



Meeting Minutes

Nashua Regional Solid Waste Management District Meeting

June 29, 2021

Attendees:

Joan Cudworth	Town of Hollis
Sally Hyland	City of Nashua
Rhonda Martin	Town of Pelham
Mike Fimbel	Town of Mont Vernon
Kris Perreault	Town of Merrimack
Jay Twardosky	Town of Hudson
Mason Twombly	NRPC
Kate Lafond	NRPC
Jay Minkarah	NRPC

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:03am by Hyland with introductions.

II. Approval of March 17, 2021 Draft Meeting Minutes

Twombly referred to the draft minutes of March 17, 2021 and asked for comments and if accurate, a motion for draft approval.

Cudworth motioned to approve the meeting minutes of March 17, 2021 with a second from Fimbel. All were in favor.

III. FY2022 Budget Proposal, Schedule A, and Annual Grant and Contract Authorization

Lafond presented the FY22 budget proposal reviewing each line item. She noted that little has changed from previous years for major line items. Police detail budget was increased to reflect increase in detail rates. Other expenses was also increased to reflect the ongoing need to provide portable restrooms at the 25 Crown Street Site. Twombly noted that he dues in this proposed budget were approved last June and had been kept at the same rate as FY21 due to uncertainty around the Covid-19 Pandemic. Dues to be discussed at this meeting will be for FY23 and will be reflected in the budget voted on next June.

Lafond noted that the user fee income has increased and while the NHDES Grant funding has been declining slowly over the past several years.

Twombly reviewed the updated Schedule A document that outlines the responsibilities of NRPC to the district with regard to the HHW Program. He noted the document has little change from previous years but the tasks are not appropriately associated with the corresponding line items. Twombly noted that the district needs to accept the Schedule A, motion for the annual grant and contract authorization, and approve the budget proposal for FY2022.

Cudworth motioned to accept the Schedule A for FY2022 with a second from Twardosky. All were in favor.

Fimbel motioned that the Nashua Regional Planning Commission be authorized to file applications with federal, state, and local governmental units and other agencies to implement the FY2022 work program of the Nashua Region Solid Waste Management District, and execute agreements to receive funds for such purposes. This was seconded by Martin. All were in favor.

Cudworth motioned to approve the proposed FY2022 budget with a second from Martin. All were in favor.

IV. FY2023 Dues Discussion

Twombly opened the discussion about FY2023 dues by noting the options in the agenda packet are illustrative and we did not have to choose from them. He told the group that as everyone knows this an expensive program and dues will need to be increased to assure the longevity of the program. Lafond shared some projections she had made for the district based on no change in dues and the options of dues increases in the agenda packet. She explained currently we have a cycle in which one year we have a surplus and the next a loss due to when the satellite events fall. The surplus years are not enough to offset the losses unfortunately and action will need to be taken at some point to sustain the current financial operations. Currently 100,000 is held in the capital reserve fund and the district aims to have more than 75,000 in the checking account at any time. Twombly noted that the current situation is also leaving the district open to distress noting that the significant overage charges for the August 1,2020 event would have been detrimental if it had not been offset by cancellations earlier in the year. He mentioned that incremental increases to the dues would help to stabilize the finances and be easier for municipal budgets to accept.

Cudworth expressed support for dues increases of 3% or 5% noting that that the town of Hollis has been impacted by the loss of events this year. She shared that residents had contaminated the used oil burner and caused an explosion. She explained that this is the sort of thing all communities could see if we don't sustain the HHW program.

Martin shared similar opinions of the program's importance and that dues make sense.

Hyland expressed concern that the City of Nashua has been operating on tight budgets and may not be happy to see any major increases in dues. She noted that she understands that the district's finances needed to be "shored up" and would be more amenable to a 3% or less dues increase. She also noted that increases were much more money for Nashua because of its size in relation to the rest of the towns.

There was continued discussion around the importance of the program what loss of the event would do to municipal waste streams. Twombly also told the group that the decision on an increase could be pushed to the September meeting if the group felt it necessary to include more town representatives on the decision. Cudworth and Fimbel expressed uncertainty in whether more people would show up to the next meeting because of the continued lack of representation from some communities.

Minkarah suggested making a motion and taking a vote that could be revisited at the September Meeting if need be, but would remain in effect if no objections were raised in September.

Cudworth motioned that the FY2023 Dues be increased 3% seconded by Martin. All were in favor. Motion passes but may be revisited at the September Quarterly Meeting.

V. Officer Appointment

Twombly explained that it was necessary to vote on the officers for the group. These positions allow check signing on behalf of the district. Sally Hyland was elected to continue the position of Chair and Joan Cudworth to continue as the Treasurer.

Twardosky made a motion to reaffirm Hyland and Cudworth to their respective officer positions, this was seconded by Fimbel. All were in favor.

VI. Developing Waste Streams Conversation

Twombly opened a discussion about developing hazardous waste streams that members are seeing, and what we should be aware of and be talking to Veolia about.

Cudworth shared that batteries, lithium ion, and perforated batteries coming out of electronic products are becoming more common. Hyland reiterated this about batteries.

Hyland shared that vaping products have become an item that is asked about frequently. Hyland also mentioned that the HHW Coordinators group has been working with the Loon Preservation Society about advertising disposal of lead fishing tackle.

VII. Other Business

Twombly mentioned that Amazon has seemingly vacated the 25 Crown Street Site which will allow for a better traffic pattern and hopefully help with queuing cars without backing into the nearby Arlington and Crown Street intersection. The traffic was an issue in June but the rush hour timing if the June was a major component.

VIII. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn came from Martin with a second from Twardosky. All in favor. The meeting ended at 11:20am.

Next Meeting: Wednesday September 15, 2021 at 10AM

Minutes approved at January 26, 2022 meeting.