

**JEFFERSON BELMONT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 10, 2023**

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Robert Baird, Mike Bianconi, Chuck Dawson, Jerry Echemann, Scott Fabian, Andrew Henry, George Irvin Jr, Robert Krajnyak, Dan Lima, James Mavromatis, Mitch Morelli, Rob Sproul

ABSENT: John Davies, Tony Kolanski, Joe Luckino

OTHERS: Anita Petrella, Dave Hays, Natalie Lysle, Sharon Malin

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, 228 Technology Way, Steubenville, Ohio at 5:30PM on, Monday, July 10, 2023.

MINUTES:

A motion to approve the June 12, 2023 regular monthly meeting minutes with corrections was made by Mr. Krajnyak, and seconded by Mr. Henry. **Vote: 9 said Aye. Mr. Irvin and Mr. Morelli Abstained. Motion approved.**

STAFF REPORTS:

Fiscal Report:

Mr. Hays reported revenues for \$317,382.99, with expenditures of \$218,127.41 and net income of \$99,255.58. Non-Payroll Expenditures were reviewed with no questions from the Board. Apex Tonnage Report for May shows 10,710.51 In-District Tons, 31,532.65 Out-of-District Tons, 116,011.29 Out-of-State Tons, yielding \$247,792.75.

A motion to accept the fiscal officer's report and approve Expenditures for June 2023 was made by Mr. Mavromatis and seconded by Mr. Echemann. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

2024 Tax Budget

Mr. Hays reminded the Board that all taxing Districts are required to pass a Tax Budget by July for the next year according to ORC Section 5705.30. He used his best estimate on this Tax Budget for 2024, but it can be changed later if needed. He will file it with the Jefferson County Auditor's Office. Mr. Sproul asked if the \$120,000 shown for Litter Enforcement & cleanup was going to be enough with the changes in the Enforcement programs. Mr. Hays stated he didn't notice that and it probably wouldn't be. Board members discussed it and asked him to change that amount to \$180,000.

A motion to accept the 2024 Tax Budget was made by Mr. Krajnyak and seconded by Mr. Dawson. **ROLL CALL VOTE: All said Yes. Motion approved.**

Director's Report:

Personnel Manual is in need of being updated by a human resources company. She would like to get an estimate, the Board agreed.

Special Cleanups

Cleanups in Jefferson County are done for the year, there is one this Saturday in Belmont County and more in the fall. The Household Hazardous Waste Collection in Jefferson County had 350

cars go through to drop off items. The tire Collection last Saturday in Belmont County had 118 cars and did ¾ of two trailers. Belmont HHW will be on September 23rd, and three Community Bulk Cleanups this fall.

Apex Informational Meeting

Ms. Petrella stated that there will be an Apex informational meeting Tuesday evening at the Jefferson County airport. Apex invited herself and Mr. Luckino to attend, along with the Friends of Crossridge group. She checked with Attorney Bauer about attending, he said they could but not give any opinions, however they could report information to the Board.

Belmont Employees

Ms. Petrella reported that one driver was back after his time off due to surgery, another had surgery and is expected to be off 6-8 weeks. The Director had her knee replacement and hopes to be back on the 24th, Ms. Petrella said she is taking care of the Belmont Office during her leave. Ms. Petrella informed the Board that the Belmont Director has unofficially given the date of October 2023 for her retirement, and she would like to hire her replacement for training well enough in advance of that.

Temporary Driver

Ms. Petrella reminded the Board that they approved hiring a temporary driver for these employees extended sick leave. The first temporary driver did not work out, he had 2 accidents early on and would not work in the yard. She explained that a CDL driver is not just what is needed, we also need them to be able to drive the front-loading trucks and empty the bins. Five years ago on Christmas Eve, a temporary driver dropped a bin onto the front windshield of a truck costing \$65,000 worth of damage. It can be difficult to find capable drivers. The current Temp driver Ron Ramsey has been doing really well, he has been working in both counties and knows the routes. He has been doing the rear packer route in Belmont, the Glass route in both counties, and currently training on the Front Load trucks. She asked the Board to hire him Full time now because one driver will be retiring in March 2024, another in April 2024, and probably another in August 2024. She explained it takes a long time to train the drivers on our Front Load trucks properly. Mr. Ramsey has been doing really well and does not complain about doing Belmont routes as needed. He will be busy helping cleanup the Community Sites, and covering routes during vacations through September.

Mr. Bianconi made a motion to change Mr. Ron Ramsey from a temporary employee to a full-time employee with benefits. Mr. Dawson seconded. Mr. Irvin discussed possibly waiting to hire later, Mr. Baird was concerned with possible difficulty in finding another suitable driver if we wait, Mr. Fabian is concerned with overstaffing, Mr. Bianconi discussed work that he can do until he has a scheduled route. **Roll Call Vote: 9 Voting Yes, Mr. Fabian voted No. Mr. Krajnyak Abstained. Motion approved.**

Ms. Petrella informed the Board that Mr. Dawson found Myers Powder Coating for her to obtain an estimate to cleanup the old rusty front loading bins. The cost per bin would be \$800, with a new bin costing approximately \$1,000 each, she feels it may be best to just purchase new bins. Our employees have cleaned and painted the bins in the past but it is very time consuming. We usually purchase 50 at a time, 25 for each County when we purchase new.

Trailer

Ms. Petrella stated that she believes that when we started with the Litter Enforcement Officers, the Board approved getting them a truck, trailer, radio etc. The matter was delayed for six

months, but we did get the trucks when they were available. We didn't get the trailer, the Jefferson County Deputy looked at a trailer last week and it will cost almost \$7,000. He will be pulling it almost every day to use to cleanup dumping at the drop-off sites and other areas. She wanted to make sure it was approved way back when the vehicles were. Mr. Fabian stated the trailer was approved.

Dump Trailer

Ms. Petrella stated that we have a 2009 Dump Trailer that an employee uses often behind the Izuzu. It is really rusted, and needs replaced. We were quoted to get \$2,500 on trade in, for a new Dump Trailer with estimated cost of \$11,167. She is authorized to purchase without prior approval up to \$10,000, so is asking for approval to purchase a new Dump Trailer for \$12,000.

Mr. Sproul made a motion to purchase a new Dump Trailer for up to \$12,000 and trade in the old one. Seconded by Mr. Irvin. **Roll Call Vote: All said Yes. Motion approved.**

Ms. Petrella stated the Belmont County Enforcement Officer's report was provided in their documents. She recently rode with him to a few of the Belmont sites while she was in the Belmont Office. She stated that the Belmont sites are in very good shape in spite of Jefferson drivers trying to help cover their routes with the sick leave use for surgeries.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: Scott Fabian

Did not meet.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Rob Sproul

Did not meet.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: George Irvin

Mr. Irvin stated the Committee did meet. The Minutes from the June 21, 2023 Personnel Committee meeting need to be approved by the Committee members.

Mr. Henry made a motion to approve the June 21, 2023 Personnel Committee meeting minutes. Seconded by Mr. Sproul. **Vote: Six (6) Committee Members present said Aye. Motion passed.**

Mr. Irvin stated as the minutes reflect there is a need to find a replacement for Mr. Hays's position as Fiscal Officer before he retires. The job position was posted and we received 17 candidate resume's, most via Indeed with a few emailed and personal drop-offs. The Committee narrowed them down to a final four (4) and plans to interview them later this week.

Ms. Petrella stated a Special Board Meeting will need to be held immediately after to hire someone so that Mr. Hays can train them as soon as possible.

Mr. Hays spoke about his upcoming plans. He is scheduled for surgery on July 26th and was scheduled to retire on July 21st, but can push that back until after he returns and trains the new Fiscal Officer. He is unable to retire and come back according to PERS rules, so he could train them as much as possible before his surgery, then take leave without pay during his time off until he can return to further train them. Mr. Hays stated he expects to return 6-8 weeks after surgery.

Ms. Petrella explained we really need the next Fiscal Officer to be hired by next week due to Mr. Hays's last day at work before going off for surgery on Friday, July 22nd. She asked the Board if they could have the Special Meeting previously mentioned on Monday, July 17th to officially

hire the Committee's choice as Interim, to allow them to begin training immediately after with Mr. Hay's.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT: Jim Mavromatis

Did not meet.

GRANTS/SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT: Mike Bianconi

Did not meet.

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT:

Did not meet.

LANDFILL REPORT: Andrew Henry

Mr. Henry reported that so far in 2023 there have been no Notice of Violations. They did have a stretch of a couple of days during 4th of July weekend where there were some complaints. In June there was 157,516 tons of MSW, and 79,961 tons of C&D waste. Odor complaints were up to 27 in June, and similar in July. The summer months tend to be higher with the garbage sitting in the railroad cars in the heat coming from the east coast, when the bins are opened at Apex it does generate some odors. Odor intensity was identified twice by Health Department staff during patrol, however they were pretty light odors. Two new Health Department Board members will be going out to Apex on Monday to tour the facility.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Fabian stated that Senate Bill 119 passed the Senate. It did not make it into the Budget Bill. We will be looking at different avenue take with Attorney Albin Bauer, watching to see what happens in the House, we should know more in late August or September. The Government Policy Group is starting to take a little heat from Senator Reineke and other Senators because we are still the only group opposing this Bill, everyone else is either neutral or on board with it.

Mr. Krajnyak asked if a Motion is needed for Mr. Hays's Leave of Absence for his surgery. Mr. Hays stated we do already have a policy in place in the Employee Policy Manual.


Mr. Bianconi addressed the drainage problem at the Belmont Building. The property in front of and on the side is owned by someone else. He spoke on ownership history. The owners of one part have an agreement with a Injection Well Company who is currently tied up in a lawsuit. So the owner is unable to sell it until after the legal lawsuit is settled. Mr. Bianconi suggested in the meantime the Authority should have a Survey Company/Consulting Firm come up with plans of how to fix the drainage problem to have ready for when it can be fixed by a contractor. Ms. Petrella stated she has been requesting the issue be corrected for over a year now, the water is causing erosion around and under the building.

Mr. Bianconi explained that the building is on a very small parcel and suggested the Authority purchase the other piece of property behind the building with the person living there and allow them to live on it until they move or pass away. The issue was discussed. Mr. Bianconi and Mr. Dawson will speak to a Jeff Vaughn to ask him stop by at the building and come up with a proposal to fix it.

NEW BUSINESS:

Next meeting set for Monday, August 14, 2023 at JBGT building in St. Clairsville.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm. by a motion from Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Mavromatis. All said Aye.

ATTEST: 
Scott Fabian, Chair


Mike Bianconi, Secretary