the Household Hazardous Waste event in Worcester. We had 53 cars at that event, about half of what we normally have in Worcester. We got about \$1900 in revenue and our cost was about \$10,500. The legislature is looking at an extended producer responsibility bill for HHW that would require manufacturers to pay the cost of disposal.

Cathy moved and Charles seconded to authorize pending payments in the amount of \$67,347.10. The motion was passed unanimously

4. UPDATES

There was a Household Hazardous Waste at Lamoille Union on September 10. This is a good location for these events. There were 184 cars. At \$10 per car, our revenue was \$1840. If there are over 100 cars our setup fee is considerably higher. It looks like there was participation from residents of all 12 towns. We also had 2 cars from Fletcher and 1 from Waterbury. We don't encourage people from out of district to attend. We have started charging them double. Joyce turned one person away who had 6 of the large insulation tanks that have 2 separate chemicals you mix. Each of those costs us about \$300 to dispose of and the person was from out of district. The best thing we can do with those tanks is hold onto them until we can make a special trip down to Middlebury, where they have a contractor that will deal with them. The September 10 event was not as large as events we have had in the past at that location. There will be no more HHW events until next spring.

James Gonyaw is moving out of state for a new job opportunity. We have been advertising to fill his position. Phil, Lucas and Charles have assisted with vetting resumes. Five candidates will be interviewed on Monday and Tuesday. Hopefully we can come up with 2 final candidates. We will have them visit our facilities and meet staff and we will be prepared to make an offer shortly after that. She thinks we have 5 pretty solid candidates. Three have previous solid waste experience.

At the beginning of this year Sarah reached out to communities to see if she could help with particular projects in each community. One thing she did was work with Howard on setting up a waste collection area at Tuesday Night Live in Johnson. Howard said he will suggest to the Tuesday Night Live Committee at its next meeting that the committee buy serving ware we know will compost and give it to all the vendors. There was a problem with that this year. Two vendors were able to show that their serving ware was BPI certified and the others all had products with language along the lines of "made with compostable materials" that did not provide assurance that we could accept them for composting. It was difficult to get the message to people that we can compost virtually all the food and we can recycle serving ware, but not if it has food in it. He kept having to pull things with food on them out of the recycling. Despite showing examples of what could be put in each bin and having someone standing there, it was still difficult to get people to put things in the correct container. Susan said helping with events is part of our Solid Waste Implementation Plan requirements, but she has yet to see one that goes really well (and that includes the Vermont Organics Recycling Summit.) When she was helping at Tuesday Night Live, many people came up to her and thanked her for having the recycling and compost station.

Susan said she and Sarah have been trying to build a coalition to share resources like a volunteer base or newsletter. But they have had to postpone further work on that due to weather and other

priorities. They probably will take it up again in the spring. They need to work with schools and businesses to fulfill our SWIP requirements for the rest of the year.

Susan said we are doing a pilot program at Stowe. We are having customers separate out mixed paper (computer paper, newspaper, magazines, softcover books, paper envelopes) and we are shipping it to the same facility we ship cardboard to. We are paid \$50-70 per ton and we are also able to avoid recycling fees for that material. We have experienced some contamination – items such as plastic bags, paper bags, padded envelopes or boxboard. We are looking into the possibility of baling the paper to make it easier to screen out contaminants. Another issue is that the paper processor does not want to return the gaylords holding the paper to us. She has been very happy with the glass and cardboard programs, but it looks like it could be more challenging to avoid contamination with mixed paper. We will run the pilot program for a couple of months and see how it goes. Maybe we will compare shipping the paper unbaled and baled.

Jane said the sign on the box may not make it clear that the things listed are the only types of paper accepted. Maybe we should include the word “only.” Susan said Sarah is already looking at creating signs with pictures of things accepted and information about what is not accepted. Cathy suggested it might be helpful to have a handout to give to people who dispose of mixed paper. They may throw inappropriate things in this time but if they look at the handout they may do better next time. Putting the Waste Warriors to work again is another suggestion. Susan said that is a great idea. One of the goals of the coalition she and Sarah are working on is to have volunteers that multiple groups could share.

Susan said each full gaylord of mixed paper is about 1200 pounds. We are able to avoid paying to dispose of that material at the MRF. If the voters approve the proposed new MRF facility, she doesn't think the price will go down.

Susan said Sarah will be at Old Home Day in Hyde Park this weekend. We are donating some compost to the raffle. We have lots of compost for sale. Over the next few weeks we will run a sale to move some out. She noted that compost sales were not as high this year as last year.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chair Willie Noyes adjourned the meeting at 7:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Griffiths, District Clerk Date

Willie Noyes, Chair Date