

**JEFFERSON BELMONT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES OF OCTOBER 7, 2019**

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Chuck Dawson, Scott Fabian, John Goosman, Robert Krajnyak, Joe Luckino, Rob Sproul
OTHERS: Mark McVey, Nicole Balakos, Anita Petrella, Dave Hays, Natalie Lysle, Commissioner Thomas Gentile

A quorum being present, Chair Rob Sproul called to order the regular meeting of the Finance Committee at the Bellaire Public Library in Bellaire, Ohio at 5:00PM on, Monday, October 7, 2019.

Mr. Sproul stated there has been a request from the Jefferson County Health Department to increase their operating budget.

Mr. Fabian explained the events of a meeting held for three hours last Wednesday between the Jefferson County Health Department and two members of the Jefferson Belmont Regional Solid Waste Authority Board. The first hour was about the Apex Landfill and their Solid Waste, then they explained the history of the Authority to the Health Department, the reasons the Authority keeps a carryover in its funds, and the effects of funding changes from the landfill that resulted in layoffs, in order to come to some sort of common ground. In the end the amount of an additional \$50,000 in funding for 2019 if agreed upon by both full Boards was discussed. Mr. Fabian passed out documentation from Health Department for 2018, he came across over the weekend while putting some numbers together which provided some information on how much of the data being billed to the Authority was for public health not under solid waste.

Mr. Dawson entered the meeting.

Mr. Fabian continued with the Authority contract currently being for \$73,651 for 2019, the Health Department received \$140,000 in C&D fees from the landfill so far in 2019, and have \$200,000 right now to work this program. He stated they were being told about new programs coming in and costing more money, but then they discovered those programs do not exist, they are coming from the local district office trying to get the EPA to do more. Mr. Sproul stated the only way by law they can change the frequency of inspections is to be under orders from the EPA for a violation. Mr. Fabian said he does not believe any of those violations exist right now.

Commissioner Gentile asked to give some background. He spoke on the history of his dealings with the EPA and felt they do not do a proper oversight. The Commissioners regularly have issues with the landfills regarding odor complaints, and believes if they let the program fall back to the EPA we eventually won't get anything from them. He stated that when the new Health Department director began, she discovered the sanitarians were not permitted to write violations by the previous Health Commissioner. Mrs. Balakos changed that and added flex time to employees to allow them surprise visits to the landfills on evenings and weekends. This resulted in them catching Crossridge pumping 30,000 gallon tank of leachate over the hill into a nearby creek. He added he has never seen our local area get a fair shake from Columbus and is concerned about losing local control. He discussed the new Health Director's work, and how she is numbers driven.

Mrs. Balakos entered the meeting.

Mr. Luckino asked about the \$50,000 amount proposed. Mr. McVey explained that he and Mr. Fabian met with them only to discuss the issue and come to some type of common ground. Mr. Sproul

discussed items listed on the sheets provided that were discussed by the Board before, how many are not under the Authorities realm, such as infectious waste. He is not opposed to a slight increase, but would want more details on how the money is being spent. Mr. Goosman stated he has had many dealings with the EPA and local Health Department over the years and has the same feeling as Mr. Gentile. The local staff have shown up quick for complaints, where the EPA coming from Logan, Ohio takes hours. He spent time at Apex and at homes near their while on the Health Board years ago about odor issues, and was impressed with Apex's attempts to alleviate the odors. He believes the Authority should work something out with the Health Department to keep the program local.

Mr. Luckino stated he pleased with the new Director's work, the C&D landfill wouldn't have been caught by EPA, and he is supportive of giving more funds for this year, adding that could change from year to year for different reasons with them possibly not needing as much next year. Mr. McVey agreed the amount will fluctuate from year to year, the contract says the Authority pays the Health Department for the work they do with the stipulation of receiving Quarterly Reports, which they have never received. He would like breakdowns of numbers of numbers and types of inspections, etc be given to the Board.

Mrs. Balakos stated she is currently ending her first Quarter with the Health Department and will provide those amounts when she has them, she is aware of what the contract requires, and has also been giving monthly reports of Apex tonnage and odor complaints at the meetings. She then discussed Joe Scagosa's recent actions of moving stuff off on the C&D property, clearing of the eight (8) acres on Williams Blvd that has been an issue for 20 years. He has had those court orders since 1999 and had just started clearing the property this past weekend.

Commissioner Gentile stated he agreed that the Authority should see what the money is being spent on and the Authority should draw up a list of what is wanted Quarterly to give to the Health Department. Mr. Dawson stated he is also in favor of giving the additional funds. Mr. Krajnyak agreed, and also having the reports provided of details of the spending. The amount to provide was then discussed with rounding up to \$125,000. Mrs. Balakos stated she would have to confirm with her Board on the amount. Mr. Hays suggested for billing purposes to pay based on the contract amount rather than monthly as has been done in the past, subtracting amount already paid for this year and Invoicing the Authority for the balance of that \$125,000.

The possible timing of an Amended Contract being approved by both Boards was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm.