

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

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' BUSINESS MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2017
TEGU BUILDING, MORRISVILLE, VT

SUPERVISORS

Vacant	Belvidere	Dana Sweet	Cambridge
Absent	Craftsbury	David Whitcomb	Eden
Absent	Elmore	Harold Bailey	Hyde Park
Absent	Johnson	Absent	Morristown
Willie Noyes	Stowe	Howard Duchacek	Waterville
Absent	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 6:34 pm.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

2. APPROVE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 13, 2016

Dana moved and David seconded to approve the minutes of December 13, 2016. The motion was passed unanimously.

3. FY 2017 FINANCIALS

a. *Approve December 2016 Financial Reports*

Dana moved and Howard seconded to approve the December 2016 financial reports.

Susan said net income is \$72K.

Dana asked if we get any income from e-waste. Susan said we charge for some small electronics items that are not included in the e-waste program. We are reimbursed 8 cents a pound for e-waste (TV's, computers, and computer accessories.) We have to pay to get rid of the items we charge for, so we are not making money on them.

Susan said we had some expensive repairs on the truck recently. James is trying to decide when to replace it. Dana asked if we own our trucks and skid-steer. Susan said we own them all. We have no debt at all. She said we are in a very good financial position. We have built up a reserve for replacement of vehicles. We

have not included the compactors in our capital plan but we probably should start including them. James is having work done to them now to stop leaking.

Willie asked if we did a test run of using Myers recycling. Susan said it was more than just a test run. We still have a Myers container at Johnson to collect items like shingles and clean wood. Willie asked if we will keep the clean lumber. Susan said yes. Willie asked about stump dump maintenance. Susan said we periodically push back what is there. It is not really getting buried under 6 inches of dirt every year. We charge \$3/cubic yard for things that go into the stump dump. We may want to think about making it free. In the future we will need the carbon. We may start thinking about collecting unbagged leaf and yard waste in Stowe. We need to decide whether it will be more efficient, effective and economical to collect yard waste at Stowe or to purchase extra carbon. Howard asked what form of carbon we would purchase. Susan said sawdust or chips, maybe dry heifer manure with straw in it. Carl said finding sources is a challenge.

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

Dana moved and David seconded to authorize pending payments in the amount of \$21,433.40. The motion was passed unanimously.

4. REVIEW DRAFT BUDGET FOR FY2018

Susan discussed the draft budget. She said it is not completely balanced yet. In the past, we have had 3 classes in the budget: administration, operations, and specials. This year we added a composting facility class. The total budget is \$1.375 million, \$130K more than the FY2017 budget. About \$80K of that is for the composting facility and the rest of the increase is due to a large increase in workers' comp (\$31-32K.) About \$7700 keeps the budget from balancing.

This year we were able to get an Americorps person who worked full-time for us for 6 months. She will finish soon and go to work for another district. That was heavily subsidized by the state and only cost us about \$3200. The Americorps volunteer has established a volunteer program for us. Having that person was so successful that a new budget item has been added to get someone full-time next year (\$6500 plus \$1000 in expenses.)

Harold asked what Elly is doing. Susan said Elly has been supervising the Americorps volunteer. They have done a lot together. Elly got a grant in the fall to do a business outreach program. We hired a consultant to visit businesses and when the grant ran out Elly trained Shannon, the volunteer, to do it. Now Elly will do a lot of that work. It is an ongoing requirement of our solid waste plan. Elly does phenomenal work for us.

Susan reviewed the operations budget. She said our biggest problem is that we cannot find people to work for us. We have advertised but word of mouth has worked best for finding new employees. Income for operations is always under expense. We have always taken money from the specials program, which is a net positive. We still subsidize our facilities by \$30-40K annually from our surcharge.

It was difficult to put together a budget for the composting facility as it is a program we haven't had before. Susan used Chittenden's budget template and ran some numbers by our composting consultant. The composting facility has a lot of assumptions and her confidence in it is mediocre. That is the big question on this budget and why she hasn't tried to make it income and expense neutral. We have two sources of revenue – material dropped off and compost we make and sell. At some point we will have to discuss how we will get the tipping fees. Charge for a bucket? Put it in the bag fee? Have a punch card people pay for at the start of the year?

Carl asked if James is managing the composting facility or if we will hire someone. Susan said she doesn't think we need a full-time person to manage it. She just put together a job description. We could have a person working part-time there and possibly the same person could work part-time at our facilities; then it could be a full-time position.

Willie asked how much that facility can accommodate. Susan said a lot. She asked our consultant to calculate the capacity and he feels there is essentially no limit. We can build piles higher and increase air flow. That begs the question of whether we would start accepting food scraps from other entities and that gets into discussion about how organics are collected.

Susan said she hopes the board can vote on the budget at the organization meeting in April.

5. REVIEW UPCOMING REQUIREMENTS FOR ACT 148 REGARDING ORGANICS COLLECTION

Starting July 1 all haulers have to offer organics collection. They can charge their customers or ask the solid waste district to apply for an exemption on their behalf. She doesn't think we will have anyone ask for that. In 2020 food scraps will be banned from the landfill.

6. REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING DISCUSSION

Susan said the board doesn't usually meet in March. The meeting in April is the first Wednesday of the month. Susan will probably try to find a place to have a dinner meeting. She may invite guests to talk about composting or there could be another type of presentation if the board wants. There will be a new board member from Belvidere. The board will elect officers and talk about committee assignments and the meeting schedule.

David asked how many towns appoint representatives to the board vs. electing them.
Susan said 7 towns elect representatives.

7. GRANT UPDATES

We have a \$50K Northern Border Regional Commission grant for the composting facility. We haven't spent the money yet.

We received a \$10K High Meadows grant. It will be used for purchasing totes (48-gallon cans on wheels with lids) for food scrap collection and buckets with locking tops for customers to use to hold food scraps, to help run the volunteer program and to produce materials with information about what can go in the compost bucket.

We got a \$1000 composting supplies grant to buy backyard compost bins. They will be given out at a very lost cost at training workshops.

A lot of the grant money has come to us as a result of Elly's efforts.

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

Chair Willie Noyes adjourned the meeting at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



6/13/17

Donna Griffiths, District Clerk

Date



4/6/17

Willie Noyes, Chair

Date