

GREATER NEW BEDFORD REGIONAL REFUSE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Minutes May 22, 2019

The Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District Committee held a publicly posted meeting on **Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 8:00 AM** at the Dartmouth Town Hall, Room 305, 400 Slocum Road, Dartmouth, MA.

District Committee Members in attendance: John Beauregard, Chairperson; Nathalie Dias, Vice-chairperson; Daniel Patten, Christine LeBlanc, Ken Blanchard, Kathleen Towers.

Also present: Scott Alfonse, Executive Director; Cynthia Cammarata, Secretary; Attorney Matthew J. Thomas, District Counsel.

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM.

2. Salute to the Flag

All in attendance stood to salute the flag.

3. Legal notices

Mr. Beauregard read the notice advising the Board that the meeting may be recorded by audio and/or video.

4. Warrants Reports and Ratification - (April 17 and May 10 2019)

Motion to receive reports and ratify warrants on April 17 and May 10, 2019 made by Mr. Patten, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc. Voted 6-0.

5. Approval of Minutes April 17, 2019

Motion to approve minutes of April 17, 2019 made by Mr. Blanchard, seconded by Mr. Patten, Voted 6-0.

6. Old Business

- a. Commercial/municipal customer update

Motion to receive commercial/municipal customer made by Ms. LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Blanchard, voted 6-0.

Mr. Alfonse told the Board that with the exception of Freetown (who missed one invoice), all customers are up to date.

Mr. Alfonse addressed the ongoing Tisbury/Oak Bluffs issue of which the District has yet to be compensated. He referred to the email & response (in the packet) sent by Attorney Thomas to David Doneski, Tisbury's counsel. The District has worked very hard to resolve this issue during the slower winter months. Ms. LeBlanc suggested assessing interest to unpaid balance. After a discussion, Attorney Thomas clarified that there are two separate issues: 1.) The Non-contractual waste which will not be accepted after May 31, 2019 and 2.) The Municipal solid waste under contract.

Attorney Thomas will email a letter and send by certified mail to the Town Managers, and will copy

their attorneys and George Leontire.

Motion made by Mr. Patten to send a letter to Tisbury/Oak Bluff and Bruno's Rolloff reminding them that there is an outstanding balance, and to update the outstanding balance to include April. If that amount is not paid by May 31, 2019 interest will accrue. No Non-Municipal solid waste will be received by Crapo Hill after May 31, 2019. Remind them of the District's definition of municipal solid waste in the contracts. It was the District's understanding that there would be an amendment, but absent an amendment the District intends to enforce its' definition, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc, voted 6-0.

b. Discuss residential property at 101 Quanapoag Rd., Freetown

Motion to discuss residential property at 101 Quanapoag Road made by Mr. Blanchard, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc, voted 6-0.

As requested at the last Board meeting, Mr. Alfonse provided pictures of the property in the packet. He explained that the District is currently using the two garages for storage; a three bay garage which may be accessed from the landfill and two car garage attached to the house where recycling bins are stored. Brown & Caldwell performed an exercise to determine the highest and best use of some of the District's properties. 101 Quanapoag is zoned residential, so options are limited; it can be torn down, renovated or left vacant. After a discussion, it was ultimately decided that Mr. Alfonse would get an estimate of costs to demolish the house but keep the two car garage, and an estimate of costs to renovate it. He will check with the Town of Freetown to see if they would have use for the building, and see if the Fire Department would be able to use it for practice if it were to be demolished.

c. Review proposed statewide legislation - An Act Relative to Single-Use Carryout Bags

Motion to discuss proposed statewide legislation relative to single-use carryout bags made by Ms. LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Blanchard. Voted 6-0.

Continued from the prior Board meeting, Mr. Alfonse explained that this is a proposed statewide bill that would ban all single use plastic and paper bags. The bill would nullify all existing municipal ordinances. He spoke with Mr. Michaud of the Town of Dartmouth Board of Health. The Town has its own ordinance. The Town's concern is that the state won't have regulations promulgated for this bill, which would cause the system to revert back to where it was before the ordinance.

7. New Business

a. Policy on District health insurance contributions for employees and retirees

Motion to clarify the District's policy on health insurance contributions for employees and retirees made by Mr. Blanchard, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc 6-0.

Mr. Alfonse explained that the policy on District health insurance premiums needs to be clarified for two reasons; The Terms of Hire for the Executive Director's position is outdated as new insurance is being offered (i.e. High Deductible Health Plans), and the existing policy doesn't include reference to retirees (refer to packet for Hire letter and schedule of prior votes). All agreed to amend the policy.

Motion that the District's policy regarding District contribution to health insurance premiums shall be as follows: The District shall contribute 75% of the cost of HMO health insurance premiums and 50% of the cost of PPO health insurance premiums for employees and/or retirees whose date of hire is prior to February 1, 2012. The District shall contribute 60% of the cost of HMO health insurance premiums and 50% of the cost of PPO health insurance premiums for employees/retirees whose date of hire or rehire is on or after February 1, 2012. Motion made by Mr. Patten, seconded by Mr. Blanchard, voted 6-0.

b. Discuss condition of air compressor

Motion to authorize the transfer of funds from the District's equipment reserve fund of the actual amount of the lowest bid price to replace the air compressor from a "responsible" contractor, which shall not exceed \$40,000 made by Mr. Patten, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc, voted 6-0.

Mr. Alfonse explained that the District's air compressor used to run pumps to dewater landfill gas wells is in poor condition. It is nine years old, is running at capacity and is in need of frequent repairs. He recommends replacing the existing compressor and use the old as a spare, and to transfer funds from the Equipment Reserve of the actual amount not to exceed \$40,000.

Motion to approve the transfer of funds from the District's equipment reserve fund of the actual amount of the lowest bid price to replace the air compressor from a "responsible" contractor, which shall not exceed \$40,000 made by Mr. Blanchard, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc, voted 6-0.

c. Award contract to supply solid waste compactor

Motion to award the contract for the landfill compactor to Southworth Milton in the amount of \$672,600 and that the District authorize the transfer of \$672,600 from equipment reserve to the District's checking account to cover the cost of the purchase. Motion made by Ms. LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Patten, voted 6-0.

Four bids were received by the District. Based on review, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder was Southworth Milton.

d. Award lease of property at 612 Quanapoag Rd., Dartmouth

Motion to discuss the lease of 612 Quanapoag Road to Charles and Beth Soares for the period of February 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021. Motion made by Mr. Patten seconded by Ms. LeBlanc.

Mr. Alfonse explained that two parties requested bid documents, but the only bid received was from the current tenants – Charles and Beth Soares. The lease will begin February 1, 2020 and end on June 30, 2021 in order to coincide with the District's fiscal year, and may be extended for nine additional years.

Motion to award the lease of 612 Quanapoag Road to Charles and Beth Soares for the period of February 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Motion made by Mr. Patten seconded by Ms. LeBlanc, voted 6-0.

e. Discuss update of Personnel Policy Handbook

Motion to discuss the procedure for revising the District's Personnel Policy Handbook made by Ms. LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Patten, voted 6-0.

Mr. Alfonse explained that the Personnel Handbook needs to be updated and asked the board how they would like to proceed. The District began discussion of this issue in the past, but stalled after member changes to the Personnel subcommittee. Mr. Beauregard will send Mr. Alfonse a "boiler plate" policy, and the District can get one from MIIA as well. Ms. LeBlanc suggested that Mr. Alfonse revise the policy, and she and Ms. Powers will review it.

f. Discuss request from Excel Recycling

Motion to discuss request from Excel Recycling made by Mr. Patten, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc.

Mr. Beauregard recused himself from this discussion.

Mr. Alfonse told the Board that Excel Recycling has asked if the District would be willing to accept material from their recycling facility in accordance with a Beneficial Use Determination (BUD) for daily cover. The District has considered this in the past, however the BUD allows the material to contain higher levels of contaminants than the District was willing to accept. Excel says that the quality of this material is improved. Mr. Alfonse has not received information on this material yet, and therefore recommends tabling the discussion.

g. Director's report

Motion to receive Director's report made by Ms. LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Patten.

Mr. Blanchard mentioned that the City of New Bedford may be interested in an updated scale and software as well. Ms. LeBlanc suggested talking to BFI, and Mr. Alfonse will talk with Bourne as well.

Mr. Alfonse told the Board that at a recent DEP visit Mr. Connick mentioned that stormwater basins for solid waste facilities are now required to be located within the site assigned areas. This could negatively impact future capacity for the District. The group discussed if the District should address this with DEP, but decided not to as it is many years away. During the inspection, DEP also advised that the compost pile needs to be managed. It was never the intention of the District to take leaf and yard waste.

Household Hazardous Waste collection didn't go as smoothly as past events. The District used a different vendor who will also be at the fall event. Mr. Alfonse told them that the need more staffing at the next event.

h. Items which could not have been reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance

Mr. Alfonse told the Board that the Engineering services contract will need to be increased, probably by about \$11,000. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

8. Set date for Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 19, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

9. Adjourn

Chairperson Beauregard asked for a motion to adjourn meeting. Motion made by Mr. Patten, seconded by Mr. Blanchard. Vote 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

Approved by vote of District Committee on Wednesday, June 19, 2019.



Scott Alfonse, Executive Director