



117 Main Street., 2nd Floor, Greenfield, MA 01301 • (413) 772-2438 • Fax: (413) 772-3786
www.franklincountywastedistrict.org • info@franklincountywastedistrict.org

DISTRICT BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES MEETING MINUTES January 18, 2023

Representatives and Alternates Present: Marti Ferguson – Buckland; Valentine Reid – Charlemont; Michael Shuipis – Colrain; Bryan Smith – Erving; Vicky Jenkins – Gill; Annette Herda – Leverett; Chris Boutwell – Montague; Bob MacEwen – Northfield; Priscilla Curtis – Orange; Laurie DiDonato – Wendell; Larry Kuttner – Whately

Representatives Absent: Lynn Rubinstein – Conway; MA Swedlund – Deerfield; Will Cosby – Hawley; Hilma Sumner – Heath; Amy Fagin – New Salem; Dan Poplawski – Rowe; Terry Narkewicz – Shelburne; Michael Mankowsky – Warwick

Others Present: Jan Ameen – Executive Director; Amy Donovan – Program Director; Stephanie Meehleder – Administrative Assistant

This was a virtual meeting via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

I. Review and Accept Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Bryan Smith to accept the minutes from November 16, 2022 and seconded by Marti Ferguson. No discussion. There were two abstentions. Motion passed by majority.

II. FY24 Final Budget – vote to approve: The final FY24 budget was discussed. There were no changes except for the updated COLA percentage to the salaries for the District employees. A motion was made by Annette Herda to adopt the FY24 budget of \$2,364,447 with the assessment of \$223,103 and was seconded by Bryan Smith. Motion passed unanimously. Jan will send the final budget out to all towns.

III. Special Municipal Employee – follow up: Jan has notified towns about bringing a vote to their respective select boards making FCSWMD board representatives and alternates special municipal employees. This would ease some of the possible conflicts of interest requirements that regular municipal employees must abide by according to the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission. In order for this to be effective, every town must vote in favor. To date, 7 towns have brought this to their select boards and voted in favor of it. Some towns haven't had their board meetings and a couple are still unsure of the necessity. Jan will continue to coordinate and be available to answer any questions that towns may have regarding this matter.

IV. Executive Director's Report: Jan shared the numbers from the October 2022 Clean Sweep report. Since the previous Clean Sweep in May 2022 had such high volumes, there were additional roll-offs ordered but it was found that the numbers were more aligned with pre-pandemic numbers and this resulted in a minor deficit of \$720. Expenses for the next Clean

Sweep will be adjusted accordingly. Jan is currently preparing an annual data report for the DEP which compiles tonnage by towns for CY22. The District recently received a \$10k pilot project grant from MIIA to create six webinar trainings and templates to help town administrators create town specific plans for each transfer station as required by OSHA. These trainings coincide with the previous trainings that were implemented with each transfer station last year. MIIA has also provided risk management grants for metal railings to secure the openings of hoppers and guard rails at retaining walls. A total of \$37k was awarded to the towns who applied. Updated numbers for the Recycling Revenue and Expense report were shared. More detailed information can be found in the Executive Director's Report.

V. Program Director's Report: Amy has been working with the Springfield MRF Advisory Board on educational videos which have now been released. You can find them on the Springfield MRF website. Amy has been working on coordinating the fall special waste pick-ups such as fluorescent lamps, propane tanks, e-waste and Freon. Amy published a few holiday articles in the local papers and also sent a detailed email to area schools offering updated educational programs. She also included information on a Mass Farm-to-School webinar where she had recently been a presenter and the links of the Springfield MRF Advisory Board videos. She is now working on the annual Reduce Reuse Recycle guide which will be published and released in the Greenfield Recorder, The Athol Daily News and The Daily Hampshire Gazette during the week of Earth Day which is April 22nd. We have tentative dates selected for our Spring and Fall Clean Sweep Day which will be May 13 and October 21, and our annual Hazardous Waste Collection will be Saturday, September 23rd. Jan and Amy have begun planning for the Styrofoam collections events. "Hold the Foam" will be available to residents of Montague and Northfield on the last 4 Saturdays in April from 9 am-12 pm. This program is run by volunteers and towns can pay for it with RDP funds. Amy has also been working on clearing up some misinformation relating to plastics recycling. She is working with the Springfield MRF Advisory Board to release a statement clearing up some of the misinformation in the percentages of plastics that are actually recycled. More detailed information can be found in the Program Director's Report.

VI. Other Business / Next Meeting: Next meeting Wednesday, May 17, 2023

Larry Kuttner moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Pricilla Curtis. Motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

The following written materials were used at the meeting:

- FY24 Final Budget
- AMV & Net Revenue Report