

MINUTES
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
RUTLAND COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
BUSINESS MEETING
March 4, 2009



MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rutland City	Bruce Bentley	Proctor	Jim Toher
Brandon	Keith Arlund	Mt. Holly	Paul Nevin
Ira	Larry Taggart	Wallingford	Charles Angel
Pittsford	John Weeden	Danby	
Clarendon	Robert Bixby	Killington	Edwin Fowler
Hubbardton	Scott Ballantine	Castleton	Tim Gilbert
West Rutland	Sean Barrows	Mendon	

OTHERS PRESENT:

James O’Gorman, District Manager	Joyce Segale, RCSWD
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Chairman Mr. Bentley called meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with quorum present

1. SET AGENDA

No changes to agenda

2. MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2009

Motion by Mr. Gilbert to accept minutes of January 14, 2009 with second by Mr. Taggart. Motion passed unanimously.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF DECEMBER 2008

Mr. O’Gorman stated the general fund net loss of approximately \$60,000 was due to the pay-off of the Chittenden Bank note. He read manager’s report and passed out 2009 cash flow. He discussed heating and air conditioning system replacement now taking place as 21 year old furnace failed and pipes burst. Employees were unable to work in office at times due to temporary propane heater odors. Air circulation system is also being installed. Two estimates were received – one at \$25,000 and the other at \$16,000, which didn’t include duct cleaning. \$16,000 proposal was chosen. Duct cleaning was done for \$1,600. Total cost for project will be just over \$35,000. Air quality testing was performed – results within normal limits except for humidity levels. In light of this cost, Mr. Bentley asked Mr. O’Gorman to track trash tonnages to see if we need to consider raising prices and where prices could be raised, which would be the least price sensitive. Mr. Toher asked Mr. O’Gorman if he is confident that the district will end the year with adequate cash on hand. Mr. O’Gorman stated this will be monitored closely. Mr. Bentley asked Mr. O’Gorman to create revenue projections based on differing trash tonnage. Mr. Fowler asked if this could be mailed out before next meeting.

Motion by Mr. Taggart to accept December 2008 financial statements with second by Mr. Weeden. Motion passed unanimously.

4. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – Mr. Arlund brought guest from Brandon

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS

Mr. O’Gorman stated the district is starting to see the effects of the economy with some hauler accounts in arrears. One small hauler owes surcharges from October 2008 on and another larger hauler owes from November 2008 on. Trash disposal at Gleason Road by these haulers will be put on “pay as you go” to prevent increasing receivables. Mr. Nevin asked if financing charges were applied. Mr. O’Gorman stated no. Mr. Toher stated perhaps an interest charge of 5 – 6% could be applied if past due customers fail to meet a payment schedule. Mr. Gilbert felt that if the customer had a long term history of meeting payments then some leeway should be provided in these difficult times. Ms. Segale stated she has asked the compliance investigator to write a letter to the smaller hauler seeking payment. Mr. Bentley asked staff to consider these suggestions.

B. LEGISLATIVE BILLS

Mr. O’Gorman stated an electronics waste bill is still being considered which Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) was not too happy with. This is scheduled to go to Senate floor in mid-March. It could be that retailers, not districts, would be required to collect. No new news on tires or bottle bill. A mercury bulb bill is being considered and both manufacturers and ANR are against it. House Agricultural Committee is working on a compost bill to try to ease

rules in light of the Intervale situation. Mr. Bentley asked if any stimulus money will be available to districts. Mr. O’Gorman stated \$1.9 million may be available. Mr. Bentley stated that perhaps this could be used toward unfunded mandates. He discussed the issue of food waste being left in waste stream and recovered as methane.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. ADMIN. OFFICES – NEW HEATING SYSTEM

See #3 – Financial Statement of December 2008 for discussion.

B. MRF SCALES – REPAIRS

Mr. O’Gorman said the 21 year old Fairbanks vehicle scale at the MRF is having problems. It contains 6 cells and each has 4 bolts, which have posed an ongoing problem . 8 –10 bolts have had to be replaced in the last five years. Two welders and Farnham Scale Company have inspected the scale. The state of Vermont inspects and certifies the scale annually. There is a break in a welding bead and some metal loss. Two repair proposals have been submitted. The first would replace metal on all 4 flanges, scale would be down for 2 days and it would cost \$13,000. The second proposal would also replace flanges metal but also install more modern cell units to eliminate bolts and add another 10 years of life to scale. The cost would be \$21,000. Cost of new scale would be in the \$75-80,000 range. Mr. Barrows suggested raising weight charge from \$10 to \$15. Mr. Bentley stated the 10 year additional use with the \$21,000 proposal seemed the best choice.

Mr. Toher asked where the district is heading in light of the bond being paid off in 2012 – the answer to this should impact decisions on capital expenditures. Discussion followed about towns’ options. Mr. Nevin discussed Mt. Holly’s experience with state. Mr. Bentley stated we need to keep an eye on the state’s solid waste management perspective as well as what towns want. He stated we need to think about capital budget and long range planning – shouldn’t be caught by surprise with capital improvements. Mr. Toher wondered what SWAC towns pay on a per ton basis. Mr. Ballantine wondered if anyone is making pitches to the towns. Mr. Bentley asked Mr. O’Gorman to make capital improvement list and timeline for leases and stated the district should be recruiting and showing value to the towns. He said Mr. O’Gorman and staff should work on tonnage trends and “what if” revenue projections. Mr. Arlund asked if board needed to make decision on scale repairs. Mr. Gilbert stated that he felt this was a decision to be made by management.

7. ADJOURN

At 7:50 PM, motion by Mr. Taggart to adjourn with second by Mr. Weeden. Motion was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted

Joyce Segale

