The New River Solid Waste Association Board of Directors met in regular session on May 11, 2017 with the following members present:

Commissioner Karen Cossey, Chairwoman
Commissioner Kenny Thompson, Secretary/Treasurer
Commissioner Chris Dougherty
Commissioner Cathy Rhoden

Others present were: Darrell O’Neal, Executive Director
Perry Kent, Assistant Director
Melissa Waters, Chief Finance Officer
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 called for a motion on agenda item #2, Approval of Expenditures for April 2017. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the expenditures for April 2017. Commissioner Dougherty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion on agenda item #3, Approval of Special Called Board Minutes for April 18, 2017. Commissioner Dougherty made a motion to approve the minutes for the Special Called Board Meeting Minutes for April 18, 2017. Commissioner Thompson 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 said Item “A”, is to discuss renewing our contract with Jones Edmunds for Engineering Services. Mr. O’Neal said that we are in the middle several major projects right now and he would like
to recommend renewal of our engineering contract with Jones Edmunds for a 3 year period. This will allow us to continue work that has begun on all of our projects without disruption while keeping the same rates for budgeting purposes.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion to approve renewing the engineering contract with Jones Edmunds for a 3 year period. Commissioner Rhoden made a motion to approve renewing the engineering contract with Jones Edmunds for a 3 year period. Commissioner Dougherty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for discussion of agenda item “B”, Miscellaneous Updates/Items. Mr. Woolsey, Jones Edmunds, said for engineering updates the big project they are currently working with staff on is the expansion to the gas collection system to bring cell 5 up to date and to include required collection for cell 6 instead of the voluntary collection that has been done up until now. Mr. Woolsey said that New River staff is doing the construction on this project and has done a great job. Mr. Woolsey added this is not the type of project a landfill staff is typically able to do.

Chairwoman Cossey called for discussion of Agenda Item #6, Discuss Alachua County RFP for Solid Waste Disposal Services. Mr. O’Neal said the last time this board met was the day before our response to the RFP was submitted including our price. Mr. O’Neal said our response was more than 400 pages which included our permits, insurance and other documents. The RFP submittal was a group effort with Mr. Woolsey as the author of most of our response. Mr. O’Neal said the Waste Management proposal for Chesser Island was around 100 pages. Heart of Florida Landfill, owned by Charlie Dean, was the third submittal to the RFP. Mr. O’Neal said a summary was prepared for the three proposals submitted showing disposal and transportation prices along with the differences. The RFP allowed for 35 points for disposal price, and 50 points for environmental attributes and carbon emissions. Mr. O’Neal said he feels we did an excellent job to obtain the most points we could. This summary shows the prices as he feels Alachua County will look at them and looks like after adding in transportation costs, the differences are only .05 cents from Waste Management and $2.50 from ACMS/HOF. Mr. O’Neal added that ACMS/HOF also submitted a price for transportation of $14 per ton using a Miami based company who has no governmental contract hauling experience. The difference in ACMS/HOF and New River with their transportation price in the bid is $9.50 per ton. Mr. O’Neal said that as
discussed in the budget workshop, at the Alachua County Commission meeting on Tuesday, the commission approved signing an interlocal agreement with Marion County to study the feasibility of a solid waste authority with Alachua, Marion and other counties south of Marion County. Mr. O’Neal said that he did attend the commission meeting and spoke to the commission about Alachua County discussing the opportunity of being part of a solid waste authority with New River Regional Landfill. He was cautioned by their attorney of speaking to the commission while the RFP was active. Mr. O’Neal said this board may want to offer Alachua County an equal share membership at New River and if so, that would probably stop them from looking at another solid waste authority because of the cost to get there. Mr. O’Neal said we have treated Alachua County as a preferred customer here and with special wastes that they asked to direct haul to New River. Commissioner Rhoden said she watched the video of the Alachua County Commission meeting this Tuesday and felt that the commission comments were more favorable for New River than the staff comments were. Mr. O’Neal said that we are not yet finished with the RFP and are waiting to hear when the date for the site visit with the evaluation team has been scheduled. Commissioner Dougherty said that he had looked into Marion County’s strategic plan for 2020 which does include a reference to additional revenue from solid waste, so he feels this is referring to the solid waste authority they are discussing and that there plans are to try to get Alachua County’s waste like we are trying to do. Mr. Kent said after the RFP was issued Putnam County approached Alachua County to discuss getting their solid waste but could not discuss it at that time due to the RFP. Mr. Kent said the frustrating part is we aren’t sure how Alachua County will be awarding points for the RFP submittals. Mr. O’Neal said Bradford County and Alachua County had a meeting in March to discuss connections between the two counties and that he knows that Alachua County is concerned about the mining decisions and it’s affects to the environment. Commissioner Rhoden asked about Columbia County and what they do with their waste. Mr. O’Neal said they have their own landfill and are not interested in taking any additional waste or taking their waste to any other locations. Columbia County’s population is about the same as our 3 member counties and their disposal cost is about $58 ton, so that is what we would be looking at without Alachua County. Commissioner Dougherty said his thoughts are that if we lose Alachua County, we will lose the money that comes back to the county and tipping fees will go up, so maybe we should think about offering Alachua County an equal membership at New River to
avoid losing more than we would without them. Mr. O’Neal said he did send information to all of the member counties that pointed out the financial impact to the counties if we did lose Alachua County’s waste. Mr. Woolsey said one good thing that came from the board meeting is that it would be years before a solid waste authority would be in place, so our focus right now should remain on being ranked #1 in the RFP process.

Chairwoman Cossey called for discussion for Agenda Item #7, Discuss Proposed Budget for FY 2017-2018 and that for the record a budget meeting was held at 4:00 today and the recommendation was to submit the proposed budget as presented to the board for approval at the regular board meeting. Chairwoman Cossey asked for any questions on the proposed budget. There were none.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion to approve the budget for FY 2017-18. Commissioner Dougherty made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Commissioner Rhoden seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for discussion for Agenda Item #8, Alachua County Issues/Items. Mr. O’Neal said there was no one from Alachua County at the meeting.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for discussion under agenda item #9, Attorney Issues/Items. Mr. Wade did not have anything for discussion.

Chairwoman Cossey called for discussion of agenda item #10, Executive Director Issues/Items. Mr. O’Neal said that he received a call from the Union County Chairman asking him to attend the Union County Commission meeting this Monday night. Mr. O’Neal said he advised Commissioner Tallman he would ask this board for approval to attend. Commissioner Rhoden asked for the attorney opinion as to Mr. O’Neal’s attendance. Mr. Wade said he did not see an issue with Mr. O’Neal attending. The board was in agreement. Mr. Kent said he wanted to share a message from his staff that they appreciate the board’s support.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for discussion of agenda item #11, Board/Chairman Issues/Items. Commissioner Dougherty said he
appreciated the work done by the staff, engineers and attorney on the RFP submitted for New River.

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.