

NEW RIVER SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 13, 2023

The New River Solid Waste Association Board of Directors met for the Regular Board Meeting at 12:00 p.m. on April 13, 2023 with the following members present:

Commissioner Cathy Rhoden, Chairwoman
Commissioner Kenny Thompson, Vice-Chairman
Commissioner James Croft
Commissioner Jimmy Tallman

Others present: Perry Kent, Executive Director
Joel Woolsey, Assistant Director
Melissa Waters, Finance Officer
Lydia Greene, Office Manager/Admin. Asst.
Russ Wade, Board Attorney

Chairwoman Rhoden called the meeting to order. Prayer was led by Commissioner Thompson followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for a motion on agenda item #2, Approval of Expenditures for January, February and March 2023. Commissioner Tallman made a motion to approve the expenditures for January, February and March 2023. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for a motion on agenda item #3, Approval of Regular Board Minutes for January 12, 2023. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Minutes for January 12, 2023. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked if there were any questions or comments from the public. There were none.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion of agenda item #5, Engineering Updates. Mrs. Sawyer, Jones Edmunds, said that Cell 7

Certification Report was submitted to DEP on April 6th and they will have 30 days to review. The certification of the stormwater system with the water management district is the next step and she is working on that now. Mrs. Sawyer added that a very nice article on New River's RNG project was included in the latest SWANA publication Talkin Trash which Jones Edmunds had framed and brought today.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion of Agenda Item #6, Update for LGTE Project and Discuss 2022 Revenues. Mr. Kent said that the RNG project has been ongoing for a while now, initially by virtual pipeline in trucks and now gas is being delivered directly into the pipeline. Mr. Kent said that all is going very well here at New River and that Anthony Falbo, Chief Operating Officer, OPAL Fuels, is attending the meeting via Zoom to talk about our RNG project. Mr. Falbo said that on June 18, 2016 he was at New River when this gas project was awarded, almost 5 years ago. He stated in his career he has been involved with over 100 landfill projects and New River is viewed as their #1 relationship in those 100 projects. The full engagement of the New River team who works with them makes this project so successful. Mr. Falbo said that we will beat the gas production numbers budgeted for this year. Unfortunately, the price of environmental credits is down right now but is expected to go back up as the year goes on, so they will hold our credits and sell when the price goes up. What can be controlled is production and New River is supplying all the gas that is needed at the right quality. Mr. Falbo said that it took a while but we ended up with a great gas rights agreement along with a pipeline connection. He said that he very much appreciates the no-nonsense staff at New River and considers ours a great partnership.

Mr. Kent said that we are coming up on 1 year of selling landfill gas and although initially no one was sure exactly how it would go, it has gone very well. For many years now this has been the goal, to be able to produce gas that could be sold for profit. Mr. Kent said that today he will discuss those profits with the board. At the beginning of the project, we expected monthly payments to be made but found that isn't the best way for the revenue to be paid out. Most of the revenue dollars is in the sale of the RINS which is a variable market-based product. It could take 60 to 90 days or more to sell the RINS at the right price. OPAL determines when to sell the RINS and we have to trust them to sell at the right time to maximize revenues. Mr. Kent said that due to needing to hold our RINS for sale at times, he would like to suggest to the board quarterly payments to the

counties and that the quarterly revenues be split by 4, 1/4 to each of the counties and 1/4 to NRSWA. Mr. Kent said that we are currently exceeding gas production and that he has been able to get staff's buy-in on producing more gas at a better quality in order to make more money for NRSWA. The total distribution for the first quarter of this fiscal year divided by 4 will be \$81,566. This amount will vary based on what is actually received each quarter. Mrs. Waters said that currently we have only received payment for January and that the amount expected for February is \$4,700 because the RINS have been held waiting on prices to go up. She added that what has been discussed is to collect a quarter's worth of income to be paid out the following quarter. Mr. Kent stated that the payments will not be a set amount per quarter but will be based on actual revenue collected which may be harder to budget for by the counties but may be the best way to pay out the revenues. Mr. Wade asked if it would be better for the counties to be paid annually due to budgeting amendments that will need to be made. Commissioner Croft said he would prefer quarterly payments. The board was in agreement. Mr. Kent said that we exceeded the first quarter (October, November, December 2022) revenue payout estimates by \$100,000 and he also hopes to exceed OPAL's estimate for the coming year which is \$800,000. Mr. Kent asked if the board was in agreement on the suggested method of the RNG plant gas revenue payments.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for a motion on the suggested method of payment of revenues from the RNG plant. Commissioner Croft made a motion for payments to be made quarterly as presented and for the revenues to be split 4 ways with a 1/4 going to Baker, Bradford and Union Counties and for NRSWA to receive a 1/4 of the revenues received. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion under Agenda Item #7, Discuss Responses Received for IFB 23-01, Repairs to Entrance Road and Scale Ramps. Mr. Kent said that as previously discussed with the board we will have to perform some repair work as the concrete walls on the scale ramps are separating and a big part of the entrance road is failing also. We have been told by both the state inspector and the scale maintenance company that these repairs need to be made. The project will include pouring concrete on the entrance lane and traffic control to be provided by the contractor as we will be on a tight schedule since we can't close either scale indefinitely. Mr. Kent said 3 responses were received for the IFB issued. The lowest bid price was from M&R Construction of North FL, Inc.

in the amount of \$503,764.00. The other bids received were from Evan Douglas Construction in the amount of \$513,991.00 and Concrete Advantage in the amount of \$619,175.22. Mr. Kent said M&R has done concrete work here at New River previously and staff recommendation is to award the contract to M&R Construction. Chairwoman Rhoden asked if this money was in the budget. Mr. Kent said that this had not been budgeted this year and that the money would be taken from the depreciation account.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for a motion to award IFB 23-01 to M&R Construction. Commissioner Tallman made a motion to award the IFB to M&R Construction. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion under Agenda Item #8, Discuss Quotes Received for Conference Room Remodel. Mr. Kent said that our break room and conference room is in need of remodeling mostly due to problems after 31 years of construction. We received 3 quotes for completing the remodeling of the conference room and breakroom. The lowest quote received was from Cornerstone Construction and Roofing, Inc. in the amount of \$26,250.00. Commissioner Thompson stated that the owner of Cornerstone Construction is his son, Randy Thompson. Mr. Wade said since 4 commissioners are in attendance and a quorum is present a vote can be taken today but Commissioner Thompson will not be able to vote.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for a motion to approve the quote received from Cornerstone Construction in the amount of \$26,250.00 for remodel of the conference and breakroom. Commissioner Tallman made a motion to approve the quote from Cornerstone Construction in the amount of \$26,250.00 for the remodeling project. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion under agenda item #9, Alachua County Issues/Items. Mr. Kent said that there was no one from Alachua County at the meeting today.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for discussion under agenda item #10, Attorney Issues/Items. Mr. Wade stated he did not have anything for discussion.

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Chairwoman Rhoden asked for discussion under agenda item #11, Executive Director Issues/Items. Mr. Kent said he had nothing further to discuss.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for discussion under agenda item #12, Board/Chairman Issues/Items. Commissioner Thompson said he would like to thank everyone for all the good work that is done here at New River.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Tallman. The meeting was adjourned.