

**JEFFERSON BELMONT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 12, 2022**

ROLL CALL:

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

ABSENT: Chuck Dawson, Jerry Echemann, Andrew Henry, Mitch Morelli

OTHERS: Anita Petrella, Dave Hays, Sheriff Fred Abdalla Jr., Natalie Lysle, Tammy Shepherd, Louise Holliday, Paul Romano, Mark Bigler

A quorum being present, Chair Scott Fabian called to order the regular meeting of the Jefferson Belmont Regional Solid Waste Authority Board at the JB Green Team building, 67895 Pickering Road, St. Clairsville, Ohio at 5:33PM on, Monday, December 12, 2022.

MINUTES: A motion to approve the November 14, 2022 regular monthly meeting minutes was made by Krajnyak, and seconded by Mr. Mucci. **Vote: All said Aye. Motion passed.**

STAFF REPORTS:

Fiscal Report: Dave Hays

Mr. Hays reported on the November Operating Statement. Revenues for \$293,628.99, with expenditures of \$321,851.86 with a net operating loss of \$-28,222.87 due to large expenditures he explained on the next report.

Non-Payroll Expenditures showed largest expenses were the Household Hazardous Waste Collection in Belmont County for \$37,072.36, and out of the reserve fund the purchase of the two Environmental Enforcement Trucks.

With no questions Mr. Hays reviewed the Apex Tonnage Report which reflected 11,052 In-District tons, 19,633 Out-of-District Tons, 121,737 Out-of-State Tons, for \$232,927.42 in fees generated.

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

Mr. Hays referred to Ms. Petrella about the Stock the Pantry Program. Ms. Petrella explained that we had trailers at both Malls collecting fiber donations for the local food pantries in the two Counties. It raised \$2,100 that will be split between the 18-20 food pantries.

Mr. Hays stated that each December he does his adjustments, this year he is requesting one for the Rates & Charges Fund in the Health Care Insurance. One of the drivers went on the Health Care due to their spouse retiring in the end of May so he will need an increase in Appropriations for \$10,000 to cover that.

A motion to increase Appropriations for the Health Care Line Item for \$10,000 was made by Mr. Irvin, seconded by Mr. Krajnyak. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

Mr. Hays explained that the Rates & Charges Fund does not come close to covering the recycling programs and asked the board to approve a cash transfer not to exceed \$900,000 from the General Fund for through the end of the year to cover the deficit.

A motion was made by Mr. Mucci to transfer the cash needed from the General Fund not to exceed \$900,000 to cover the 2022 deficit in the Rates & Charges Fund. Seconded by Mr. Kolanski. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

Executive Director's Report: Anita Petrella

Special Tire Collection – Belmont

Ms. Petrella stated that Ms. Shepherd has been approached by several agencies that do litter pickups who are looking for a way to dispose of tires collected. Ms. Petrella also reminded the Board that the City of Steubenville normally holds their special tire collection in the spring, but instead it will be held this Saturday from 9AM to 2PM at the old Grant Street lot before referring to Mrs. Shepherd for the Belmont tires.

Mrs. Shepherd explained she been approached by Adult Probation Litter Program and the Belmont County Soil & Water who are both going to and cleaning up roadways with an issue of what to do with the tires they collect. She asked the Board for options to help, explaining the main issues are finding a central location to place them for collection by Liberty Tire on their current route, because the size of the truck Liberty uses is much smaller than what we use for the tire collections. We are looking at handling 50-100 tires at a time, but Liberty won't take them if they are covered in mud. Regular size tires would cost \$3.50 each plus fuel cost. A possibility would be to find a location to store them for an additional truck that holds 1,300 tires to be collected once a year. She reported Adult Probation has already asked the County for assistance but there is no place to stockpile them until pickup, adding that there must be a plan in place on how the tires will be removed before anyone will even consider providing a location. The matter was discussed. Mr. Davis stated he may have an option in Martins Ferry but would need to check on it first.

EEO trucks & Restitutions

Ms. Petrella passed around photos of the Environmental Enforcement Officers new trucks that just arrived, explaining that they are at her building waiting to get the police package/signage on them before the officers receive them. She reported so far this year the Jefferson Environmental Enforcement Officer has received \$750 restitution, Belmont has none so far but has been working on a case for 2 years for a property owner that allowed dumping and has finally pleaded no contest, he was ordered 50 hours of community service, with no monetary compensation awarded.

Belmont Building – exterior/foundation

Ms. Petrella asked Mr. Kolanski to update the Board. Mr. Kolanski stated that it has been too wet to begin work on the foundation, they will have to wait until the ground freezes behind the building to begin digging. He stated it looks like it will be next week, and they should be able to begin the work.

Christmas Parades

Ms. Petrella reported that they were present in the Steubenville, Wintersville and the St. Clairsville Christmas parades and had a lot of nice reviews.

Wintersville Drop-off Site

Ms. Petrella stated thanks to Cedar One we have a nice spot in Wintersville next to their office that Don Moore was able to level and put down gravel today.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: Scott Fabian

Mr. Fabian stated there was no report but wanted to give Jefferson County Sheriff Fred Abdalla the floor to address the Board.

The Sheriff stated he understands that the Environmental Enforcement Officer Contract is expiring at the end of this month, he wanted to be present tonight to hear any concerns the Board may have and address some concerns that he has. He stated that he has his officer's reports/stats on what he has done so far for the Authority and wanted to know if the Board had any concerns or complaints. Ms. Petrella stated they did not, and the Board does receive Quarterly Reports from his officer.

The Sheriff spoke about his concerns, which included the cost increase of 3% for the Officers package and would be \$23,803 rate for 2023, which includes costs of holiday pay, Salary, PERS, and excluding his hospitalization Medicare which he does not pay into. \$63,694.31 is what he expects his package to cost in 2023. The Sheriff's Department has also been supplying his fuel which was at 908 gallons as of last week and moving forward he would like to figure out how the Authority will cover the fuel. Ms. Petrella stated his officer would be filling up behind the County Engineers Department on 43 once the new truck is being used, and the Authority covers the maintenance and insurance as well. The Sheriff stated that vacation and sick days were paid by his department and thinks that the Authority should cover his whole package which includes those he mentioned plus incidence of death of a Sheriff/bereavement day. He asked what his officer should be allowed to do in regard to the Sheriff department calls and what is deemed an emergency by the Authority because he had told him not to go on any calls except in an emergency when a sergeant felt it was necessary. He gave some examples of what he thought should be allowable emergencies. Ms. Petrella explained that the officer has gone to one or two such calls but doesn't stay and do the reports, etc. It was agreed the officer could go secure a scene if he is close and deemed necessary until another deputy arrives.

Sheriff Abdalla stated that it states in the Contract the Authority wants the Environmental Enforcement Officer lettering on the vehicle, he does not want that on the vehicle, and technically by the Buckeye State Sheriffs Association standard car markings and uniforms cannot have anything of that nature on there. He explained that he had spoken to Bob Cornwell of BSSA before he came and was advised not to have it on the vehicle.

Mr. Mavromatis stated he feels that the Authority should cover the 40 hours a week, PERS etc. as a package deal as requested by the Sheriff, anything additional should be covered by the County. A timesheet needs to be filled out and payments can be worked out as Quarterly or whenever. He explained how some City's in Florida are now hiring out with Sheriff's Departments instead of having their own police departments, that they designate deputies for their City and the City pays the entire package for that officer. He has seen police vehicles identifying departments such as bomb squad or dog unit. He does not know the requirement of the Sheriff's Association but knows they do designate how the deputy uniforms look, so they may have code enforcement for vehicles as well. He added that the Board should understand Sheriff Abdalla absorbs all responsibility for his deputy.

Mr. Luckino stated he thought the intention was always to make package whole, and possibly just needs to update the dollar amount. Mr. Hays stated the current Contract amount is \$60,000 for the package. Sheriff Abdalla stated his package is going from \$23.11 to \$23.080 based off the 3% increase. That covers his PERS, salary is \$49,510.86, the overtime for holiday pack was factored in because he was advised the Authority wanted him to work those days, but that is up to the Board. The Board did not see a need for him to work the holidays. Sheriff Abdalla stated the holiday overtime factored in at \$3,713 and if the Board does not want him to work those days it would change the package amount and the \$60,000 would cover the package, explaining that only the turn deputies get the holiday pay. It was agreed that the EEO would get his basic 40 hour week with holidays off and not work holidays, and if something does require it records could be kept for an adjustment. A discussion followed. Sheriff Abdalla stated he wants to be sure the Authority is happy with his deputy and the job he does.

Vehicle lettering was again discussed. Sheriff Abdalla does not want the EEO lettering on the truck, he was advised by Bob Cornwell who has been advising him since he became Sheriff to not allow the lettering. He explained he can when he has contracts with Townships those are different. Mr. Hays asked if the regulations state they should not have that type of lettering on their vehicles? Sheriff answered correct, he is supposed to follow the standard, which is the star, the word Sheriff, license plate with unit number. Mr. Hays stated the vehicles are owned by the Authority and would have to have county plates. Sheriff Abdalla stated all of his vehicles are owned by the County not his department. It was suggested to have the Sheriff write a letter for BMV about leasing vehicle in order to get a plate. Mr. Davis stated that if the Authority would lease the vehicle for \$1 a year to the Sheriff's Department, they could then get the sheriffs plate, but the sheriffs department would also have to insure the vehicle. Sheriff Abdalla stated he was fine with having the County plate with the red lettering on the vehicle. Sheriff Abdalla was thanked for coming to the meeting, he told the Board he wants to be sure his officer is making the Authority Board happy and doing what they want him to do, he will be doing strictly Environmental unless a sergeant thinks he is needed on a call.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Rob Sproul

Mr. Sproul stated they met but will defer to the Personnel Committee report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: George Irvin

Mr. Irvin stated in regard to overseeing personnel contracts and end of year analysis, they are looking into pay scales, numbers, etc. But one thing the Board will be looking into but is not ready to act on tonight is the language in reference to overtime. They will be seeking legal advice on the wording.

Mr. Irvin stated a \$150 boot allowance, and a 5% salary increase was the recommendation of the Personnel Committee.

Mr. Irvin made the motion to give the drivers, driver supervisor, laborer, Education Coordinators, Administrative Assistant and Belmont Program Director a \$150 boot allowance once annually, and a 5% raise. Mr. Mucci seconded. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

Mr. Irvin made a motion to offer the Fiscal Officer a one-year contract, roughly a renewal of previous with all previous terms. Mr. Sproul seconded. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

Members discussed the two Sheriff Contracts. Mr. Mucci stated they have not heard from Belmont's Sheriff, but since Jefferson Sheriff was present they should move to renew the contract, with the exclusion of the Holidays. Ms. Petrella asked if that should include removal of the vehicle markings are requested by Sheriff Abdalla. Mr. Irvin stated he found the ORC regarding that and said there is specific language where there is allowance for optimal vehicle markings in addition to the usual vehicle number, etc. It allows for political subdivision that Sheriff Departments provide services by Contract place lettering in various locations, but he doesn't know if political subdivision would correctly describe the Authority, but if so by ORC we could have the lettering on the vehicle. Mr. Mavromatis stated they better take a look at that first because for example the City's in Florida he spoke on for example have the lettering Broward County, which is a political subdivision, Pompano Beach, is also a political subdivision, but litter enforcement is not a political subdivision, but maybe JB Green Team could be considered a political subdivision. Mr. Irvin stated it says it is optional. Mr. Mavromatis added that he felt they did not need the lettering on the vehicle to insure the 40 hours of work he will be doing. Mr. Fabian stated this was the first time the Board had gotten assurance that he would be working for us for the full 40 hours. The wording of the vehicle lettering in the contract was questioned and discussed. Mr. Bianconi stated that the amount of \$60,000 was agreed upon but the Sheriff did not want the lettering, which he felt was fine and the Board could check with legal for future reference on whether they can put the lettering on or not, and possibly add the wording later, members agreed.

Mr. Mucci made a motion to extend the Contracts a year for both Jefferson and Belmont County Sheriff Departments according to the Contracts provided, Jefferson being the \$60,000. Mr. Mavromatis commented that Belmont has not been in contact. Mr. Fabian stated they can present the same contract as Jeffersons, sign it and offer it. Ms. Petrella stated she will reach out to them about it. Mr. Luckino seconded the motion. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

The Health Department Contract was discussed. Mr. Hays stated it was for \$80,000 and that they have about \$8,000 left in the fund for this year, but have only billed for up to September and if their billing remains the same it will be over the \$80,000. Mr. Fabian stated he suspects the CD&D may cover a lot of that.

Mr. Krajnyak made a motion to offer the Jefferson County Health Department the same Contract for 2023 in the amount of \$80,000. Mr. Irvin seconded. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

Mr. Irvin spoke on the Government Policy Group Contract, that it was recommend for renewal for \$3,000 per month, adding how they have seen their value of service.

Mr. Mucci made motion to renew the Government Policy Group Contract for (1) one year for \$3,000 per month, seconded by Mr. Krajnyak. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

Mr. Irvin stated that the Executive Directors Contract was discussed for a 3-year renewal with a 3% increase over current salary and another 3% inside those 3 years.

Mr. Mavromatis made a motion to renew the Executive Director's contract for 3 years with the annual 3% increase starting this year. Mr. Mucci seconded the motion. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

Mr. Irvin stated as discussed last meeting they have obtained a proposal from RRS Erin Oulton about the efficiency and best practices of the drop-off recycling program and other solid waste authority programs. Cost would be \$5,885, and the timeline previously explained will be pushed back because we are in December and have not agreed to do it yet.

Mr. Irvin made a motion to move forward and authorize the Board and Director to proceed with the proposal for financial efficiency of the Authority's drop-off recycling program from Erin Oulton of RRS for \$5,885. Mr. Sproul seconded. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT: Jim Mavromatis

None.

GRANTS/SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT: Mike Bianconi

None.

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT: Joe Luckino

Mr. Luckino stated there was a piece of property on National Road in Belmont County that Mr. Bianconi had him look into several months ago for a possible Drop-off Site. It is a half-acre/two parcels with road frontage next to land bank property that was donated to the Township. Mr. Bianconi stated his Township will donate it to the Authority. Mr. Luckino reported the property next to that Township property still has to go through Probate Court since two sisters inherited the property after their father died, but that the one he spoke to said they would sell it for \$7,500, which he added is a fair amount. He estimated with closing costs etc. it would total about \$11,000. Other expenses such as surveying, tree removal, excavating was discussed by the Board. Mr. Irvin stated he had reservations about the property with the hillside and the unknown costs to prepare the property for a Drop-off site. Mr. Davies suggested waiting and getting more information on what work needs to be done along with those costs since they have plenty of time due to the Probate. Mr. Bianconi stated he will get estimates for tree removal, excavation work needed, and slag to bring back to the Board.

LANDFILL REPORT:

Mr. Andrew was not present, but his report was in the meeting packet for their review.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Fabian made a motion to go into Executive Session siting ORC 121.22(G)(3) involving Board discussion with our Attorney. Seconded by Mr. Krajnyak. **ROLL CALL VOTE: All said Yes. Motion passed.**

Mr. Mucci made the motion to exit Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Mavromatis. **ROLL CALL VOTE: All said Yes. Motion passed.**

A Motion was made by Mr. Sproul to give Attorney Bauer permission to retain Stark and Knoll Law Firm at a cost not exceeding \$10,000. Mr. Irvin seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE: All said Yes. Motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

Next meeting was set for Monday, January 9, 2023 at the Jefferson JB Green Team building in Steubenville at 5PM for the Reorganization meeting, followed by the Regular Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm. by a motion from Mr. Mucci, seconded by Mr. Luckino. **VOTE: All said Aye. Motion passed.**

ATTEST:



Scott Fabian, Chair



Mike Bianconi, Secretary