

**JEFFERSON BELMONT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 8, 2022**

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mike Bianconi, Chuck Dawson, Scott Fabian, Andrew Henry, George Irvin Jr, Tony Kolanski, Robert Krajnyak, Dan Lima, Joe Luckino, James Mavromatis, Domenick Mucci, Rob Sproul

ABSENT: John Davies, Jerry Echemann, Mitch Morelli,

OTHERS: Anita Petrella, Dave Hays, Natalie Lysle, Tammy Shepherd

A quorum being present, Chair Scott Fabian called to order the regular meeting of the Jefferson Belmont Regional Solid Waste Authority Board at the JBGT building, 67895 Pickering Road, St. Clairsville, Ohio at 5:30PM on, Monday, August 8, 2022.

MINUTES: Mr. Fabian stated corrections were needed on the July 11, 2022 meeting minutes. Added wording under New Business of "Compensation of Public Employee", and "No action will be taken." After motion to exit executive session. Mr. Mucci stated "Steubenville" needed to be changed to St. Clairsville for the next meeting location as well.

A motion to approve the July 11, 2022 regular monthly meeting minutes with corrections was made by Mr. Mucci, and seconded by Mr. Krajnyak. **Vote: All said Aye. Motion approved.**

CORRESPONDENCE: Scott Fabian

Mr. Fabian read a letter received from the Policy Group thanking the Board for the supplemental lobbying services fee they received and for remaining a valued client of their firm.

STAFF REPORTS:

Fiscal Report: Dave Hays

Mr. Hays reported revenues for July of \$313,902.58, with expenditures of \$210,238.15 and net income of \$103,664.43. Was a very good month for revenues again and is hoping the EPA doesn't pass the change he spoke about at the last meeting.

Non-Payroll Expenditures were reviewed by the Board, Mr. Hays stated fuel costs were high again but are coming down.

Mr. Hays reviewed the June Tonnage Report showing In-District Tonnage of 16,381.37, Out-of-District in State tonnage of 22,492.87, Out of State tons of 125,315.79, totaling 164,190.03 tons for total fees of \$249,340.80

A motion to accept the fiscal officer's report and approve Expenditures for July 2022 was made by Mr. Dawson and seconded by Mr. Irvin. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

Mr. Hays reminded the Board that this is the meeting of the year they need to sign on how much the rates and charges will be. They have remained at \$2.00 per parcel for the last two years which yields about \$145,000 per year. Attorney Bauer had written a Resolution last year which the Board had passed that the amount would continue if no changes were made, that the Resolution would be in effect subsequent to 2022. He asked the Board if they wished to leave the amount the same. The Board discussed and decided to keep the amount the same.

Mr. Mucci made a motion to keep the rates & charges at \$2.00 per parcel per year. Mr. Kolanski seconded. **Roll Call Vote: All said Yes. Motion approved.**

Executive Director Report: Anita Petrella

BWC Grant for Light Duty

Ms. Petrella informed the Board that the Bureau of Workers Compensation has offered a reimbursement Grant for the JBRSWA to use to hire a BWC company to come in and create a Light Duty Policy for employees to use rather than being off on Workers Comp after an injury. The Grant max would be \$2,900 and estimate the cost to be \$2,500. Ms. Petrella briefly discussed the recent and current situations of drivers who were off for an injury and their limitations to perform their jobs.

Mrs. Shepherd explained that the idea is to hire a company that comes in and works under exactly what the Grant allows and does a professional analysis of job duties. They would help find providers that would be under workers comp and provide them a list of duties that may be an option for employees to do on light duty. Mr. Mucci questioned how beneficial this would be since the CDL drivers when injured are either able to drive or not drive to do their job. The Board discussed job duties and expressed concerns of if a light duty is even possible and creating one could cost the Authority more money in the long run. Mrs. Shepherd stated the savings would be in the premium but how much is uncertain. Mr. Krajnyak stated the City of Martins Ferry saved money by doing this by having their employees do other jobs that normally get put off. Other concerns were discussed, including if they don't agree with the policy nor approve it the Grant funding would then not be reimbursed. Mr. Krajnyak suggested having a representative come to a Board meeting to explain and answer their questions. Mrs. Shepherd will contact Danielle Dresden to set up a presentation.

Super Site

Ms. Petrella stated that the Wintersville City Building would be getting their new asphalt on their parking lot so our Community Drop-off bins have to be moved out and we are still looking for a new location. She just looked at piece of property that Mr. Luckino found but it will not work. Other possible lots to lease or purchase were discussed. Mr. Luckino offered a temporary site to place the bins if the Authority gets in a pinch in relocating the bins in a hurry, located on State Route 43 next to his office in Wintersville the lot is currently for sale or lease but is empty at this time. Ms. Petrella stated that if it sells she can have the bins removed within a week.

Belmont Office

Ms. Petrella stated in regard to the excavating needing done around the bottom of the Belmont Building before winter, neither she nor Ms. Shepherd have received a response from the contractors contacted. Ms. Petrella felt they needed an excavator rather than a contractor and stated the erosion has gotten noticeably worse since their last meeting there. Mr. Kolanski stated the French drains and down spouts will need to be done first, then a dry well put in because it is illegal to allow water to drain to another property. He stated he would get ahold of Miller tomorrow morning and will get back to Ms. Petrella.

Ms. Petrella informed the Board that she will be supervising the Belmont Office as needed while Mrs. Shepherd is off for 3-4 weeks after surgery since we won't have an educator during that period to be in the office.

Trucks for Sheriff Deputies & Rear Loader

The rear loader that has been on order for 2 years is still not ready and it is uncertain when it will be, they are waiting on one part for cab & chassis, we do have the vin # but they will not ship it to have the rear packer put on until then. It will take two months to have rear packer put on the cab and chassis. Estimates possibly the end of the year. It is the same for the Sheriff Deputy vehicles, they said they are hoping for September, but it could be to the end of the year, and they do not have anything on the lot.

Ms. Petrella told the Board they will see some new commercials with the funding still in our budget that will air on TV, comcast, Facebook. The Ads will address properly recycling and show the Environmental Enforcement Officers to help deter the contamination problem at the Drop-off sites. People are leaving a lot of couches, bedroom suites, mattresses etc. around the bins.

Ms. Petrella stated the Annual Physicals required for the CDL Licenses have always been paid for by the employees. She asked if the Board would consider reimbursing the drivers for it since the cost has risen to \$70 this year plus the cost of the license. She stated that Mr. Hays was told by someone in the Engineers that Government employees don't have to get that physical. Mr. Fabian stated that the County drivers no longer have to do them, and advised her to check with the Cambridge Ohio Motor Vehicles office. Mr. Bianconi expressed concern for not requiring JBRSWA CDL drivers to have a physical done annually for safety reasons, explaining that it helps catch unknown illnesses such as high blood pressure issues and prediabetes, as well as drugs. Ms. Petrella added that the drivers are already included in the random drug testing because of their CDL's. Mr. Mucci suggested waiting until January 2023 and include that reimbursement with any salary increase package to keep consistent. Further discussion followed of when to begin the reimbursement.

Mr. Dawson made a motion to reimburse the drivers for their CDL license renewals and Annual Physicals beginning in January 2023, stipulating only if they pass the physical and provide receipts. Mr. Bianconi seconded. **Roll Call Vote: All said Yes. Motion passed.**

Mr. Dawson asked if the staff will be setting up at the County Fairs this year. Ms. Petrella stated they only set up on Presidential Election years, but that supplies were given to Jeffersons to be passed out, such as pens, pencils, car litter bags and hand fans, and the Enter & Exit signs were loaned to them to use and return. They are available for Belmont as well if they request them.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: Scott Fabian

Did not meet.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Rob Sproul

Did not meet.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: George Irvin

Mr. Irvin stated they met today regarding the Belmont Education Coordinator position after doing interviews and the Committee recommends the Board hire Amy Greene for the position. Her state date should be September 12, 2022 so she can begin after Ms. Shepherd returns from her time off after surgery.

A motion was made to accept the Personnel Committees recommendation to hire Amy Greene as the Belmont Education Coordinator with hire date September 12th by Mr. Krajnyak and Mr. Bianconi seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE: 11 said Yes, with Mr. Irvin Abstaining. Motion approved.**

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT: Jim Mavromatis

Did not meet.

GRANTS/SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT: Mike Bianconi

Did not meet.

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT: Joe Luckino

Did not meet but Mr. Luckino reiterated what was discussed earlier in the meeting offering a temporary Wintersville site for a Community Drop-off if needed.

LANDFILL REPORT: Andrew Henry

Mr. Henry reported that for the Month of July the MSW 164,000 tons, the CD&D was 69,000 tons. They did see an increase in odor complaints, 39 for month of July and 7 so far for August. They were out there this past Thursday and met with Management at the landfill which went well. They had said they haven't been doing anything differently but that the story on the news of the landfill Vice President discussing their operations at the Board of Health Meeting contributed to the increase of complaints. He explained that anytime anything landfill related hits the news, including any type of litigation, a massive increase of complaints come in. We now know that Apex has tied themselves into the Crossridge property and subjected themselves to a massive increase in odor complaints. Two of the complaints received were valid. They now have 2 Technicians that investigate and when the Health Department was there, and they did detect an odor on County Road 267 last week. The hot weather does play a part with the smell, but on the plus side there was no gas leak smell detected. The landfill does cover the foul that comes in on the rail immediately and the operations have massively improved starting in 2021 since the new owners took over.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Bianconi reported on property in Bridgeport on Route 40 west of Riesbeck's that will soon be donated to their Township by the Landbank after tearing down 3 homes and cleaning it up. He wanted the Board to consider clearing it off from trees, etc. and using it as a Community Drop-off Site if the Township would donate it to the JBRSW Authority. He would like to acquire the property next to it as well. Mr. Luckino was asked to look into the possibilities.

Mr. Bianconi asked if the Board would go into Executive Session to review information he has acquired since the last meeting regarding employee wage increases. Mr. Fabian stated we did that last month and didn't feel the need to do so. Mr. Bianconi state he would like to provide the Board the information. Providing copies of the Authority Revenue and Expenditure Reports from 2017, 2019 and 2022, copies of the cost for insurance per employee, and the list of salaries for each employee Mr. Bianconi told the Board the Reports show that in June 2017 the Authority had \$2,300,000, in June 2019 the Authority had \$3,700,000, in June 2022 the Authority had \$5,350,000, and between June and July 2022 it went up \$50,000. The next page shows the costs of Insurance per employee is \$1,532 per employee total \$18,384 per year, and the last page was all the of employees and their salaries. Mr. Bianconi stated with the difficulty places are having getting and keeping employees these days, and the balance the Authority is carrying, he felt the Authority could afford it and the employees deserved a \$2 per hour wage adjustment for their hard work. Mr. Fabian stated he would not approve two raises in the same year, that no one does that. Mr. Bianconi stated that Belmont County did it last month. Mr. Fabian expressed concern of funding loss if the EPA makes the change in the Rule they are currently looking at. Mr. Lima stated some places give bonuses at the end of the year based on net revenue which would work

Annually if the Board were concerned with future funding losses. Mr. Hays stated that the EPA is in the process of changing the Rules, and as a part of those Rules they are looking at changing the pulverized CD&D classification. They may classify Municipal Waste which we get fees on to the CD&D which we don't. It is a huge issue going on right now between the EPA and the Legislature, adding it is why we have the Government Policy Group. We may need that balance at the end of the year to meet our obligations of 15-year Solid Waste Plan, adding we will know better at the end of the year. Mr. Fabian explained that if the Government Policy Group and Attorney Bauer hadn't caught the change the EPA was trying to do they would have already implemented it, but they caught it and the EPA is backing off right now, and they may be trying to figure another way around it. Mr. Bianconi stated we already own everything that would be the large expenses and they are big balances to be carrying. The Board continued to discuss. Mr. Mucci stated he didn't feel this was the appropriate time and this matter should go through the Committee structure. Mr. Hays stated that would be a 12% raise, who gives 12% raises to employees. Mr. Bianconi stated he could bring in documentation to next months meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Next meeting set for Monday, September 12, 2022 at JBGT building in Steubenville.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm. with a motion from Mr. Mavromatis, seconded by Mr. Mucci. **Vote: All said Aye. Meeting adjourned.**

ATTEST:


Scott Fabian, Chair


Mike Bianconi, Secretary