

NEW RIVER SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 10, 2023

The New River Solid Waste Association Board of Directors met for the Regular Board Meeting at 12:00 p.m. on August 10, 2023 with the following members present:

Commissioner Cathy Rhoden, Chairwoman
Commissioner Kenny Thompson, Vice-Chairman
Commissioner Channing Dobbs, Secretary/Treasurer
Commissioner James Croft
Commissioner Chris Dougherty
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 May, June and July 2023. Commissioner Dougherty made a motion to approve the expenditures for May, June and July 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 May 11, 2023. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Minutes for May 11, 2023. Commissioner Dougherty 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. Ms. Sawyer, Jones Edmunds, said that a walkthrough of the scale concrete project was conducted this morning and that the project is very close to completed. The contractor is scheduled to come next week for some repairs and cleanup that need to be done and that we expect to see the final survey soon. She added that they are working on the annual reporting for Title V.

Ms. Sawyer said that the New River RNG project was selected as ASCE 2023 project of the year which was presented in July 2023. Mr. Woolsey added that NRSWA was selected for a presentation on New River's landfill gas project at the SWANA Florida Summer Conference on July 24, 2023. Mr. Kent said that Mr. Woolsey gave the presentation and did an excellent job which received a lot of good feedback and that our project will be the template for future projects.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion of Agenda Item #6, Update – OPAL RNG Plant. Mr. Kent said that a meeting was held while at the SWANA conference with OPAL Fuels. The contract states that we are to provide 1500 scfm and we are now producing 2000 scfm so we are exceeding production numbers. We are adding new gas wells and getting Cell 7 on line so we are expecting to reach 2300-2500 scfm about mid-year next year and when that happens the plant will have to expand. Mr. Kent said that he also asked about revenue. OPAL stated they feel like we are on track to reach the projected sales and revenue numbers. Commissioner Croft asked about the gas market. Mr. Kent said that our RIN numbers are locked in for 3 years which is good news and gas prices will always fluctuate so we will have to see what the gas market does.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion under Agenda Item #7, Discuss Issuing RFQ for Engineering Services. Mr. Kent said that the current contract with Jones Edmunds ends effective October 1, 2023. He would like to take a look at other engineering firms to see what else is out there. The timeline that has been put together is to advertise the RFQ notice August 14th with a due date of September 25, 2023. Staff would then meet with the firms who submit responses and present a staff recommendation to the board at the November 9th board meeting along with their presentations. Mr. Kent added that he would like to hire more than one engineering firm and preferably add one that is stronger in gas. Mr. Kent said that there may not be one out there that fits our needs but he would like to take a look.

Commissioner Dougherty asked if we would vote for the engineering firm on November 9th. Mr. Kent said that his plan was to have the firms here at that board meeting for their presentations. Mr. Kent said Jones Edmunds has agreed to continue working with no loss of engineering services to New River during the selection timeframe. Mr. Kent said staff would rank the top 3 firms for presenting to the board. Commissioner Dougherty said that Bradford County has moved to hiring multiple engineering firms.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for a motion to issue an RFQ for Engineering Services. Commissioner Dougherty made a motion to issue the RFQ for Engineering. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion under Agenda Item #8, Discuss Recap of Annual Toxic Waste Roundup Events. Mr. Kent asked Ms. Greene to discuss the Annual Toxic Waste Roundup for 2023. This year's roundup events went very well with a big variety of toxic waste items diverted from the landfill. This year the toxic waste collected was reported back in quantities of items collected instead of the previously reported pounds and tons. This is a truer reflection of what was actually collected during these event days in each county. Ms. Greene reminded the board that any citizen from our member counties could participate in any event and that it is not address specific. Also, Alachua County's Hazardous Waste Collection Facility is open to our citizens all year to use at no charge to the citizen.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion under agenda item #9, Discuss Extending Limerock Quotes through December 2023. Mr. Kent said that we would like to extend the limerock quotes that were submitted for January through June for the remainder of the year until December 31, 2023. All three companies, Robby Worrell Construction, Liberty Trucking and Pritchett Trucking, have agreed to extend the amounts quoted through June 2023 for the additional 6 months.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for a motion to approve extending the limerock quotes for an additional 6 months. Commissioner Tallman made a motion to approve extending the limerock quotes through December 2023. Commissioner Dougherty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion under agenda item #10, Alachua County Issues/Items. Mr. Gus Olmos, Alachua County Solid Waste, attended via Zoom and commented on the Household Hazardous Roundup Events held in the three member counties. Mr. Olmos said that he has been involved in the programs for more than 25 years and has seen a lot of growth.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for discussion under agenda item #11, Attorney Issues/Items. Mr. Wade stated he had nothing for discussion.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for discussion under agenda item #12, Executive Director Issues/Items. Mr. Kent said he did not have anything else for discussion.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for discussion under agenda item #13, Board/Chairman Issues/Items. Commissioner Tallman asked about a burnt home recently in Union County and asked how the other counties helped in these situations. Mr. Kent explained that New River is not allowed to waive any disposal fees under statute and auditing regulations. In the past, the counties were provided extra money in the host fees that New River sends to the counties each month to cover and pay for any disposal fees they agreed to pay for at the county level. New River would bill the county for these loads.

Commissioner Dougherty introduced Scott Kornegay, Bradford County Manager and Jason Dodds, Bradford County Public Works Director, who was attending the meeting today and would be touring the landfill after the meeting.

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