

**JEFFERSON BELMONT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY  
MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 12, 2021**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Mike Bianconi, Chuck Dawson, Jerry Echemann, Scott Fabian, Andrew Henry, George Irvin Jr, Robert Krajnyak, Joe Luckino, James Mavromatis, Mark McVey, Domenick Mucci, Rob Sproul  
**ABSENT:** John Davies, Tony Kolanski, Mitch Morelli,

**OTHERS:** Anita Petrella, Dave Hays, Natalie Lysle, Tammy Shepherd, Alisha Teramana, Louise Holliday, Albin Bauer, Darby Copeland, Steven Hill

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 5:30PM on, Monday, April 12, 2021.

**MINUTES:** A motion to approve the March 8, 2021 regular monthly meeting minutes was made by Mr. Echemann, and seconded by Mr. Mucci. **Vote: All said Aye. Motion passed.**

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**Fiscal Report:**

Mr. Hays reported revenues for \$266,792.73, received a Rate & Charges settlement from Jefferson County. Total expenditures of \$138,137.78, net cash income of \$128,654.95. The March Non-payroll expenditures on two sheets had one correction, Solid Waste Auditor Treasurers Fee of \$4,998.89 should be \$3,205.12, making the total expenditures for March \$57,775.87.

Tonnage Report shows 8,025.07 In-District tonnage, 10,642.69 In State Out-of-District tonnage, and 75,506.25 out-of-State tonnage, yielding in disposal and contract fees \$142,569.83.

A motion to accept the fiscal officer's report and approve Expenditures for March 2021 was made by Mr. Dawson and seconded by Mr. Irvin. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

Mr. Hays stated the appropriations on the Agenda has to do with the Health Department. He explained that he did the original Appropriations for \$80,000, which did not include the 2020 bills. He just received the bills for 2020, they were not included since things were still up in the air about what was to be done about those invoices. If the Board agrees to pay them he will need an increase of Appropriations of \$53,000 under the Health Department Line Item. Mr. Irvin asked how many Invoices were previously paid in 2020 and what was the subtotal. Mr. Hays stated the total was a little more than \$52,500 for 2020. Mr. McVey questioned why so late receiving them. Mr. Henry explained that from what he understands before he took over in January 2021 there were some disputes about excess payments, so his Board decided to hold off on sending any Invoices until the issues were corrected. Once he took over they sat down with Mr. Fabian and agreed to push forward in 2021, and get back payment for the ones not yet paid in 2020. Mr. Fabian reminded the Board briefly the issues from 2020, and offered to send any members copies of the final Invoices by request. Mr. Henry stated they filtered through the Invoices numerous times to be sure they removed any items not allowed.

Mr. Mucci stated since the amount is way within the amount anticipated and Mr. Fabian had reviewed them, made a motion to approve to increase the Appropriations for \$53,000

and pay the 2020 Health Department Invoices. Mr. Krajnyak seconded. **VOTE: Unanimous Yes by Roll Call. Motion Approved.**

**Director's Report:**

**Cameras for dumping**

Mr. Bianconi introduced Darby Copeland of Pease Township Police Department. Mr. Copeland provided information on two types of cameras. One company specializes in law enforcement spec cameras, but also has the deer trail cameras. He had several conversations with them about what they would be needed for. He advises the Board to get the word out that cameras are going to be used which would get the attention of some of those doing the dumping and will help greatly reduce it. The cameras come in a pack, with a choice of a surveillance camera or a license reader camera. With the (2) two options to go with, he explained the pros and cons of both types of cameras to the Board. The one he recommends is the Reconyx Hyperfire 2. Initial costs for one set is \$1,770.87 plus cellular service cost of approximately \$10 a month for 2,000 images. Choice between Verizon and AT&T service. The ongoing cost will be cell service and batteries. He recommends replacing batteries each time they go out for placement. He recommends the Authority having a user agreement requiring the local law enforcement to be involved in doing something about the enforcement, because local level assistance will be needed. There is too much involved for just one to two officers such as the Litter Enforcement Deputies to handle. The Courts will also need to do their part to address the problem, with fines or community service. He recommended starting with two sets of cameras, one for each County. Locations of Tiltonsville and Yorkville Drop-off Recycling sites were suggested. A lengthy discussion followed.

Mr. Copeland suggested a 30 day or less agreement but not any longer, with option to re-up depending on requests. Also, to spell out that they have to use them from a law enforcement perspective, they must supply the labor, and the results wanted by the Authority for their use. Using the cameras at the dumping sites and recycling drop-off sites was discussed at length.

What needs to be included in the User Agreement was discussed by the Board. Ms. Petrella asked Mr. Bauer for his opinion. His response was he questions how they will be divided as the program expands, as well as the coordination aspect with different locations. There are Litter Enforcement officers that use them in other program across the State, some at each one of their Drop-off locations, and the officer is the one responsible for those locations. He recommends that the law enforcement agencies be required to provide data and feedback for their use of the cameras.

The Authority would maintain the equipment, with notifications going to a phone or an App depending on how it is set up.

Mr. Dawson made a motion to purchase a second set of cameras for the cost of \$2,000 plus the monthly cost for usage of cell service, and have the agreement drawn up for use.

Discussion: about which sites to use it on first, such as a Recycling site in Jefferson and a dump site in Belmont. Placing an article in the paper and getting the word out that cameras will be used to monitor sites prosecute will make a big difference early on. Possible signs of "under surveillance" was discussed but is not required to be placed legally in Ohio. Mr. Copeland believes that most dumpers are habitual and once they begin to be prosecuted it will reduce the dumping as word gets out. Mr. Bauer asked about the financial effect on the Authority with the dumping at sites. Ms. Petrella explained the labor, time and

disposal cost for 2 tons a week of materials illegally dumped. Mr. Bauer stressed the beneficial importance of the investment with the cameras being used at the drop-off sites for those reasons.

Mr. Luckino seconded the Motion. **Vote by Roll Call: All said Yes. Motion passed.**

#### Belmont building property

Ms. Petrella explained there has been an issue with neighbor company's large trucks driving across the JBGT property line, the owner Mr. Gerald Russomagno was very uncooperative and rude with JBGT Belmont staff when approached. Mr. Hill of Hill Surveying was asked to mark the property to be sure of the location. Mrs. Shepherd stated she has many photos of the trucks driving over the property and the cement, adding that their trucks sitting in traffic waiting in line to enter for long periods of time on Pickering Road may become an issue for our trucks in the future, sometimes taking an upward of 20-30 minutes.

Mr. Hill provided a copy of his survey, explaining the property line distance difference from one end of the building to the other. He explained to the Board that while doing the survey he was approached and questioned by Mr. Russomagno and had the same experience as Mrs. Shepherd. After Mr. Hill stated he was just surveying property lines for JBGT he was told by Mr. Russomagno to stay off his property, in which Mr. Hill responded that Mr. Russomagno was the one currently on the JBGT property, which he did not like to hear. While Mr. Hill was there he witnessed the large 18 wheelers, and tanker trucks coming clear across and driving over the JBGT property and concrete pad to enter their facility, which is 22 feet onto the JBGT property. He agrees with putting the concrete barrier up because anything less would get run over. He stated he used to work for the County as the oil and gas liaison regarding the roads and was taken aback by Mr. Russomagno's attitude. Mr. Mucci asked about zoning codes for set-back requirements from property lines for building a barrier. Mr. Hill agreed there was one and advised checking with Richland Township. Mrs. Shepherd stated they did open up an access on Route 40 which seems to have changed the route for some of the trucks, but too early to tell for sure. Mr. Bianconi stated that Wesley & Michele Neal owns the property being discussed and is renting it to the gas & oil company. He stated he would prefer to wait and see if the issue continues before putting up a barrier.

Mr. Echemann informed the Board that the Belmont Commissioners tried to prevent this site from being put in, but had no authority and were told by ODNR that any changes on the rules regarding this would need to be done by the State Legislature. Now the ODNR is taking steps to change the regulations to prevent in the future. Mr. Hill stated that he had submitted a letter to the ODNR prior to their approval that it was right over the Saginaw Coal mine, for which mine maps shows the date it was "squeezed" meaning they mined out too much coal to support the surface, so it collapses. Now all of that strata is broken from the coal mine clear to the surface and he thought for sure that information would have some barring on allowing them to drill there by the ODNR, but it did not. Adding if they drill down there and inject and for some reason things start shifting you will have an environmental problem, because if that leaks into the coal mine it will end up in the Ohio River. Explaining these coal mines, Saginaw, Number Six mine, etc. are all tied together. The EPA did a study on that because coal slopes that direction to the river. Ms. Petrella asked about possible earthquakes and the need for that kind of insurance for the building. Mr. Hill stated that in Oklahoma they started having a lot of earthquakes because of mining injection wells they had, they shut down 25% of them then the earthquakes stopped. He would recommend getting it.

Mr. Hill asked Mr. Bianconi if Richland Township put some kind of regulation on the road saying no Ruma Trucks awhile back, he is pretty sure they did and thinks Gregg Greenline was a trustee at the time and he was working with him and Cindy Henry with this at the time. They had a meeting to cease that from being traveled on by oil and gas, but not aware of what came of it. Mr. Bianconi was unaware if so.

Ms. Shepherd explained her concerns for bringing this issue to the Director, the trucks having to angle on the JBGT property because of the job tailer and electric poll being where they would need to pull in causing the very large trucks to drive right over the corner of the concrete pad next to where she parked her car, so close she had to begin parking further down. The trucks traveling at a fast speed through the lot. She has taken many photos of them doing crossing way over the JBGT property.

Earthquake insurance was again discussed. Mr. Hall explained the Gas and oil Company first had to get the permit to drill the site, which they have, now they have to get the permit to inject. Mr. Hill explained how the drilling is done.

The Board took a five minutes break to look at the property line being discussed.

Putting up a cement barrier to mark the property line and prevent the large trucks from crossing it and waiting to see if they continue to drive through or not now that the new entrance was put in with the exit on Route 40 was debated by the Board. Ms. Shepherd was asked her opinion. She stated there are not as many trucks as before and is not sure if that is due to ODOT stopping them with the other entry, but ones that do come through are still crossing way over on JBGT property, forcing her to move her vehicle down, even after the property line was made clear. Mr. Bianconi told Ms. Shepherd to call him if she has an issue with them in the future. Mr. Mavromatis asked if the concrete pad was cracked when we purchased the building, Ms. Shepherd was unsure.

The matter was tabled to wait and see if the opening of their new entrance solves the issue. Ms. Petrella will call for a price to add earthquake insurance for the building.

#### Cleanups

Ms. Petrella announced both county cleanups have begun for 2021, there will be one tire collection in Belmont county on June 12<sup>th</sup>, and at most of the Jefferson Collections. The HHW collections are set for June 12<sup>th</sup> at Fort Steuben Mall.

Belmont county Litter Enforcement officer provided a brief report which Ms. Petrella read to the Board. January – March shows 12 illegal dumpsites investigated, 1 case was sent to the prosecutor then cleaned by the offender, two other sites cleaned up by those who dumped, one in Mean twp and one in Flushing.

Ms. Petrella reported she has been at two Jefferson county Commissioner meetings regarding the Litter Officer. Mr. Bauer explained that talking with Ms. Petrella and Mr. Fabian that he raised some ways that this issue can be approached, in other Districts throughout the State they use an appointed individual to do this work. Mr. Bauer recommended going into Executive session so he could make the board aware and discuss the different ways they can approach the issue.

Mr. Mucci made a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant ORC 121.22(G)(1) Personnel Exception to consider the appointment or employment for

a public employee litter officer in both counties. Mr. McVey seconded. **Vote: All said Aye. Motion passed.**

Mr. Krajnyak made a motion to exit Executive Session, Mr. Irvin seconded. **Vote: All said Aye. Motion approved.**

Mr. Mucci stated Ms. Petrella will wait for a letter from the County Commissioners regarding what was discussed during the executive session before any decision is made by the Board regarding the Litter Enforcement Officers.

Mr. Bauer informed the Board that if interested he attended a SWANA meeting where a speaker was a Litter Enforcement Officer and gave an excellent presentation. He would be willing to contact him and arrange a presentation or meeting for Ms. Petrella, Mr. Fabian, Commissioner Morelli and any other Board members wanting to be included.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: Scott Fabian**

No report.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Rob Sproul**

No report.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Mark McVey**

No report.

**PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT: Jim Mavromatis**

No report.

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

Mr. Mucci reported that the Committee met just prior to tonight's meeting. The Board had allowed \$100,000 of Grant opportunities for non-profits. As of the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline (31) thirty one Grant Applications were received to be considered. The Committee is requesting more information from (7) seven of them regarding recycled materials. One was approved with reduced funding. Two (2) were disregarded. All others were approved. Those approved were: Village of Adena, Belco Works with reduced funds, Bethesda Park District, Bishop JK Mussio Elementary, Bridgeport park District #7, Brush Creek Township, Catholic Central High School, Colerain township, Colerain Volunteer Fire Dept, Jefferson County JVS, Mary Seat of Wisdom Montessio, Mead Township Park District, Morristown Park District #12, Village of Mt. Pleasant, Ohio Valley Farmers Market, Old Fort Steuben Project, Powhatan Point Park District, Village of Powhatan Point, Village of Shadyside, Steubenville Lions Club, Steubenville Parks and Recreation, Village of Yorkville. The other grants are pending until additional information is received for consideration.

Mr. Luckino made a motion to approve all except for ones to be reviewed or were denied. Mr. Andrew seconded. **Vote: All said Aye. Motion passed.**

**SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT: Joe Luckino**

No report.

**LANDFILL REPORT: Andrew Henry**

Mr. Henry reported 134,000 tons of municipal waste for march. Odor complaints have been mild to none. He visited Apex himself within the last month and stated he was very impressed with their operations, they actually do run a very good landfill. There is a lot of out of state waste, but they do depend on that to keep their business open.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. McVey stated he felt the Belmont Building was lacking an American flag and pole like Jefferson's and would like to see one installed.

Mucci made a motion to purchase and erect an American Flag pole similar to the one at the Jefferson Building. Seconded by Mr. Irvin. **Roll call vote: All said Yes. Motion passed.**

Mr. Fabian announced they have a Resolution needing Board approval and signed declaring the Solid Waste Plan Ratified.

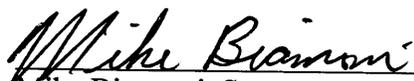
Mr. Krajnyak made the motion to approve and sign the Resolution. Mr. Echemann seconded. **Vote: All said Aye. Motion carried.**

Next meeting set for Monday, May 10, 2021 at the Jefferson JB Green Team building at 5:30pm. Mr. Fabian stated he would not be able to be present for that meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.

**ATTEST:**

  
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Mark McVey, Vice Chair

  
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Mike Bianconi, Secretary