

NEW RIVER SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
April 12, 2018

The New River Solid Waste Association Board of Directors met for a Regular Board Meeting at 4:30 p.m. on April 12, 2018 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  
Commissioner Jimmy Tallman

Others present were: Darrell O'Neal, Executive Director  
Perry Kent, Assistant Director  
Melissa Waters, Finance Officer  
Lydia Greene, Office Manager/Admin. Asst.  
Russ Wade, Board Attorney

Chairwoman Cossey called the meeting to order. Prayer was led by Commissioner Croft followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion on agenda item #2, Approval of Expenditures for February and March 2018. Commissioner Dougherty made a motion to approve the expenditures for January 2018. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion on agenda item #3, Approval of Special Called Board Minutes for February 8, 2018. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes for the Special Called Board Minutes for February 8, 2018. 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 the engineering items. Mr. Woolsey said there were a few brief updates for the board. The first was for Cell 7. Jones Edmunds has been working on the permit for Cell 7 to expand the landfill. The permit will be sent to DEP within the next 3 to 4 weeks. Mr. Woolsey said the permit for Cell 7 is pretty straight forward and the board would be kept apprised as the permitting process continues.

Mr. Woolsey said that the last day for questions on the RFP for Landfill Gas to Energy Project was yesterday. There were some good questions sent along with requests to open up for other options for our landfill gas, including a landfill gas to diesel fuel project. The responses will be ready on Monday in the form of an Addendum to the RFP. Right now the due date is April 25<sup>th</sup> and it may take some time to evaluate the submittals but the goal is to have the review completed by the next board meeting.

Chairwoman Cossey called for discussion of Agenda Item #6, Discuss Escrow Audit FY 2016-2017 – DDF. Ms. Lora Douglas, DDF, said that the Escrow Audit was completed in March and this is for the funds that have been set aside for closure. Ms. Douglas said the audit has been provided to the board. On page 3, the beginning balance is shown as almost \$12.5 million with an ending balance of almost \$12.8 million for an increase of \$296,000 of which \$215,000 came from the Operating Account. Ms. Douglas said on page 4, Note 2, the amount required to fund this account for closing is specified by Florida Administrative Code. Each year the engineers provide estimates of landfill life exhausted and landfill life remaining for a calculation of closing cost estimates. Based on the calculation, the amount required for closure is \$12,581,895. The total in the closure account is \$12,727,658 for an excess funding amount of \$145,763. Ms. Douglas stated regulations require that these funds may not be taken out of this account. Mr. O’Neal added that even though our Class III area has been dug up, we still have some asbestos material that must be removed before the Class III closure fund can be eliminated and that money can be transferred out of the closure account for Class III to the closure account for Class I.

Ms. Douglas said page 5 shows funds of \$64,680 which is 1/30 of the amount for long-term care for Class III and is the amount required by DEP, but none is currently required for Class I as it is still open. Ms. Douglas added that long-term care funding is not required until the time of closure but it is her recommendation that this account be funded before the landfill closes and long-term care becomes the responsibility of the counties. Although some funds have been set aside for long-term care, this account for

Class I has not been funded. As of September 30, 2017, the estimated long-term care costs for Class I was \$8,011,640 and for Class III \$1,940,387.

Ms. Douglas stated Note 5 shows the accounts that the landfill escrow funds were in, CSB had \$2,787,351 and Florida Local Government Trust had \$10,004,987.

Ms. Douglas said that New River's accounts meet the state's requirements and everything is in compliance. The escrow audit had been submitted to the State in order to meet the March deadline.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion to approve the Escrow Audit by DDF for FY 2016-2017 as presented. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the Escrow Audit for FY 2016-2017. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey called for discussion for Agenda Item #7, Discuss moving equipment to surplus for auction. Mr. Kent said that the list provided to the board shows equipment that has required replacement or is no longer of use to New River. In order to be auctioned, this equipment must be surplus by board action. Chairwoman Cossey said there are 4 pieces of equipment listed for surplus: a CAT wheel loader tractor, John Deere grader, CAT D6N bulldozer and CAT 304C mini excavator. Commissioner Croft asked about the procedure after the equipment is surplus. Mr. Kent said that we will contact an auction company, IronPlanet, who we've used before and who will come to the landfill to take pictures and videos if needed and then list the items for sale on the internet. Our last auction had better results than we expected by about 30% more and far better than a trade-in value. Commissioner Thompson asked if the equipment was working now. Mr. O'Neal said yes and that the plan is to auction the equipment while it's in working condition and before something breaks and needs to be repaired.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for a motion to approve surplus the listed equipment for auction. Commissioner Dougherty made a motion to surplus the equipment as discussed for auction. Commissioner Rhoden seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for discussion for Agenda Item #8, Discuss converting rental of CAT 308 track hoe equipment to purchase. Mr. Kent said that right now staff is doing gas construction and placing the 16" force main on the side slope of the landfill. The pipes are 50 foot long and weigh about 2200 pounds. The equipment we currently owned was not big enough to handle the material so a bigger piece of equipment was rented.

Right now there is approximately 3000 foot of pipe left to install which will take another 2 to 3 months to complete. We have currently spent about \$54,000 of rental expense on the trackhoe. Mr. Kent said Ringpower will convert all of the rental paid toward the purchase of the machine which cost \$112,000 if we do it now. Mr. Kent said in order to convert the rental to purchase requires board approval. Mr. Sandlin, Ringpower, confirmed all rental New River has paid would be converted to the purchase for a balance due of \$65,774.29.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion to approve converting the rental of the CAT 308 Trackhoe to purchase. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to convert the rental to purchase of the CAT 308 Trackhoe as presented. Commissioner Rhoden seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey called for discussion under agenda item #9, Discuss renewing all service contracts for another 3 years with no rate increase. Mr. O'Neal said that all of our service contractors have agreed to renew for another 3 years with no rate increase.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion to approve another 3 year contract for all contracted services with no rate increases. Commissioner Dougherty made a motion to approve all service contracts for another 3 years with no rate increases. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for discussion of agenda item #10, Discuss solid waste contract negotiation meeting with Alachua County on April 4, 2018. Mr. O'Neal said there was not a lot to report but that a short initial meeting had been held just before his surgery in February and another meeting was held last Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> where pricing and terms had been discussed. A meeting has also been scheduled for Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. O'Neal said he feels like good progress is being made on the contract with Alachua County and prefers to wait on the contract and pricing before bringing it the board to vote on. This is expected to be sometime in May or June.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for discussion under agenda item #11, Alachua County Issues/Items. Ms. Palmi said that the contract meeting went well. Right now they are in the middle of the budget process. The biggest problem seems to be keeping truck drivers which, based on her phone calls to look for drivers, is a widespread problem for the industry.

Chairwoman Cossey called for any discussion under agenda item #12, Attorney Issues/Items. Mr. Wade said that New River is currently dealing with a public records request for all records concerning with mining, HPS and/or communication with Alachua County regarding our contract negotiations. Mr. Wade said Union County has received an extensive public records request from the same attorney firm. Mr. O'Neal added he heard Alachua County had also received a public records request as well which could be fairly extensive. Commissioner Tallman said that last year the North Florida Regional Planning Council had to settle a lawsuit with HPS for \$46,000 over a missing email situation. Commissioner Croft asked the nature of the reason of the request. Mr. Wade said right now the reason behind the request is speculation as it could mean anything.

Chairwoman Cossey asked for discussion under agenda item #13, Executive Director: NRSWA: State of the Union on Solid Waste Issues/Recommendations. Mr. O'Neal said he had prepared a presentation for his last board meeting at New River Solid Waste Association. His goal was to show the comprehensive highlights of the many accomplishments at New River Regional Landfill. Some of the slides Mr. O'Neal presented included: when New River expanded from 150 tons per day to 750 tons per day overnight with the Alachua County contract that started January 1, 1998; New River hosting the State of Florida Bioreactor Landfill Demonstration Project with the Hinkley Center, UF and DEP; the new design for landfill leachate collection and drainage system that revolutionized how landfills are designed and which started at NRRL; the many visitors including representatives from 37 different countries that have toured the facilities at NRRL; working with twelve PhD students and nine grad students who have had their thesis research completed at New River; and winning the SWANA Gold Excellence Award for Best Managed Landfill in 2004. Other slides included the Financial Status of NRSWA, host fees paid out to the member counties and future projects that NRRL has plans for.

Mr. O'Neal concluded his presentation with four recommendations: 1. Retaining Alachua County as a customer; 2. Try to extend the Levy County contract for an additional 5 years; 3. Retain the core administration staff and supervisors who have a total of 87 years of NRRL experience, and 4. Hire Perry Kent as the new Executive Director.

Mr. O'Neal added after 24 years as Executive Director, his last day will be April 30<sup>th</sup> and that he strongly recommends the board appoint Mr. Kent as Executive Director effective May 1<sup>st</sup>. Commissioner Croft said

since this is not on the agenda it would prevent voting by the board in Baker County meetings and would like the attorney to provide input. Mr. Wade replied that it is not required to be on the agenda and that the board could decide to make the motion and vote tonight, or put it on an agenda for a future vote. The board was in agreement to vote on the appointment of Executive Director at this meeting.

Chairwoman Cossey called for a motion to appoint Mr. Kent as Executive Director effective May 1<sup>st</sup> following Mr. O'Neal's last day on April 30<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to appoint Mr. Kent as Executive Director effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, with no probation period and at his current salary which could be discussed when the budget is prepared. Commissioner Dougherty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. O'Neal said he had a birthday cake for Lydia's birthday tomorrow. Mr. O'Neal said he also wanted to thank Commissioner Thompson for cutting his vacation short to come to the meeting tonight. He added that his retirement party would be on May 5<sup>th</sup> and everyone is invited. Mr. O'Neal said he would like to thank the board for allowing him to be the Executive Director for 24 years.

Mr. Kent told how rough it was at the landfill before Mr. O'Neal became the Executive Director. He added that New River Regional Landfill is the landfill it is today because of Mr. O'Neal and that he appreciates everything he has done.

Chairwoman Cossey called for discussion under agenda item #14, Board/Chairman Issues/Items. Chairwoman Cossey said she had a request to waive tipping fees for a truly needy family. Mr. O'Neal said that is against board policy but that Union County could pay those fees with the additional host fee funds allotted annually for that purpose.

Chairwoman Cossey said she had a clock and a key to the landfill to present to Mr. O'Neal tonight.

Commissioner Dougherty said that he would like to thank Mr. O'Neal for his years at New River and his leadership and would like to add that he is proud to be part of this organization's board.

Commissioner Croft spoke about early days at the landfill with Mr. O'Neal and the respect he has for him and for his professionalism.

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