

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

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' BUSINESS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2022
CONDUCTED BY ZOOM

SUPERVISORS

Absent	Belvidere	Dana Sweet	Cambridge
Penelope Doherty	Craftsbury	David Whitcomb	Eden
Absent	Elmore	Absent	Hyde Park
Howard Romero	Johnson	Charles Cooley	Morristown
Willie Noyes	Stowe	Lucas Tilton	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. RE-ORGANIZATIONAL TASKS

a. Discuss for Action Election of Officers: Chair, Vice Chair

Charles called for nominations for chair. Dana nominated Willie. **Willie was unanimously elected chair.**

Willie took over as chair. He called for nominations for vice chair. Dana nominated Charles for vice chair. **Charles was unanimously elected vice chair.**

b. Discuss for Action Appointments: Treasurer, Clerk

Susan said the treasurer has been Gary Anderson, who has been doing a wonderful job and is happy to continue. **Lucas moved and Charles seconded to appoint Gary Anderson as treasurer. The motion was passed unanimously.**

Penelope moved to appoint Donna Griffiths as clerk. The motion was passed unanimously.

c. Discuss for Action: Paper of Record

Carl moved and David seconded to continue using the Stowe Reporter and the News & Citizen as newspapers of record. The motion was passed unanimously.

d. Discuss for Action: Time, Date, Location of Meetings

David moved to continue meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30, with meetings to continue on Zoom until the board makes a different decision. The motion was passed unanimously.

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2022 MEETING

Howard moved and Penelope seconded to approve the minutes of February 8, 2022. The motion was passed with David abstaining because he could not connect that night and all others voting in favor.

4. FY2022 FINANCIALS

a. *Approve February 2022 Financial Reports*

Susan said we currently have \$558K in our various checking accounts. We are in good shape financially. Net income is about \$4600. She just found out a couple of days ago that we got reimbursement of about \$23K from the state on our infrastructure grant. That is not reflected in this report.

Charles moved and Lucas seconded to approve the February 2022 financial reports. The motion was passed unanimously.

b. *Ratification of Check Register*

Dana moved and David seconded to ratify the check register. The motion was passed unanimously.

c. *Pre-payment Authorizations for Large Checks*

Howard moved and David seconded to authorize pending payments in the amount of \$30,721.22. The motion was passed unanimously

5. DISCUSS FOR ACTION: DRAFT FY2023 OPERATING BUDGET AND CAPITAL BUDGET

Susan said the proposed budget is up from last year but not much different from 2021 actuals. The budget for the administration class has a surplus that is used to balance out our operating budgets. This year in order to balance the operations budget we decided to carry forward \$6500 in cash reserves. We are now required to have a digital sign on our scale. That will cost about \$3500 and the remaining \$3K will be used to build a ramp in Johnson so another box can be added. The operations budget falls short by \$119,300. We use surplus from the administration and specials classes to cover that. Our expenses for disposal are down. Susan budgeted \$275K based on expenses so far this year. The amount budgeted for payroll has increased due to cost of living increases.

The budget for the compost class includes work to the roof and ceiling of the composting facility. James would also like to investigate putting in a concrete pad to bolt down our screener. Part of the work will be paid for with infrastructure grant funds. We probably will have 2 ½ to 3 times as much compost for sale this year and we raised the price, so a higher amount is budgeted for that revenue: \$17,500. We lowered the commercial tipping fee revenue because we lost ReGreen. Residential fees have been decreasing. The compost operation is not net zero yet but it is getting closer.

Starting with the fall Household Hazardous Waste collection we will charge \$10/car for HHW events. Most other districts have been charging and our costs have greatly increased. Our net for the specials class is \$47,400.

The cost analysis for the first year of the baling operation was very positive. We are carrying forward some cash to fix a restroom and some other things in the Stowe Electric Department building to be up to code. The infrastructure grant will pay for part of the work. James would like to fix the apron in front of the building so water doesn't get in.

Susan thanked Charles for his help on the budget.

Lucas asked about the amount budgeted for Green Up grants. Susan said that is an amount we donate to towns for Green Up. We also have cleanup grants. We have not had an application for a cleanup grant for a long time and now we have one from Wolcott. There is a cap of \$500 per request. The money is targeted to pay disposal costs for cleanup. The grants haven't had a lot of use. Sarah is thinking, and Susan agrees, that we probably should think about make the money available for people who want to do things related to reduction or reuse.

Charles said he went over the budget in detail with Susan. We are in a great financial situation for a district. We tend to have surpluses every year.

Charles moved and Penelope seconded to approve the proposed operating budget and capital budget for FY2023. The motion was passed unanimously.

Willie said when we have discussed composting we have not tended to discuss cost avoidance from composting – how much is not going into the landfill. Susan said that is a good point. In January, February and March we brought 56 tons of food scraps from our facilities to Lamoille Soil. Material going to the landfill from Stowe costs \$90/ton. The cost is different from other facilities; it depends where it is going.

6. **DISCUSS FOR ACTION: WOLCOTT CLEANUP GRANT REQUEST**

Susan said we received a cleanup grant request from a Wolcott resident. It fits our criteria. We usually ask the grant recipient to take pictures of what they have done and we give them the money once the trash is disposed of. **Phil moved to approve the cleanup grant application from Wolcott. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

7. **OTHER BUSINESS AND UPDATES**

Susan said Sarah is working with the Chittenden and Central Vermont districts on Earth Day Week curriculum. She will do a module on HHW.

We will be providing a tour of Lamoille Soil through the Vermont Organics Recycling Summit. People from all over the state who are interested in composting will be participating. Board members are welcome.

Susan has been following proposed bottle bill expansion legislation.

Dana asked when our contract with Casella is up. Susan said she thinks we have 2 ½ years left for the disposal contract. We have a separate hauling contract that rolls over year to year. Dana asked if Casella’s cost for recycling is going up. Susan said it can only go up if the cost at the MRF goes up. And they can add a surcharge if diesel goes above \$3.50/gallon.

Susan said she heard that the Chittenden board approved going out for a \$22 million bond to build a new MRF. She thinks the bond vote has to go out to their community.

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

Chair Willie Noyes adjourned the meeting at 7:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Griffiths, District Clerk

Date

Willie Noyes, Chair

Date