

**JEFFERSON BELMONT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY  
MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2020**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Nicole Balakos, Mike Bianconi, Jerry Echemann, Scott Fabian, John Goosman, George Irvin Jr, Joe Luckino, Jim Mavromatis, Mark McVey, Domenick Mucci, Rob Sproul

**ABSENT:** John Davies, Chuck Dawson, Tony Kolanski, Robert Krajnyak

**OTHERS:** Anita Petrella, Natalie Lysle, Louise Holliday, Tammy Shepherd, Alisha Teramana, Jamie Zawila, Andy Sutak

A quorum being present, Chairman Scott Fabian called to order the regular meeting of the Jefferson Belmont Regional Solid Waste Authority Board at 228 Technology Way, Steubenville, Ohio at 5:30PM on, Monday, March 9, 2020.

**MINUTES:** A motion to approve the February 10, 2020 regular monthly meeting minutes was made by Mr. Mucci and seconded by Mr. Echemann. **Vote: All said Aye, with Mr. Irvin abstaining. Motion passed.**

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**Fiscal Report:**

Ms. Petrella gave the report on behalf of Mr. Hays who was not able to attend. Non-payroll Expenditures were reviewed with no questions from the Board. Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for February 2020 were reviewed.

A motion to accept the fiscal officer's report and approve Expenditures for February 2020 was made by Mr. Mavromatis and seconded by Mr. Luckino.  
**VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

Ms. Petrella read the Apex tonnage Report showing 17,172.80 In-District tons; 13,487 Out-of-District tons; 69,453 Out-of-State tons for a total of 134,840.90 tons in December.

A motion to approve the report was made by Mr. Mucci motion, seconded by Mr. Echemann. **Vote by Roll call. All said Yes. Motion approved.**

**Director's Report: Anita Petrella**

**2019 Grants**

Ms. Petrella stated Martins Ferry was asking for additional extension on their 2019 Grant. It was not complete at this time, and nothing had been purchased. A letter to the Board was read from Saline Township asking the Board for an extension on their Grant. Mr. Sutak was present to speak and addressed the Board, he explained he took the position the last week of January, he was not aware of the previous grant extension until that point. He explained what he knew about the planned project the grant is involved in, the veterans working with he City to establish a monument with four sides for the different branches. The now have a better idea of the width needed on the benches to be purchased with the grant funds with the stage the project is now in. Part of the delay was needing those measurements so they could properly secure the benches and cans to prevent theft of them after placement. Mr. Sutak stated he hopes to have that information by next month and then be able to order the

supplies. The Board discussed the likely timing of the purchase and how long it would take for the project to be complete. Mr. Sutak and Board Members agreed the length of time would be longer than a month before a final report would be able to be provided from Martins Ferry. With the expected timing of the project the Board recommended that Martins Ferry reapply for the grant with the 2020 Grants if they are approved for disbursement by the Board later in this meeting, this would be better timing wise with the project currently incomplete or ready for the benches.

Changes in the wording of the Grant Application Forms was discussed by Board members, ways to resolve the late or non-compliance issues of no logo photos as required. The issues of extra efforts by staff to try to get all of the Reports back from Grant recipients. Stricter guidelines, bold wording or the option of holding the funds until Grant completions was discussed. The Board then discussed the Saline Township circumstances with their 2019 Grant. The materials were already purchased, but not yet put together. Members agreed to allow the extension to complete their project and have the Completion Report submitted by the next Board Meeting in April.

Mr. Bianconi made a motion to have Martins Ferry return the 2019 grant funds of \$5,000 as agreed upon, and reapply for a 2020 Grant, if Grants are approved by the Board. Mr. Irvin seconded. **Vote by Roll Call: All said Yes, motion approved.**

Mr. Mucci made a motion to approve the Saline Township 2019 Grant Extension through April 13, 2020. Mrs. Balakos seconded. **Vote by Roll Call: All said Yes, motion approved.**

Ms. Petrella informed the Board the Household Hazardous Waste Event dates have been set for June 13<sup>th</sup> in Jefferson County and October 24<sup>th</sup> in Belmont County.

#### Earth Day 50<sup>th</sup> Year celebration

In honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> year Earth Day Celebration Ms. Petrella stated she plans to do a special tree planting at the two new building locations. Board members are invited to attend, Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at the Jefferson Building at 10AM, and at the Belmont building at 12 noon.

#### 125 Technology Way property

Ms. Petrella stated she spoke to Mr. Barbour about the lot the Authority purchased off of him to build. Now that we have instead purchased this building and will not be building on that lot he is wanting to purchase it back for same price plus the holding costs, for total amount of \$152,851.00 as the Board discussed at the previous meeting.

Mr. Luckino made a motion to sell the property back to Mr. Barbour for the amount of \$152,851. Mr. Irvin seconded. Discussion. Mr. Bianconi felt the Authority should keep the property in case they would ever wish to build. Mr. McVey stated the lot would require prep work and additional expenses, and the Authority would probably never build there since the new building site includes 4 acres, which is plenty of space to expand in the future. **VOTE by Roll Call: 10 Voting Yes, with Mr. Bianconi voting No. Motion passed.**

### **Plan Update – RRS, Jamie Zawila**

Jamie Zawila from RRS addressed the Board regarding the Solid Waste Plan Update. She explained the final Plan is to be submitted to the OEPA by next April 2021, a draft is due this April 20<sup>th</sup>, which allows the EPA to return comments (non-binding advisory opinion), and the Authority to address those comments before taking the Plan out for Ratification then Adoption before submittal to OEPA for approval. Ms. Zawila reviewed documents she presented to Board members. Appendix O Financial Data - Revenues were reviewed, she explained historically they have varied from 2015-18, revenues definitely declined for the Authority, emphasizing the importance of having built out a stable revenue to support the programs, adding JBRSWA is a very service oriented authority. Disposal fee revenues are projected to continue based on historical data; but is not guaranteed, which is the \$1 on In-district waste, \$2 on out-of-district waste, and \$1 on out-of-state waste.

Table O-3 Designation Fee Schedule and Revenue - she did see an increase, amounts under 2013-2019 are all accurate, projections start in 2020, and are left at \$900,000 and flat lined. She stated Designation Fees are a great source of revenue especially with the flex of disposal fee revenue.

Other revenue sources can include Interest, Recycling Revenue, Rates & Charges, Out-of-State Contract and a few miscellaneous items. She stated the key to note is on the Rates & Charges in 2021 they are projected to decrease from \$4.52 down to .50 cents but remain on. The Authority should maintain that fee on improved parcels because of the history of fluctuations in disposal fees, to ensure the Authority has enough to fund their programming, any change would need Board approval if done. She stated it is just a projection for now; and was based on the increase expected at Apex. The Board can come back in April after reviewing, decide and approve it. Ms. Zawila discussed possible revenue reductions that can occur from year to year, and that the Board can offset that loss with an increase in the Rates & Charges if needed at the yearly review, a substantial reduction is possible. Mr. Mucci suggested a reduction in the in-district designation fees instead to benefit Communities with their own hauling such as Steubenville. Mr. Fabian stated doing that would affect the funding generated by the gas and oil industry.

Page 07, Expense table – amounts shown up to 2019 are actual, 2020 on is all forecasted. She explained the table is formatted how the EPA requires reporting of financials. Each line item is set up by the OEPA. Peaks shown are for equipment replacement every five years, \$54,000-60,000 for both counties. Board members reviewed Expenses with a few questions asked.

Ms. Zawila stated 2020 final expenditures of 3.5 million are slightly more than revenues, which is due to the new building. 2024 shows larger costs for larger drop-off program, and trucks purchasing. If fund balance is more than projected, EPA will comment to spend more money. She said it is difficult and challenging for the Authority to predict and plan because of the possible changes of weights coming in at the landfill. The Board should sign the Certification Statement at the next meeting, she can make any revisions now, then email it out for board to see before sending the Draft Budget to the EPA. Bianconi noted the no debt balance; and stated the Board should be commended for that.

The amount under the Jefferson County Health Department enforcement was questioned by Mr. Irvin, asking why it reflects \$80,000 if the Board budgeted \$125,000 in 2020. Mrs. Zawila stated that amount was taken from the ratified budget, it is the average and can be adjusted. Ms. Petrella

explained \$73,000 is what is in the current Plan, but the Board voted to make it \$125,000. Mr. Mucci stated from what he understands the Health Department Board has not accepted and signed the Contract yet. Mrs. Balakos stated it has been, but there will need to be an appropriation also, she said Mr. Hays has the signed Contract. Mrs. Zawila asked the length of the contract and asked how they wish to appropriate it. A discussion followed. The Contract is for one year and states “up to \$125,000”.

Mr. McVey stated he believes the Authority Board approved the 2019 Health Dept Contract but had the 2020 Contract sent to Mr. Bauer for tweaking, then both Boards were to sign it, but to his knowledge neither Board has signed the 2020 Contract. Mrs. Balakos stated her Board has signed it and Mr. Hays has it. Mr. Fabian stated two of her Board members said they have not signed it, so he was unsure of where the Contract stands. Mr. McVey asked if the Health Department Board passed a motion to sign the Contract? Mrs. Balakos stated yes they did. Mr. McVey asked if the Authority Board could get a copy of the meeting minutes that reflect that motion since they are getting conflicting information. She said it was passed and signed in the February Meeting and she could provide a copy of those minutes. The Board discussed the amount to be reflected in the Budget, deciding on having it reflect \$80,000-\$125,000, with the yearly amount to be agreed upon by the Board.

Mrs. Zawila expects to get the entire Plan to Board by end of March, Chapters 1-6 are the Summary. Mr. Luckino asked about the Rules that were discussed at previous meetings, and if Attorney Bauer had been in contact with her. She said he has not, that there are two rules in affect, they are in the Plan. The last Plan Update indicated were some proposed Rules, and since that Plan was adopted those rules are in effect. The way that Section stands is the Authority has two rules already adopted, that still allows ability to adopt rules, and it lays out the requirements if the Board wants to adopt additional rules, but she has not had a conversation with Mr. Bauer about the rules. Mr. Luckino asked where it was left at with the Board after Mr. Bauer came to the meeting a couple of months ago. Mr. Fabian stated the rules can be discussed on the new Plan. Mr. Mucci wanted to be sure the Veto power of the two largest municipalities remain in the Plan, Mr. Fabian stated those were statutory and could not be changed, and the Board has no intention of changing it. Mrs. Zawila stated the Siting Strategy is going to stay as it is and can be revisited after the EPA comments, and the rules if need be.

Mrs. Zawila explained a Motion will be done at the April meeting to certify the Plan, that everything in it is true to best of their knowledge, then send it to the OEPA, and they will come back with comments, then they can make any changes. Any comments of changes wanted by the Board need to be to Ms. Petrella by March 23<sup>rd</sup>, so they can be incorporated in the Plan and back to the Board by March 30<sup>th</sup>. The Authority will submit it to the OEPA on April 20<sup>th</sup>, the EPA has 60 days to review and come back with their comments, then the Board has several months to address those comments before the ratification period begins in November-December 2020. The Final Plan is due to be complete and into the EPA in 2021. Present Plan is on the Authority website.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: Scott Fabian**

None.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Robert Sproul**

None.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Mark McVey**

None.

**PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT: Jim Mavromatis**

None.

**GRANTS/SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT: Mike Bianconi**

Mr. Bianconi stated he would like to see the Board appropriate \$100,000 for the Grants Program in 2020. Mr. Mucci concurred and discussed the benefits of the program to local communities. The Deadline date normally set has passed, the grants are extremely behind for this year. The possible timing of getting the Grant Packet updated and available was discussed briefly. Mr. Bianconi stated Ms. Godwin has offered to help review applications.

Mr. Bianconi made a motion to approve the Initiative Grants program for 2020 and to move \$100,000 into the Grant Line Item. Mr. Sproul seconded.  
**Roll call vote: All said Yes. Motion approved.**

**SEARCH COMMITTEE: Joe Luckino**

None.

**LANDFILL REPORT: Nicole Balakos**

Mrs. Balakos provided copies of reports to the Board, reporting the MSW tonnage in February was 91,394 and C&D tonnage was 3,139. She stated the increase in tonnage at Apex looks to be started and they are getting all of their logistics up and running. The Jefferson County Health Department has started odor patrols on weekends, so they can be more irregular. Odor complaints were reviewed. There has been a lot of noise complaints, which they don't typically do, but believe they have more to do with the fracking/oil & gas line work and is not Apex related, but those complaints are also coming through the odor complaint line, she is not sure what the EPA wants to do about that.

There were no NOV's yet in 2020 related to Apex, there were alot more in 2019 as the landfill adjusted to inspections and what the standards are. Now there are alot more site inspections while out on odor inspections, communication has increased between the landfill and health department, there is someone on site every 10 days or so. The data on the reports were reviewed. She was asked if the weekends were as overtime, she stated the staff is flexing their schedule without overtime, adding they did add a staff member on as an environmental tech.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

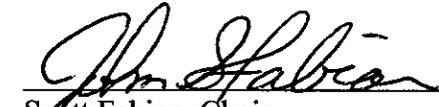
**NEW BUSINESS:**

Next meeting will be Monday, April 13, 2020 at the Martins Ferry Wendy's at 5:30PM.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm. with a motion from Mr. Sproul, seconded by Mr. Echemann. All said Aye.

**ATTEST:**

  
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Scott Fabian, Chair

  
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Mike Bianconi, Secretary