

**JEFFERSON BELMONT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY  
MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 8, 2024**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Bob Baird, Mike Bianconi, Jerry Echemann, Scott Fabian, Andrew Henry, Tony Kolanski, Robert Krajnyak, Joe Luckino, James Mavromatis, Mitch Morelli, Rob Sproul

**ABSENT:** John Davies, Chuck Dawson, George Irvin Jr, Dan Lima,

**OTHERS:** Anita Petrella, Scott Renforth, Natalie Lysle, Bobbi McMillen

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, January 8, 2024.

**MINUTES:** A motion to approve the December 11, 2023 regular monthly meeting minutes was made by Mr. Luckino, and seconded by Mr. Mavromatis. **Vote: 7 said Aye, with Mr. Echemann, Mr. Krajnyak, Mr. Biard and Mr. Morelli abstaining. Motion passed.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Scott Fabian

Mr. Fabian stated the Authority had received several thank you cards from local Food Pantry's regarding the monetary donations for our Stock the Pantry program. The Bellaire Methodist Church wrote that they distributed 243 Christmas Baskets this year to families in need which was a record for them. Ms. Petrella explained to the Board that each year we do a paper driver program called Stock the Pantry. We place our blue trailers at one location in each County, this year Jefferson's was at the Fort Steuben Mall, and Belmont's was at the St. Clairsville Drop-off Site. Residents are asked to donate their paper/cardboard in them so that all those proceeds generated from each are divided among that County's own local Food Pantries. This year the Jefferson Pantries received \$200 each, and Belmont Pantries received \$50. She explained that the Belmont event is still fairly new, and she is hoping that donations will continue to increase each year just as Jefferson's program has.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**Fiscal Report:**

Mr. Renforth reported the December 2023 revenues were \$1,358,430.42, which included an Intra-Fund Transfer of \$800,000.00 from the Operating fund and \$223,741.32 from the Contract Fee fund for total of 1,023,741.32 going into the Rates & Charges fund. Total Expenditures were \$1,228,569.26 which includes the same transfers he just mentioned, leaving a net income of \$129,861.16. Both Non-Payroll and Payroll Expenditures were attached for the Boards inspection. Mr. Renforth reported that the Stars Account showed zero (0) in November because the amount wasn't available in time for the last meeting, but it is on this December report, which is why you see \$54,827.47 under Investment Revenue on the Report. This actually breaks down to November as \$26,080.24 and December as \$28,747.23. The amount shown on the report is their combined amount.

Mr. Echemann asked about the Jeff Vaughn amount shown. Ms. Petrella explained that the Authority approved to contract him out at a previous meeting for \$5,000.00. She signed the contract and sent him the check for him to be able to begin the work, that amount was from the estimate to get the work started.

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

Mr. Renforth reviewed the Apex Landfill Tonnage Report for November 2023. There were 13,021.65 tons In-District, 17,735.42 tons Out-of-District, and 122,359.82 tons Out-of-State, yielding \$232,032.22 in fees.

Mr. Renforth asked the Board to approve this year's Tax Budget that was the same as amounts approved in July of 2023. He will have the Permanent Appropriations for the Board at the March meeting, this is for Temporary Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2024.

Mr. Kolanski made the motion to approve the Tax Budget Temporary Appropriations for 2024, Mr. Krajnyak seconded. **Vote by Roll call: All said yes. Motion approved.**

#### **Director's Report:**

##### 2024 Grants

Ms. Petrella asked the Board if they wished to offer the Recycling Initiative Grant funds again this year, and if so would the amount again be for \$100,000. Members briefly discussed.

Mr. Sproul made a motion to approve \$100,000 in funding for the Recycling Initiative Competitive Grants for 2024. Mr. Luckino seconded. **Roll call vote: All said Yes. Motion approved unanimously.**

Mr. Sproul asked if there were going to be any modifications made to the Application rules for issues discussed last year. Members briefly discussed and decided they would address them individually as the Applications are submitted.

##### 2024 collections

Ms. Petrella explained this includes the Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collections, and the Community Cleanup Collections in 14 different townships/communities. Jefferson's Schedule is complete, and Belmont's schedule is almost complete, they are now just pending Board approval. She asked that they approve the same amount as 2023, that the only cost increase she expects will be for the HHW's, but the same amount approved last year should cover them even with the increase this year.

A motion was made by Mr. Kolanski to approve the Special Collections in 2024 for the same amount of \$200,000. Mr. Luckino seconded. **Roll call vote: All said Yes. Motion approved.**

##### ADR Estimate

Ms. Petrella stated it is almost time again for the Annual District Report and she asked RRS for a quote for this year, which is who she would prefer to use to stay consistent since the update of the Solid Waste Plan will be in the next couple of years. Cost for RRS to do the ADR this year will be \$6,500 if the Board approves.

Mr. Krajnyak made a motion to hire RRS to complete the Annual District Report in 2024 for \$6,500. Seconded by Mr. Henry. **Roll call vote: All said Yes. Motion passed.**

Ms. Petrella provided the Jefferson County Environmental Enforcement Quarterly Report for the Board to pass around. She explained that the Belmont Officer is currently off on leave from surgery and she will get his report once he returns. She stated that Jefferson EEO is doing an excellent job, and that the Belmont officer has really stepped up while working with Ms. McMillen. Ms. Petrella received the Belmont Sheriff Department Contract, the amount for starting on March 8th will be \$61,449.50 for this year. She passed around the itemized bill for the year to the Board. Mr. Renforth explained that Jefferson County Sheriff Department amount in 2023 was \$44,867 but the Officer didn't start until June 5, 2023, the cost per month is about the same as last year.

Ms. Petrella invited Belmont Coordinator Bobbi McMillen to speak on a few matters. Mrs. McMillen said she wanted to explain how she came to have EnviroServe Company on the Agenda last month. She explained the grates that were just replaced on the floor drains of the Belmont building garage required some grinding and digging, this led to finding a pit under a cover in the garage floor. The pit was full and after digging out oil and grease into a wheel barrel they discovered a 4" pipe that was packed full. They were able to get Belmont County Water & Sewer to help them pull the covers outside that lead to another tank that appears to be 100% full. After trying a few companies to handle this hazardous waste she found EnviroServe which has been used by others locally for chemicals, they seemed most appropriate and is expected to be coming in this week. The Contract that she provided to Ms. Petrella outlines what they will do, the cost is expected to be just over \$4,000. The company is hoping that amount is on the high side but won't know exactly the tonnage that is in those tanks until it is removed. The material will go to an incinerator in Youngstown, and they will pay by the pound to have it burned off. Mr. Fabian explained they have the same type of system at the Highway garage, that it is an oil separator and they have it emptied once a year. A discussion followed. Ms. Petrella believes the oil and grease was probably from the previous owner since we don't do any of our own oil & grease maintenance on the trucks and is hopeful it won't have to be cleaned out yearly.

A motion to approve the contract with EnviroServe was made by Mr. Bianconi, seconded by Mr. Echemann. **Roll call Vote: All said Yes. Motion passed.**

Mrs. McMillen explained that on December 29<sup>th</sup> staff received a call that our St. Joseph's Community Drop-off Recycling Site property had been sold, and that we had to remove our bins. She herself, Mr. Bianconi, Gordy Longshaw, Ms. Petrella and drivers have been scouring the area for a replacement site, they have looked at 5-6 different sites with little luck, right now we have permission move the five (5) bins to the side of Route 250 in Bridgeport located at the back of Wilson's Furniture parking lot. We are hoping all 5 bins will fit, and this will be temporary until we find another location.

Mrs. McMillen stated that she has one driver off, the deputy is off, and another driver whose mom is not well, and wanted to reiterate as Ms. Petrella mentioned at the last meeting, the new driver has been a tremendous help at this time.

Mrs. McMillen informed the Board that she spoke to the Vaughn Company today and they are actively working on the document that we will take to a contractor for an estimate on the work that needs to be done.

Mrs. McMillen explained that one reason Belmont does not have the Community Cleanup Schedule done yet is that she is collaborating with Belmont Water & Soil this year. They have a

permit through the EPA to collect tires during the months of March and April, they are only doing the collections at the bottom eight Townships this year. There will be no charge for those collections so it will help keep our Collection costs down. Some of those collections will be on Thursdays and some on Saturdays, she is working with the Townships on the dates. Mr. Bianconi explained that Soil & Water will do the lower Townships this year and the upper Townships next year. Ms. Petrella stated the Authority will probably do one collection at an upper Township and reverse it next year.

The temporary site at Bridgeport was discussed. Ms. McMillen explained it is not large enough to be a permanent site and is hoping for another location near Lansing. Mr. Bianconi added that we will still need one in Bridgeport and that we need to consider owning our sites to resolve this issue. Ms. Petrella thanked Mr. Luckino of Cedar One for allowing us the use of their property in Wintersville, which is now the largest Drop-off Site in the Wintersville/Steubenville area. Mr. Luckino stated when the Board looks to purchase property he knows it's best to find one that is very visible, but often owners unfortunately don't want to sell those types of lots, so he suggests the possibility of leasing/renting lot locations. Ms. McMillen spoke about the concept of a Super Site like the one at the Highlands in WV, they lease that location. It is open from 7AM -4/5PM daily and is fenced in, so it is closed at dark which reduces contamination. Ms. Petrella explained a Super Site requires having at least a couple of acres, no low overhead wires, and cementing the location.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: Scott Fabian**

None.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Rob Sproul**

None.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT:**

None.

**PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT: Jim Mavromatis**

None.

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

None.

**SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT: Joe Luckino**

None.

**LANDFILL REPORT: Andrew Henry**

Mr. Henry reported that to close out the year for the month of December Apex had 44 odor complaints, which made the year total 398. He stated that amount is high and we were dealing with a lot of odor complaints. Notice of Violations remained at 5 for the year. In 2023 Health Department Techs identified 20 different instances where odor was detected, those were mainly at a 1 on a scale of .5- 5.0 which isn't too bad, but nearby residents did have good reasons for their complaints.

The Tonnage Report shows the Landfill's largest amounts since 2020. For the month of December, they had 161,000 tons of MSW, and 73,000 tons of C&D, which made the year total 1.8 million tons of SW, and 891,000 tons of C&D.

Mr. Bianconi spoke about a letter sent out by the Jefferson County Health District to Aster Oilfield Service, Inc, stating he thought it was a great letter. Mr. Henry explained they issued that letter at end of December and have yet to hear from the Attorney or Mr. Winland himself. Aster Oilfield Service does a lot of demolitions for landbanks and has done a lot of business in both Jefferson and Belmont Counties as well as others nearby. The case of his open dump reached Washington PA who contacted us about the issues. Mr. Winland has yet to abate the nuisance and received its Final Notice from the Jefferson County Health District at the end of December. If we don't hear anything at the end of January it will go to the Prosecutor's Office but being C&D material it's likely going to be just a \$100 fine because the laws don't have a lot of teeth regarding this issue. Obviously, he will still have to clean up the site.

Mr. Bianconi asked Board members if they saw the news report on TV with the Ohio Attorney General's Office speaking about Mr. Scagoza and Crossridge Landfill, how the case just keeps continuing and continuing and how frustrating it is.

Mr. Henry informed the Board that he and a couple of his sanitarians attended an Environmental Crimes Conference on December 14<sup>th</sup> at Salt Fork. He was pleased to see both of the Authority Environmental Enforcement Officers there as well.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Bianconi asked about the Authority Environmental Court status. Mr. Fabian stated he spoke to Attorney Bauer and he said he had forgotten about that with recent issues of Bill 119 and a few other legal issues he was in court with, but that he will begin working on it now.

Mr. Bianconi told the Board that he has spent a lot of time with the Authority staff in recent days and is very impressed with what everyone does, adding our Team does a great job, there is a lot more going on than what he realized.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Next meeting set for Monday, February 12, 2024, at 5:30PM at the Belmont JB Green Team building.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10PM with a motion from Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Luckino. **Vote: All said Aye.**

ATTEST:

  
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Scott Fabian, Chair

  
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Mike Bianconi, Secretary