The New River Solid Waste Association Board of Directors met in regular session on August 10, 2017 with the following members present:

Commissioner Karen Cossey, Chairwoman
Commissioner James Croft, Vice-Chairman
Commissioner Kenny Thompson, Secretary/Treasurer
Commissioner Chris Dougherty
Commissioner Cathy Rhoden

Others present were:  Darrell O’Neal, Executive Director
Lydia Greene, Office Manager/Admin. Asst.
Russell Wade, Attorney

Chairwoman Cossey called the meeting to order. Prayer was led by Commissioner Dougherty followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
Chairwoman Cossey introduced the new Solid Waste Director for Union County, Kim Hayes.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion on agenda item #2, Approval of Expenditures for May, June and July 2017. Commissioner Dougherty made a motion to approve the expenditures for May, June and July 2017. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion on agenda item #3, Approval of Workshop Minutes for May 11, 2017 and Regular Board Minutes for May 11, 2017. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes for the Workshop Minutes for May 11, 2017 and Regular Board Minutes for May 11, 2017. Commissioner Rhoden seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey asked if there were any questions or comments from the public. There were none.
Chairwoman Cossey called for discussion of agenda item #5, Engineering Updates. Mr. O’Neal asked Mr. Woolsey, Jones Edmunds to update the board on any engineering items.

Mr. Woolsey said he had recently attended an FDEP C&D Workshop to discuss recycling efforts in the C&D industry and how it relates to Florida’s overall 75% recycling goal. The C&D industry is the area where the most recycling can be accomplished but it looks like the ceiling for C&D recycling may have been obtained. Right now, the 75% recycling goal is not being met and DEP plans to report to the state legislature with an action plan on how to meet the recycling goal, or to provide information on revising the 75% recycling goal. Mr. O’Neal added small counties are exempt from the 75% recycling goal but are to provide opportunities for citizens to recycle some materials.

Mr. O’Neal said he had been discussing the possibility of a design project being completed by UF for managing leachate. Mr. O’Neal said there is currently no master plan for all of the different leachate recirculation that is being done at New River. Alachua and Gilchrist counties had been taking their leachate to GRU who has changed their leachate standards to meet surface water standards. The counties have been told not to bring any leachate to GRU. Alachua County has been spraying leachate in the waste before it is brought to New River which is not all bad as it wets the waste and make it heavier but this method is not getting rid of all of their leachate. Mr. O’Neal said he had discussed this leachate recirculation design project with Steve Laux and suggested that UF design a system for New River. The cost estimate for UF to complete this design project is around $20,000. Right now, UF receives $55,000 a year from New River for their student research programs and we could do a budget amendment reducing our engineering services line item to increase UF’s line item to do this project. Mr. Laux said the current UF contract with New River has been ongoing for years now for various research projects and by adding this would now include assisting with leachate recirculation and bioreactor research. Mr. Laux said the design of this new project has a budget of $20,000.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion to approve an increase to the UF research contract by $20,000 to cover the leachate recirculation design project headed up by Mr. Laux. Commissioner Dougherty made a motion to increase the contract with UF by an additional $20,000. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
Chairwoman Cossey called for discussion of Agenda Item #6, Discuss Responses Received for RFP 17-01, Geotechnical Investigation Class I Cell 7 Expansion. Mr. O’Neal said there was a handout prepared showing the four responses received from the RFP. Mr. Woolsey said this project is in connection with preparations for design and construction of Cell 7. Drilling will be done to determine what needs to be included in the design of the foundation portion of the new cell. Mr. Woolsey said all four prices were very close and that there was only about $900 from the highest to the lowest. Southern Earth Sciences, Tallahassee, was the low bidder in the amount of $26,620 and is their recommendation.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion to award RFP 17-01, Geotechnical Investigation Class I Cell 7 Expansion, to Southern Earth Sciences. Commissioner Dougherty made a motion to award RFP 17-01 to Southern Earth Sciences. Commissioner Rhoden seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey called for discussion for Agenda Item #7, Discuss Alachua County RFP for Solid Waste Disposal Services. Mr. O’Neal said that the rankings for the responses to Alachua County’s RFP for Solid Waste Disposal had been provided for the board’s review, but wanted to give some background. In August 2016, the NRSWA board sent a formal proposal to Alachua County BOCC in care of the County Manager in the form of a savings of $2.1 million for an early contract renewal. Nothing was heard back until February 2017 when the County Manager said they were declining to negotiate a contract extension with New River and would be issuing an RFP. An RFP was advertised by Alachua County on February 15th and our response was submitted on April 19th. On May 25th the 5 member evaluation team came to New River to hear our presentation and be given a site tour. The evaluation team then scored each RFP category for each submittal to determine the rankings which were received by New River on July 18th. Mr. O’Neal said that all 5 evaluators ranked New River highest in each category, except for disposal cost. The rankings were presented to the Alachua County BOCC on August 8th and should have been fairly straightforward. However, ACMS and Waste Management sent their attorneys to the commission meeting to dispute the rankings, particularly for environmental stewardship. After much discussion the Alachua BOCC voted to approve the rankings with New River as number one and to proceed with contract negotiations. Mr. O’Neal said that he felt relieved by the
commission’s vote but we still have a long way to go to enter into a new contract with Alachua County. Also interesting was the fact that the Alachua BOCC fired their County Manager at that same board meeting, naming the County Attorney as the interim County Manager as well. Mr. O’Neal said the feels that this may slow things down somewhat but that he will keep the board apprised of what is going on.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for discussion for Agenda Item #8, Approval of Limerock Quotes for July 2017 through December 2017. Mr. O’Neal said that every 6 months we request quotes for limerock. The board is asked to approve all of the quotes that are received and when the limerock is needed, we will request from the company with the lowest price first and then move to the second and so on depending on availability. Mr. O’Neal added that the cost of limerock is included in the budget each year.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for a motion to approve all limerock quotes received and to purchase from the company with the lowest price first depending on availability. Commissioner Croft made a motion to approve the limerock quotes received. Commissioner Dougherty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for discussion under agenda item #9, HHW Toxic Roundup Costs for 2017. Mr. O’Neal said the volume of household hazardous waste collected has increased which represents a lot of unwanted waste diverted from our landfill but did increase our costs. This year we were over the budgeted amount by $217.25. For budgeting purposes for next year we used the same budget number, however, we may need to look at increasing the budget for this item if this trend continues.

Chairwoman Cossey called for discussion of agenda item #10, Alachua County Issues/Items. Mr. O’Neal said there was no one from Alachua County at the meeting.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for any discussion under agenda item #11, Attorney Issues/Items. Mr. Wade said he did not have anything for discussion.

Chairwoman Cossey called for any discussion under agenda item #12, Executive Director Issues/Items. Mr. O’Neal said he did not have anything further for discussion.
Chairwoman Cossey asked for discussion of agenda item #13, Board/Chairman Issues/Items. Commissioner Croft said he had been asked by Robert Fletcher, Solid Waste Director, for any help with waste tire disposal issues. Commissioner Croft was advised to have Mr. Fletcher contact the office to discuss waste tire disposal options for Baker County.

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