

**JEFFERSON BELMONT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY  
MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 8, 2021**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Mike Bianconi, Jerry Echemann, Scott Fabian, Andrew Henry, James Mavromatis, Mark McVey, Mitch Morelli, Domenick Mucci, Rob Sproul

**ABSENT:** John Davies, Chuck Dawson, George Irvin Jr, Robert Krajnyak, Tony Kolanski, Joe Luckino

**OTHERS:** Anita Petrella, Natalie Lysle, Tammy Shepherd, Louise Holliday, Alisha Teramana, Paul Romano

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, 228 Technology Way, Steubenville, Ohio at 5:33PM on, Monday, November 8, 2021.

**MINUTES:** A motion to approve the September 13, 2021 regular monthly meeting minutes was made by Mr. Mucci, and seconded by Mr. Echemann. **Vote: Eight (8) said Aye, with Mr. Sproul abstaining. Motion passed.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Mike Bianconi

Mr. Bianconi read a letter received from Marie McCrate of Barnesville, Ohio, praising the staff and efficiency of the Belmont County Household Hazardous Waste Collection.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**Fiscal Report: Anita Petrella**

On Mr. Hays's behalf Executive Director Anita Petrella reported September/October Revenue and Expenditures. The Non-Payroll Expenditures totaled \$91,271.51, which were a little higher than usual due to non-profit/school paper payouts in the amount of \$22,826.97. These are paid out twice a year now, rather than Quarterly, to help ensure the schools receive their checks while they are open.

Ms. Petrella read the correspondence previously sent to the Board by Mr. Hays requesting appropriation transfers. Due to an error in the Excel Spreadsheet for the current year it is necessary to transfer appropriations in the General Fund as follows: From Economic Incentives (Grants) \$40,000 and Collection Drives \$3,600; To: Salaries \$38,000; Medicare \$300; and PERS \$5,300. She explained the Board needs to do a motion approving the report and another on the Appropriation transfers.

A motion to accept the fiscal officer's report and approve Expenditures for September/October 2021 was made by Mr. Henry and seconded by Mr. Sproul.  
**VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

Mr. Fabian stated that Mr. Hays explained to him the error was that in the computer program it showed the amount, but when the Report was printed it had cut off two lines at the bottom. The money is and has always been there it was just cut off when printed.

Mr. Bianconi made a Motion to accept Mr. Hays recommendation to Amend Appropriations from Economic Incentives (Grants) \$40,000; Collection Drives \$3,600; to Appropriations transfer in Salary of Administrations \$38,000; Medicare

\$300; and employee share of PERS \$5,300. Totaling \$43,600. Seconded by Mr. Sproul. **Roll call Vote. All said Yes. Motion approved.**

Ms. Petrella reviewed the Apex Reports. August showed \$4,572.70 In-District; Out-of-District at \$2 per ton was \$34,524; Out-of-State at \$1 was \$110,430.14, Out-of-State 50 cent surcharge was \$55,215.07, with total tonnage of 132,264.84 for total \$204,741.91.

Motion to accept the report was made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Mavromatis. **Roll call Vote: All said Yes. Motion passed.**

Ms. Petrella reported the September Apex report showed In-District at \$1 for \$4,872.76; Out-of-District at \$2 per ton was \$37,994.86; Out-of-State at \$1 per ton of \$107,814.33, 50 Cent surcharge per ton of \$53,907.17, with total tonnage of 131,684.52, and total submitted \$204,589.12.

Motion to accept the September Apex Report was made by Mr. McVey, seconded by Mr. Sproul. **Roll call Vote. All said Yes. Motion Approved.**

Mr. Henry asked about Pierce Media advertising. Ms. Petrella explained they assist with the Facebook Page, the Website and are now doing pop up Game Ads using Cookie tracking for kids' phone/electronic games to reach the younger generations.

#### **Director's Report: Anita Petrella**

##### **EPA Grant**

Ms. Petrella stated that the OEPA Grant Application for the Educational room and the stand alone Touch Screen was denied and expressed her and educators' disappointment.

##### **Billboard Poster Contest Judging**

The Board was asked to choose one winner from four (4) posters narrowed down by staff to be displayed on a local Billboard. Alisha Teramana presented the posters which were numbered 1-4. No entries were received from Belmont County Schools, so a poster was chosen from the most southern school in Jefferson County, Buckeye Local to be displayed on a Belmont Billboard. Ms. Teramana explained they asked students to submit something that shows how they "Recycle Right" as she held up the posters. Board members discussed then chose Poster #3, which was submitted from the Toronto Jr. High School. The Billboard will also have the JBGT name and the student's name. Mr. Bianconi asked why no one in Belmont participates. Ms. Teramana explained that she is unsure why, but due to Covid she has not yet had a chance to go into the schools and work with the teachers to encourage participation.

##### **Apex Tour**

An Apex Landfill Tour was taken by staff and Board members recently. Mr. Bianconi talked about the recent Tour and encouraged anyone wanting to see it to do so, it is an impressive operation. Mr. Echemann stated that it wasn't what he expected, it was cleaner, bigger, deeper and higher, and he was really impressed, and after talking with the management they instilled a lot of confidence in him regarding the Landfill. Ms. Petrella spoke of the improved roads and that there was no odor that day, much different since the last tour taken. Mr. Echemann added it was explained that the landfill has 19 active years left, with 30 more years commitment in monitoring by the Company. Mr. Mcvey stated he and Mr. Fabian remember when they did their expansion a few years ago and at that time it

was projected at 40 active years left. With the reduced years of 20 (now 19), from original 40 years, they are obviously bringing in more material. Members continued to discussed the Landfill briefly.

#### Kimble Transfer Station

Kimble transfer station will have a virtual information session on November 30, 2021 at 6pm, and then a hearing on December 7, 2021 at the Belmont County Fairgrounds in St. Clairsville, to talk about the new facility they wish to put in by Ebbert's Market and Melman's Restaurant. Mr. Fabian said he had spoken to Attorney Bauer who advised anyone who from the Authority that attends the public hearing to not participate in the discussion, just observe and listen.

Mr. Echemann stated that the Belmont County Commissioners have already opposed it, strictly based on the proposed location, so close to the restaurant and banquet hall where weddings are held.

Mr. Fabian said the Mr. Hays had brought up a very good point at a recent meeting, they had said they wanted to put this new transfer station in and how it would accept local trash of 700 tons a day. In response Mr. Hays had asked them since we already have a transfer station near there taking local trash, where will they get their trash from? To which the OEPA had no answer.

Mr. McVey asked if the issues at the Belmont County Transfer Station eased, he has not heard of any issues in a long time. Ms. Petrella said Yes they have eased, she has had no recent complaints, the new owners have alleviated a lot of the problems.

#### Possible Super Site

Ms. Petrella reported that the Community Drop-off Recycling site in Wintersville was removed per request of Kroger's. We now have a site at Dick's Sporting Goods near the JC Penney's site, but are still in need of one in Wintersville. It is difficult to find one as no one wants our heavy trucks on their asphalt. The trucks are about 35-36,000 lbs each. She and Mr. Luckino have been looking into properties for an option as a Super Site to purchase or lease and pave, put fencing around, surveillance cameras and lights with set operational hours of say maybe 7am-7pm. It is hard to find a possible location in an area the size of Wintersville, they have found a couple lots for \$100,000. Asphalt would cost about \$140,000 for an acre, plus cost of fencing, lights, cameras, and Wi-Fi. They are still trying to find a temporary place and currently looking into 427 Customs on route 43, the place is not being rented anymore but the location is only available until someone else rents it. Many other locations were presented for lease with average cost of \$1,500 per month. Fencing would eliminate all the contamination issues. She stated that someone had suggested location of here at the JBGT Jefferson Building, but we are unable to put the site here because of the property restrictions, and residents think this is too far out.

Ms. Petrella stated they rented a power washer for two days, and three of the drivers adjusted their routes so they could use it to clean the bins at the Community drop-off sites in both counties. It really did a nice job. They were only able to get half of the Belmont sites done and plan to try to take one more day to do the other half.

A meeting between Mr. Fabian, JBGT staff and the Belmont Sheriff's Department has held this afternoon. Their Belmont Environmental Litter Enforcement Deputy is set to start tomorrow. They haven't heard back from Shawn Blake for Jefferson's Contract yet. Jefferson County Deputy Polaski will help train Belmont County Deputy Gehrig for a couple days next week.

There are litter cleanups being done by the Belmont County Adult Probation. The program was started by a Judge, and involves two retired police officers who take the offenders around doing the cleanups. Mrs. Shepherd said they are doing a great job and have been consistent. Ms. Petrella explained they are in need of a vehicle and have asked to use our old pickup truck, the officers were added to our insurance at no extra cost and are able to use the truck, which is no longer being used by

the Belmont JBGT staff. The truck is a 2011 Ford Super Duty with 107,000 miles, and estimated value of \$15,000-\$17,000. They now would like to put a caution stripe across back of the truck. She asked if the Board would like to donate it to the program and allow them to take over the insurance and maintenance costs. Belmont County just does not get help from Community Service like Jefferson. Mr. Mucci spoke about the recent litter cleanup done on Sinclair Ave and stated how nice it looked after and how it was very well received by the public. Ms. Petrella stated that was a JBGT cleanup, and that 12 guys that collected 64 bags, 6 with Brad Polaski and 6 with JBGT.

Mr. Bianconi made motion to donate the 2011 Ford Pickup Truck to the Belmont County Adult Probation for the cleanups.

Discussion. Mr. McVey asked if there is a program like that in Jefferson County, and maybe the Authority could ask their County Commissioners if they would be interested. Ms. Petrella felt that would muddy the waters with the Environmental Enforcement Contract still not finalized, plus the fact that Jefferson still uses their similar truck with more staff. The Board members discussed. Mr. Fabian explained how differently the Courts in the Jefferson County work with these types of programs, some get a lot done, and others get nothing done, and you can't move on junk cars, illegal dumping, etc. without the courts Prosecuting Attorney's assistance. They get good results out of Bednar's Court, but no assistance from the Toronto Court, Calabria flat out said he doesn't have time for it. The difficulty in trying to do the same with the vehicle or funds in both Counties was discussed. With that in mind Mr. Fabian and Mr. Bianconi felt that if Belmont County is wanting it and ready to use it then give it to them, why hold them back. This is the vehicle that the Authority has been lending them. Mr. Mucci agreed and hopes Jefferson County will come to realize what their postponing is costing them. Jefferson's Contract had been sent by Authority Attorney Bauer, and he has yet to hear back from them.

Mr. Echemann seconded the Motion. **Roll call Vote. All said yes. Motion passed.**

Paul Romano

Ms. Petrella stated employee Mr. Paul Romano asked to address the Board and introduced him. Mr. Romano spoke to members about how the drivers worked through Covid without missing a beat; and wanted them to know what they do on a daily basis. He said they must often handle the materials at the sites, having to climb into the containers to pull dirty diapers, cat litter, and other nasty things that have been dumped in the bins. Adding they all help and cover for each other when someone is off for sickness or vacations, the dangers they deal with, and that the Authority can depend on them to get the job done. He asked them to consider bringing their salaries up a few dollars in appreciation to be comparable to other local drivers.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: Scott Fabian**

No report.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Rob Sproul**

No report.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Mark McVey**

Mr. McVey stated they did meet this afternoon and debated a 3% or \$1 an hour raise for all Non-contract employees. Mr. Hays's contract was up and currently at \$47,740.42. The Committee recommends rounding it up to \$50,000 for a one-year Contract. Bonuses were discussed as a one-time deal vs an additional personal day per year by the Committee. Mr. McVey stated the Committee



recommends a \$1 per hour raise for all non-contract employees plus one additional Personal Day. Total cost of \$31,217 includes benefits for the 13 employees. This would be effective the first pay period of January 2022.

Mr. Mucci made a motion to approve a \$1 per hour raise for all non-contract employees, and one additional Personal Day beginning the first pay period in January 2022 as recommended by the Committee. Seconded by Mr. Mavromatis. **Vote by Roll call. All said yes. Approved.**

Mr. Mucci made a motion to approve a one-year contract for the Fiscal Officer in the amount of \$50,000, for January 2022 to December 2022. Mr. Bianconi seconded. **Vote by Roll call. All said Yes. Motion passed.**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT: Jim Mavromatis**

No report.

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

No report.

**SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Already given by Ms. Petrella.

**LANDFILL REPORT: Andrew Henry**

Mr. Henry reported MSW tonnage for September was 131,000 tons, and October was 142,632. He apologized C&D wasn't on the report, but he will get it on their next month. The MSW report was reviewed showing in 2021 it was really high compared to previous years. Just one Odor Complaint in October. No violations in 2021, and the reports show odor intensity has not been above a level one. He added their Sanitarian in training is leaving his position for the private industry and they will be looking for a replacement.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.


**NEW BUSINESS:**

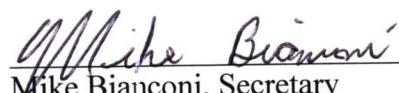
None.

Next meeting set for Monday, December 13, 2021 at the Belmont JB Green Team building

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 pm.

**ATTEST:**

  
Scott Fabian, Chair

  
Mike Bianconi, Secretary