

NEW RIVER SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 12, 2015

The New River Solid Waste Association Board of Directors met in regular session on November 12, 2015 with the following members present:

Commissioner Mark Hartley, Chairman
Commissioner Karen Cossey, Vice-Chairman
Commissioner Gordon Crews
Commissioner Jimmy Tallman

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

Chairman Hartley called the meeting to order which was followed in prayer led by Commissioner Crews and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Hartley called for a motion on agenda item #2, Approval of Expenditures for September and October 2015. Commissioner Cossey made a motion to approve the expenditures for September and October 2015. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hartley called for a motion on agenda item #3, Approval of Regular Board Minutes for September 10, 2015. Commissioner Crews made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting Minutes for September 10, 2015. Commissioner Cossey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hartley asked if there were any questions or comments from the public. There were none.

Chairman Hartley called for discussion of agenda item #5, Engineering Updates. Mr. Joel Woolsey, Jones Edmunds, said there is a Work Order to present for approval. Work Order #67, is for EGC Closure Design and Permitting in the amount of \$200,000.00 which has to do with

preparing the landfill for closure. DEP has approved using EGC, Exposed Geomembrane Cover, as an alternate procedure which means it is not specifically in the regulations but that it has been demonstrated to be equal to, or better than this is what the regulations require. Mr. Woolsey said the closure for the entire landfill will be planned and then a close-as-you-go plan will be implemented. Mr. O'Neal confirmed this amount was already within the budget for this item.

Chairman Hartley asked for a motion to approve Work Order #67, EGC Closure Design and Permitting in the amount of \$200,000.00. Commissioner Crews made a motion to approve Work Order #67 as presented. Commissioner Cossey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Woolsey added that he would like to update the board on the permit renewal for the landfill operations permit which was last renewed 5 years ago. The permit application renewal is due to DEP on December 18th. A pre-application meeting was held with DEP to discuss the permit application, including incorporating the EGC closure plans and how closure will be implemented. Mr. Woolsey said it was a very good meeting and that DEP has said they like working with New River and had no issues whatsoever with the permit renewal application discussion. The plan is submit the application ahead of the due date for DEP's review and approval. Mr. Woolsey added that the goal this time is to renew the operations permit for the maximum number of years allowed which is between 10 and 20 years.

Chairman Hartley called for discussion of Agenda Item #6, LGTE: Discuss Interconnect Feasibility Study Agreement with Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc. Mr. O'Neal asked Mr. Beer to update the board. Mr. Beer said there was a meeting at New River last week to go over the 50% Design Documents. This is where the engineering drawings are reviewed and commented on by the group. From this step, the next move is to the final construction documents. Mr. Beer stated that everything is on schedule. Mr. Beer added that in order to get the interconnect agreement with Seminole Electric the facility has to become a qualified facility which is completed by FERC, Federal Electric Regulatory Commission. Mr. Beer said this has been completed along with notifications to DEP and the Public Service Commission for the State of Florida. Mr. O'Neal said he would like to plan a ground breaking ceremony when construction begins in addition to a grand opening ceremony when the LGTE plant is up and running, as this is a significant project for our community and we need to let folks know what

we are doing. Mr. Woolsey stated that up to this point, FEP has met all schedules and have exceeded their contractual requirements on this project.

Chairman Hartley asked for discussion of agenda item #7, Discuss developing an RFP to hire a Public Relations Firm. Mr. O'Neal said that there is a lot of discussion about education for recycling, re-use, and use of terms like sustainability. However, very little is being said about what isn't recycled, where that material goes and what happens to it when it gets here to our landfill, where we use a treat-as-you-go system. Mr. O'Neal added that New River Regional Landfill is well known around the country and the world, but we aren't very well known locally for our accomplishments and our landfill management practices. He has had conversations with local business people in Alachua County who know nothing about New River and where their waste ends up. Mr. O'Neal said that he feels it is becoming apparent we need to promote ourselves particularly in our region and considering the amount of our landfill capacity and the stiff competition. Whether it serves to help with our contract with Alachua County or for other contracted waste, Mr. O'Neal added he feels it would be a big benefit to New River to hire a public relations firm who has the business connections to promote New River with projects like the LGTE plant and who could use our projects and accomplishments appropriately and for maximum exposure. Mr. O'Neal said he would like to recommend drafting and issuing an RFP for a public relations firm. Based on responses received, he would suggest having the top 3 companies make a presentation to the board for final selection and then the board could determine how to go forward from there. Mr. O'Neal stated he feels there is a void of getting what we do here at New River out to the general public. Commissioner Cossey said she felt like this is a good idea. Mr. Woolsey said that New River is well known in the technical community but that there is a perceived glut of airspace and the general public doesn't realize that landfills can be sustainable and that New River in fact runs a sustainable landfill. Mr. Woolsey added that the definition of sustainability is to meet the current generations needs while protecting future generations so as to meet their needs while protecting the environment. This is the essence of what New River does. Also, even with all the sustainability and recycling, people do admit that landfills are and will continue to be necessary. Mr. Woolsey said that when New River's sustainability practices are more widely published, waste may come to the landfill because it meets the sustainability requirements of the communities. Mr. Woolsey added that our LGTE project is a first of it's kind accomplishment for this area and for Seminole and Clay Electric and is

definitely worth the publicity. Chairman Hartley commented that there is a big difference in visiting other landfills and comparing them to New River. Mr. O'Neal said there is also a big difference between public and private landfills and where the money is spent. At public landfills the money goes back into the facility while private landfill money goes to the investors. The differences can be seen by looking at the facilities. Commissioner Crews asked the cost of hiring a public relations firm. Mr. O'Neal said that the firm selected by the board will come up with a plan for New River and the Board would determine how much they would want to spend. Mr. Woolsey said the cost is typically based on a variety of options and that it would be up to the board to decide on how much it wants to do. Mr. O'Neal added that most publicity campaigns are for more than one year and he feels that a three year plan may be best for New River.

Chairman Hartley called for a motion to develop an RFP for hiring a public relations firm. Commissioner Cossey made a motion to approve an RFP for hiring a public relations firm. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hartley asked how quickly this could be done. Mr. O'Neal replied that he would get an RFP out fairly quickly and hoped to have responses back for the December meeting.

Chairman Hartley called for discussion for agenda item #8, Discuss donating remaining Carbon Credits to the UF Office of Sustainability. Mr. O'Neal said that we have approximately 14,000 carbon credits left and no buyers other than Neutral Gator who buys 1,000 credits or so annually. There also isn't any market for the vintage carbon credits we have left and we are having to pay a storage fee to CAR of \$500.00 annually. Mr. O'Neal said he had a discussion with the UF Office of Sustainability who said if we could donate the carbon credits, they could definitely use them as the carbon credits will fit into UF's program. In return, they will publish a public relations piece highlighting New River and UF. Mr. Woolsey said they want carbon credits that are tied to their system as ours are since their waste comes to New River.

Chairman Hartley called for a motion to donate New River's remaining Carbon Credits to the UF Office of Sustainability. Commissioner Tallman made a motion to donate our remaining Carbon Credits to UF. Commissioner Cossey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hartley asked for discussion for agenda item #9, Discuss Service Charge Increases on Capital City Bank Accounts effective October 1, 2015. Mr. O'Neal asked Ms. Waters for recent service charge information on our Capital City accounts. Ms. Waters said as of today the Operating Account shows a \$39.00 decrease in interest but also does not have the \$45.00 fee, so basically there is no significant change at this time. Mr. O'Neal said that we had discussed monitoring the changes in fees by the bank to these accounts and report back to the board. Ms. Waters added this account does have a \$1.1 million decrease in the average balance due to recent purchases of new equipment. Chairman Hartley asked if had looked at other banks. Commissioner Cossey suggested we go ahead and look at other banks and what they have to offer.

Chairman Hartley called for a motion on developing and issuing an RFP for banking services. Commissioner Cossey made a motion to develop and issue an RFP for banking services. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hartley called for discussion of agenda item #10, Alachua County: Discuss recent tour of NRRL by Deputy County Manager, James Harriott, Jr. P. E. Ms. Palmi said she and Mr. Harriott had come to New River for a tour last week and he was very impressed. Mr. Harriott had encouraged Mr. O'Neal and Mr. Kent to reach out to their county commissioners to see if they would like to come for a tour also. Ms. Palmi said they have seen a few other landfills recently and Mr. Harriott's reaction upon arrival at New River was that this was definitely different. Ms. Palmi added that it really does make a difference how well New River runs its landfill and it is very much appreciated. Mr. O'Neal said that Mr. Harriott's background is not in solid waste and mentioned that they were just beginning to look at the contract process and will of course do what's best for Alachua County. Mr. O'Neal added that he had provided a handout highlighting the benefits of Alachua County continuing to do business with New River along with an updated draft agreement in order to start a conversation. He also advised Mr. Harriott that even though the contract expires in 3 years, there would be immediate savings for Alachua County if it was renewed sooner rather than later. Ms. Palmi added that Dr. Townsend attended the tour and it was good to have him there. Ms. Palmi said she would like to comment about getting a public campaign going for New River. They have always used a private firm to help them promote their recycling, curbside collection, rural collection services and household hazardous waste programs and it is a big benefit for their citizens. Ms.

Palmi said they are using Frankel Media right now who does a great job for them. The last time an RFP was issued they only received 2 responses. Ms. Palmi added she could share the contract and RFP if it would help. Ms. Palmi said that everything else is going well and it was good to see everyone.

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

Chairman Hartley called for discussion under agenda item #12, Executive Director Issues/Items. Mr. Kent said he would like to tell the board that the employees really appreciate the purchase of the new fusion welder equipment which will make working on the side slopes a lot safer, will let the job go much quicker and save quite a bit of money also. Mr. O'Neal stated that we will have a December meeting and election of officers.

Chairman Hartley asked for discussion under agenda item #13, Board/Chairman Issues/Items. Commissioner Cossey said Ms. Glennon's dad had passed away recently and wanted to let everyone know as she will be getting flowers for the service.

Chairman Hartley called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cossey made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Tallman. The meeting was adjourned.