

**JEFFERSON BELMONT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY  
MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 12, 2024**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Bob Baird, Mike Bianconi, Chuck Dawson, Jerry Echemann, Scott Fabian, George Irvin Jr, Tony Kolanski, Robert Krajnyak, Rob Sproul

**ABSENT:** John Davies, Andrew Henry, Dan Lima, Joe Luckino, James Mavromatis, Mitch Morelli

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

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, February 12, 2024.

**MINUTES:** A motion to approve the January 8, 2024 reorganization meeting minutes was made by Mr. Sproul, seconded by Mr. Echemann. **Vote: Seven said Aye, Mr. Dawson and Mr. Irvin abstained. Motion approved.**

A motion to approve the January 8, 2024 regular monthly meeting minutes was made by Mr. Echemann, and seconded by Mr. Krajnyak. **Vote: Seven said Aye, with Mr. Dawson and Mr. Irvin abstaining. Motion approved.**

Jeff Vaughn of Vaughn, Coast & Vaughn, Inc Engineers addressed the Board about the work needing done to resolve the rainwater erosion issue at the Belmont Building.

Mr. Vaughn provided handouts to the Board showing the work that will need to be done to resolve the rainwater issue causing erosion to the Belmont Building footers. The first was a Belmont County GIS mapping sheet showing a birdseye view of the building with his color-coded markings. He explained that the building sits in a puddle, it should actually have been set 18 inches higher in order for all the water to drain away from it. His markings on the map (in blue) show the roof water generated by rain being routed by existing gutters down the side of the building and discharged at four points around the building which then goes to the footers. He informed the Board that there is also other water moving towards the structure from the North and South side of the building, this and the gutter drainage water gathers there with nowhere to discharge off property. The constraint of the property line (shown in yellow) leaves nowhere for the water to be routed off the property in the normal way.

Mr. Vaughn explained that his concept is to collect the roof water through a gutter system, with box gutters (in blue) on each side of the building, install French drains (in red) on the North and South side to route the other water, put a sump pump on the corners to pull that water up and sheet flow all of it (in green) out front then to Pickering Road where mother nature intended. He will need to get the Township Trustees approval but has already spoken to them unofficially.

The second handout included a photo of the side view of the building with the location (in red) of the box gutters placement that would collect the discharges and prevent the water from going down and collecting at the concrete footer, a drawing of the French drainage pipe covered with gravel with a natural grade, a drawing of the corner sump pumps in the front of the building with small Hot Box on top, a printout sheet of the type of sump pump to be used and a drawing of the Hot Box needed to keep the runoff water from freezing. His plan is to collect the rainwater through this gutter system and install French drains on both sides of the building to bring it out to the front two quarters of the building.

Mr. Dawson asked what voltage would be needed for the pumps. Mr. Vaughn stated the simple single phase 120. The eight-inch box gutters will be sloped enough for the water to drain before freezing. Mr. Dawson asked if any special permits will be required. Mr. Vaughn explained the only permit required here is just to work with the Township Trustees to try to get more of a drainage swale towards the South on the Township Road so it flows towards the highway. Mr. Vaughn stated he would put the details on a drawing that could be used by the Authority for quotes from contractors. The cost for the new system is expected to be about \$50,000.

Mrs. McMillen explained that she spoke to Jim DeNoble from Richland Township recently who said they plan to follow up with Mr. Vaughn about this sometime this week, adding that they want to protect the Authority Building to keep us here as well as the surrounding property. The Trustees are aware the swell on the Township Road would need enhanced. Mr. Vaughn agreed to provide a list of contractors that would be appropriate for this kind of work. He suggested the Authority go to a Township Trustee meeting to work out the details with them.

A Motion to proceed with the suggested improvements on the Belmont Building drainage system to resolve the rainwater drain problem was made by Mr. Dawson. Seconded by Mr. Krajnyak.  
**ROLL CALL VOTE: All said Yes. Motion approved.**

Mr. Bianconi and Mr. Fabian will try to attend an upcoming Richland Township meeting.

#### **STAFF REPORTS:**

##### **Fiscal Report:**

Mr. Renforth reported revenues for \$310,407.81, with expenditures of \$205,761.36 and net income of \$104,626.45. He explained that the \$12,945.90 for the Jefferson Co. Board of Health was for the December 2023 Invoice payment. Mr. Echemann asked what the Shaheen Law Group payment was for. Ms. Petrella explained it was for title search done for the property on Route 40 that the Authority was going to purchase but decided against it. Mr. Renforth reviewed the December Apex Tonnage Report which showed 11,900.13 In-District tonnage, 18,880.62 Out-of-District tonnage, 130,469.23 Out-of-State tonnage for a total of 161,249.98 tons yielding \$245,365.22 in fees.

A motion to accept the fiscal officer's report and approve Expenditures for January 2024 was made by Mr. Echemann and seconded by Mr. Kolanski. **VOTE: Unanimous, Yea, by roll call. Motion passed.**

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

EEO Contract for Belmont County

Ms. Petrella explained that the Belmont County EEO Contract wasn't signed until January 12<sup>th</sup> at the County Commissioners Meeting, and for some reason the Contract start date was dated January 17<sup>th</sup> by someone. She asked if that could be changed to January 1 (like Jeffersons) so that the Authority could pay the Deputies salary for those two weeks. She stated that she was told that it could not be changed and that she was asked to do these Contracts in October for now on to allow time to be complete and signed by January. Members discussed and agreed the date could be changed to reflect the start date of January 1<sup>st</sup> to allow the Authority to be able to pay the first 17 days of the deputy's salary.

#### Ewusiak/Empire Diversified Energy Meeting

Ms. Petrella reported that she met with the Ewusiak and Empire Diversified Energy and toured the facility being constructed in Follansbee with Mr. Renforth and Mrs. Lysle. She explained the Empire Diversified is a separate business than the Ewusiak's facility that is to be built on 3 of his 14 acre property in Mingo Jct. (old Belot Concrete location). She showed photos taken during the tour of the Follansbee facility on a screen and explained some of the process for the plastic products. She explained they want us to drop our recyclables at the Mingo location that we currently pay Kimble to take, she is waiting on the cost to compare with current compactor, transport and other entity costs. This could possibly save on transportation costs. Ewusiak will transport the recyclables to Follansbee Plant which will also be able to take glass. Mr. Renforth added that this is expected to open up a lot of revenue for the Authority, they will take plastics 1-7 which Kimble takes to the landfill. They also have a machine that can detect what grade different metals so we would be paid for their actual value rather than overall scrap value.

Ms. Petrella stated the Follansbee facility will need a lot of volume to run and will be self-sustainable with the electricity generated. Mr. Fabian stated they will produce so much electricity they have plans to make pig iron as well. Ms. Petrella stated that Mr. Ewusiak wants to start taking our recyclables in May of this year. Mr. Renforth explained the system and how the material will run through a 1,600-degree furnace, they will actually be making natural gas and once finished the materials will be vaporized until there is almost nothing left. Ms. Petrella stated they currently generate about 25 jobs and are expecting it to be 200-300. A salesman with Empire Diversified stated they would be able to take used motor oil, which might be something the Authority can revisit down the road to add a collection program of, but she advises to wait for a few years and be sure it will be a long-term program.

Ms. Petrella stated that Waste Management has also meet with her and wants us to haul our recyclables to Neville Island but we will look at all the options before deciding, she is hopeful that eventually we can get rid of the compactor at the Cell Yard and the cost of hauling the materials, but she advises we should wait for a year or two before selling the compactor and committing to be see what works best for the Authority. Mr. Renforth stated the new facility will also be able to take the plastic bags instead of us having to pick them out of our recyclables. Ms. Petrella stated this is not the first facility like this, there is one in California and other Countries. Ms. Petrella stated Waste Management will give us a private tour of their facility in Neville Island in May if any Board members would like to go.

#### Commissioners Meeting

Ms. Petrella reported that she attended the Jefferson County Commissioners meeting for the EEO Contract signing and gave them an update on things.

#### Tire Collections for 2024

Ms. Petrella stated each year there are normally 14 Community Cleanups in Jefferson County to collect household bulk items and passenger size tires. However, this year that had to change due to the Lasting Mulch tire service owner passing away over a year ago and the company is no longer showing any interest in taking the tires for this years collections. Because of this we will only be able to accept tires at four (4) collection dates/locations. The locations can be rotated next year depending on how they go this year. One location will be at the Ewusiak property in Mingo on the same day as the Steubenville Township bulk collection. A local tire shredder, Glenn Dunn will provide the semi-trailers.

**Belmont Garage LED Lights**

Ms. Petrella informed the Board that this garage has 26 burned out bulbs, and to replace them is very expensive so Mrs. McMillen contacted Windsheimer who did previous remodeling for pricing on LED lights. He would replace 32 lights with LED strips, for cost of \$5,956.75. This system would save electricity. He would be replacing the bulbs and leaving the fixtures, the ballast and lights would be replaced. The Board liked the idea of upgrading. Mrs. McMillen said one new bulb would cost the same as running 13 current ones.

Mr. Krajnyak made a Motion to hire Windsheimer to replace the 32 lights with LED as suggested for the cost of \$5,956.75. Mr. Echemann seconded. **VOTE BY ROLL CALL: All said Yes. Motin approved.**

**Community cleanup Schedules**

Ms. Petrella stated copies of the 2024 Schedules are in the meeting packets, but that there is one in Belmont County that is waiting on a commitment. She asked everyone to please note the change in the tire collections because the Authority staff is not capable of hauling the tires to another location if any show up at the wrong collection. This will cost \$2,500 per tire truck at the four scheduled which is why we will only be having four sites.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: Scott Fabian**

None.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Rob Sproul**

None.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: George Irvin**

None

**PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT:**

None.

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

Mr. Bianconi explained to the Board that there were seven 2023 Grant Reports that had issues needing to be addressed in a committee meeting today, which was a much higher than usual amount.

Mr. Bianconi asked Mrs. Lysle to review the issues discussed at the Grant Committee meeting earlier. Mrs. Lysle briefly reviewed the different reporting issues for Grant reports submitted by Bethesda Park District, the Tiltonsville VFD, the Village of Bridgeport, the Village of Shadyside, the Village of Rayland, Village of Brookside, Brookside Fire Department, Brookside Park District and the Bridgeport Lodge #181. Mrs. Lysle explained the Reporting issues regarding each and explained that the Committee deemed the first seven grant reports acceptable if the organizations submit the specified documentation needed which included for most after photos, signage changes, and JBGT Logo photos. The Committee recommended to the Board that Brookside Park District and Bridgeport Lodge 181 be required to return their \$1,000 grant

funds in full immediately for projects/materials purchased which were not outlined in their Grant Application/Agreement. Their projects were completely different than what their applications stipulated.

Mr. Bianconi spoke about the Reports mentioned, a board discussion followed about the incomplete reports, multiple Grant recipients using the same Invoices for items purchased on their reports, the possibility of some entities being ineligible for this year's grants, and required permanent signage issues.

Mr. Bianconi spoke to the Board about a suggestion from Mrs. Lysle to require Grant Progress Reports sometime in the summer as a reminder to grant recipients to work on their Grant Projects and to enable the Authority to address and resolve any issues they may have sooner.

Mr. Bianconi made a motion that the Authority requires the Bridgeport Lodge #181 and the Brookside Park District return their 2023 Grant Funds in full immediately due to violating their grant agreement and not completing their projects as outlined in their Grant Applications. Mr. Irvin seconded. **VOTE BY ROLL CALL: 8 members voting Yes, Mr. Baird abstained citing inexperience with the grant process and requirements and deferring to the Grant Committee. Motion approved.**

**SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT:**

None.

**LANDFILL REPORT:**

With Mr. Henry not in attendance Ms. Petrella quickly reviewed his reports which were included in the Board member packets.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Ms. Petrella stated Mr. Henry had asked about the Board of Health contract, she asked Mr. Fabian if he had the Contract from Attorney Bauer yet. Mr. Fabian stated he would check with Mr. Bauer.

Mr. Fabian reported that Attorney Bauer had been swamped with Senate Bill 119 and had asked another attorney at his law firm to work up the process for establishing an environmental court.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

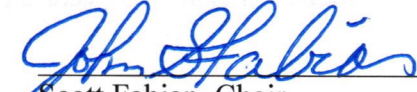
Ms. Petrella informed the Board that she has not received the VIN #'s for the two front loading trucks ordered last June due to arrive this June. We have three (3) 2018 front load trucks that are getting to be in bad shape, one broke down in I70 and was to be towed this afternoon. With #17 repair costs getting very high she asked the Board their thoughts on ordering another one now. She obtained a quote from Isler Equipment for a new AutoCar for \$374,900 which won't be available until 2025. The Trucks are now all AutoCar and she would like to stick with that make. Board members agreed it would be wise to go ahead and order another truck now.

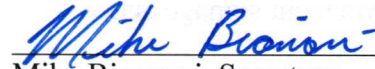
Mr. Bianconi made a Motion to order/purchase a third Front Loading truck. Mr. Irvin seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE: All said yes. Motion passed.**

Next meeting set for Monday, March 11, 2024 at the Jefferson JB Green Team building.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:59pm. by a motion from Mr. Sproul, seconded by Mr. Echemann. All said Aye.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Fabian, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Bianconi, Secretary