

NEW RIVER SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 9, 2024

The New River Solid Waste Association Board of Directors met for a Regular Board Meeting at 12:00 p.m. on May 9, 2024 with the following members present:

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

Others present: Perry Kent, Executive 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 April 2024. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the expenditures for April 2024. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for a motion on agenda item #3, Approval of Regular Board Minutes for April 11, 2024. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Minutes for April 11, 2024. 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, Discuss Engineering Updates, Jones Edmunds Work Order #114, NRRL Master Planning. Ms. Sawyer, Jones Edmunds, said that Work Order #114 is for Master Planning for Phase 2 for initial planning and evaluation of the entire

site. The total for Work Order #114 is \$124,178. Ms. Sawyer said that Phase 1 remaining life is conservatively estimated at 9 to 12 years. Mr. Kent added that included in the work order is the wetlands and borrows which needs to be part of the Phase 2 planning. It's expected that this will take several years.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for a motion on Work Order #114 in the amount of \$124,178. Commissioner Tallman made a motion to approve Work Order #114 as presented. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for discussion of agenda item #6, Update OPAL RNG Plant. Mr. Kent said that everything continues to go smoothly and that OPAL is evaluating plans to upgrade the plant to accept the gas we are producing and also that Cell 7 will be producing gas early due to gas collection system already in place. Mr. Kent said he would like to remove this item from the agenda and only report items for when discussion when necessary. The board was in agreement.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for discussion of agenda item #7, Discuss FY 2023 Escrow Audit. Mr. Brendan McKitrick, James Moore, said he would be presenting both the Escrow and Financial audits for FY 2023. He said he would like to thank the board for the opportunity to perform the audits and added a thank you to Melissa Waters and Lora Douglas, DDF, for their help. Mr. McKitrick stated the escrow audit was completed and submitted to the state as required by the due date of March 31, 2024.

Mr. McKitrick provided a handout for the Financial Audit for the board. He stated that an unmodified opinion was given which is the best opinion an auditor can give. There were no internal control or compliance matters reported, there were no modifications under the Auditor General Report and the Association was in compliance with specified statutes. The handout included comments under required communications and that there were no issues or disagreements with management. A history of Unrestricted Net Position as a percentage of Operating Revenues for the past 4 years was provided. Other highlights provided were that Net Pension Liability shows all contributions were made. The landfill's restricted cash of \$14,581,606, liabilities of \$13,768,329 and restricted new position of \$8,750,742 was reported. Mr. McKitrick asked if the board had any questions. There were none.

Ms. Douglas asked Mr. McKitrick to discuss the Escrow Audit as the board would need to vote on that separately. Mr. McKitrick stated that there

were no issues found with the Escrow Audit which had been completed and submitted to the state as required by March 31st.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for a vote to approve the FY 2023 Escrow Audit which was completed and submitted to the state as discussed. Commissioner Tallman made a motion to approve the Escrow Audit. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for a motion on the FY 2023 Financial Audit presented by Mr. McKittrick under Agenda Item #8. Commissioner Tallman made a motion to approve the FY 2023 Financial Audit. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion under agenda item #9. Discuss Proposed Budget FY 2024-2024. Mr. Kent stated that we are currently at 50% of the current budget and the estimates are as predicted. Our tons are up some and the budget is balanced with no increases in tipping fees. The budget includes a 5% increase in salaries. Engineering expenses include 2 big projects which are Initial Planning for Phase 2 site and Phase 2 EGC (Exposed Geomembrane Cover). DEP will release our closure funds for the EGC project. The EGC cap will help with weather issues and improve gas collection. Mr. Kent said our contracted agreements are due to be renewed effective October 1st and that these increases are unknown. He would like to know if the board would be in agreement to contact these contractors to see if they would be willing to extend their contracts at current prices. The agreements for those who aren't willing to renew will need to have RFPs issued for an effective date of October 1st. Mr. Kent added that the budget includes purchasing a new compactor and a D8 the following year with money already in escrow. MR. Kent asked if there were any questions from the board. There were none.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for a motion to approve the proposed budget for FY 2024-2025. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approved the budget as presented. Commission Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for discussion under agenda item #10, Discuss 826K Compactor Purchase. Mr. Kent said that as discussed during the budget item, our current compactor is getting close on hours and that Ringpower has one on state contract pricing they are holding for us. The cost is \$960,284 with a buyback of \$200,000 on the old compactor for a total of

\$760,284. He would like to get the approval from the board to make the purchase.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for a motion to approve purchase of a new 826K compactor. Commissioner Tallman made a motion to approve the purchase of the 826K compactor. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion of agenda item #11, Discuss RFQ 24-01 Professional Investment and Financial Services. Mr. Kent said that one response was received for the RFQ issued for Professional Investment and Financial Services which was from the Barber Group with an office located in Lake Butler. Mr. Kelly Barber and Ms. Alyssa Fortner were attending the meeting today. Mr. Kent advised that staff has reviewed their submittal and that it is staff recommendation that we contract with The Barber Group for these services as it is important that the association's investments are in the right place for maximum return. Mr. Barber spoke to the board about their company and stated that they are a local company which is also part of Raymond James located in St. Pete and who has a large customer base. Mr. Kent advised that the first task will be to develop an investment policy. Mr. Kent said that he would like to ask the board to allow staff and Chairwoman Rhoden to meet with the Barber Group to discuss and sign the contract.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked the board for a motion. Commissioner Croft made a motion for Chairwoman Rhoden and staff to discuss and sign the contract for Professional Investment and Financial Services with the Barber Group. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for discussion of agenda item #12, Discuss Renewal of Current Contracted Agreements. Mr. Kent said as discussed under the budget item, he would like board approval to offer an extension of current contracted agreements to our current contractors and find out who would be willing to renew at current rates before going out for RFPs. The board was in agreement.

Chairwoman Rhoden asked for any discussion under agenda item #12, Attorney Issues. Mr. Wade said he did not have anything for discussion.

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Chairwoman Rhoden called for discussion under agenda item #14, Executive Director Issues/Items. Mr. Kent said he did not have anything else for discussion.

Chairwoman Rhoden called for any discussion under agenda item #15, Board/Chairman Issues/Items. There were none.

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.