

MINUTES
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
RUTLAND COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
BUSINESS MEETING
January 5, 2005

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Killington

Rutland City Bruce Bentley

Danby Ed Bucciari

Pittsford Donald Nickless

West Rutland Tom Yennerell

Brandon MeiMei Brown

Proctor George Finch

Wallingford Richard Crowley

Wells

Castleton Chris Cresci

Ira

OTHER PRESENT:

James O’Gorman, District Manager

Deane Wilson, RCSWD

Dave Petty, RCSWD

Dan Johns, RCSWD

Joyce Segale, RCSWD

Nanci McGuire, RNRCD

Bob Drachman, RNRCD

Karen McNeill, AVR

Erin Croom, AVR

Chairman Mr. Bentley called meeting to order at 6:33 P.M. A quorum was present.

1. SET AGENDA

Mr. O’Gorman asked that a presentation by Rutland Natural Resource Conservation District be added under old business. Mr. Crowley requested that “Open to the Public” be first on the agenda.

4. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

RUTLAND NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT PRESENTATION

Nanci McGuire and Bob Drachman from Rutland Natural Resource Conservation District were present. Ms. McGuire explained there are 14 conservation districts in Vermont. Her district was disappointed that the food waste program was discontinued. A farmer has approached her and expressed interest in participating in the food waste program and she would like to come to an agreement with all parties to resume the food waste program if RCSWD is interested. Lack of communication was a problem in the past and she stated that the grocery stores probably should be visited on an on-going basis to reduce contamination. Mr. Bentley stated that perhaps customers should be charged extra for contamination. Mr. Crowley stated it made sense to get back into the program if a farmer has been found. Ms. Brown asked Mr. O’Gorman what would need to be done to resume the program. He stated grocery stores would need to be contacted – restaurants have too little volume and locations are too widespread. Also, the State of Vermont must inspect the new farm site and a public hearing would be required. RCSWD still has the totes and the truck although the truck is not in great shape. Mr. Crowley stated we need to look into getting a better truck and requested Mr. O’Gorman present an outline at the next board meeting of what RCSWD needs to do. It was agreed that the spring would be a reasonable time to resume the program.

5A. AVR - PRESENTATION

Ms. Karen McNeil and Ms. Erin Croom provided handouts with information on the Association of Vermont Recyclers. The sheet referencing the power point presentation covered AVR background, AVR today, the Youth Environmental coalition and services, new projects and proposed expansion of services. Mr. Drachman from RNRCD asked how many schools AVR had had contact with and what are some of the projects currently in place. Ms. McNeil said that AVR has had contact with over 170 schools on a number of projects; though there had been in-depth work with fewer than that. The YES coalition had 15 groups involved and there were current relationships with Solid Waste Districts, Natural Resource Conservation Districts, school districts (primarily custodial staff), various VT State Agencies, and also working on relationships with neighboring state agencies. Mr. Crowley asked who was responsible in contacting the schools to find who's interested? Ms. McNeil said that AVR likes to work with schools that are motivated. A number of methods work; working with established contacts, letters to management (from AVR or Districts), and cold calls. Mr. O’Gorman asked how AVR measured their impact? Ms. McNeil said that education was difficult to measure, but schools and contacts are asked to fill out forms and evaluations. Ms. McNeil said that the majority of their work involves repeat customers, indicating a positive response to their work.

Discussion followed on the current status of an education element within the District, on the need for education and that it was part of the Districts SWIP.

AVR staff and RNRCD staff left at 7:30pm.

2. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2004 SUPERVISORS MEETING

Ms. Brown moved to accept the December 04 minutes. Mr. Crowley provided the second. The motion was unanimous.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, MOVEMBER 2004

Mr. O'Gorman provided a review of the financials. Ms. Brown said that it would be useful to include the MRF commodity pricing with the monthly packets. Ms. Brown and Mr. Bentley asked for clarification with the 2003 - 2004 HHW comparison.

Ms. Brown moved to accept the November Financial statement. Mr. Finch provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

4. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Petty asked for an opportunity to speak. Mr. Bentley asked if it was in reference to previous letters. Mr. Petty said that it was in reference to the lack of response to previous letters. Mr. Bentley said that this was not the time and that there was a procedure in place to follow and that Mr. Petty needs to address the issue with Mr. O'Gorman. Mr. Petty and Mr. Johns left at 7:55pm.

5B. OLD BUSINESS

FY05 Budget Approval

Mr. O'Gorman stated that he, Mr. Bentley and Mr. Densmore were present but no public attended the public portion of the budget approval process. Mr. O'Gorman stated that if the food waste were started up it would affect the budget. Mr. Crowley said that the budget would be adjusted to be self-sufficient. Discussion followed on issues that needed to be addressed if the food waste program were reinstated.

Mr. Crowley moved to accept the 2005 Budget. Ms. Brown provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

6. NEW BUSINESS.

A. Casella Waste Management - West St. Drop-off

Ms. Brown asked if the District were required to do anything and if there were any fees involved on behalf of Casella for processing the application? Mr. Bentley said that the review of the application was a requirement of the District curbside ordinance. Mr. O'Gorman stated that there wasn't any fee required for the application process.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL

Mr. Bentley asked Mr. O'Gorman if there were a need for the executive session?

Mr. Nickless asked if there was a procedure for an employee grievance. Mr. Bentley explained that the procedure stated the issue had to be resolved between the manager and employees before it could be brought before the board. Ms. Brown stated that if a grievance were presented to the board, it could possibly prejudice board members who ultimately were the judge. Mr. Nickless asked if the policy were in the personnel manual? Mr. O'Gorman stated that all staff was issued a copy of the personnel manual. Discussion followed on the need for a timely response to employee issues. Mr. Bentley asked Mr. O'Gorman for a time frame to acknowledge the correspondence and then to respond to the issues.

Ms. Brown asked if there were a timeline in the employee manual and if it wasn't clear that there should be some guidance available. Mr. O'Gorman was asked to gather examples of other personnel policies and provide examples of how others have addressed this issue. Mr. Bucceri asked if there could be a specific time when Mr. Petty and Mr. Johns issued would be addressed? Mr. O'Gorman said that he would acknowledge their letter tomorrow and would address the issues shortly thereafter.

8. ADJOURN

At 8:17pm Ms. Brown moved to adjourn. Mr. Crowley provided the second. Motion was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted

Deane Wilson
Joyce Segale

