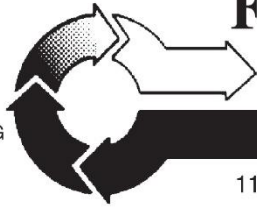


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Franklin County Solid Waste Management District

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DISTRICT BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES MEETING MINUTES May 17, 2023

Representatives and Alternates Present: Andrea Donlon – Buckland; Michael Shuipis – Colrain; Lynn Rubinstein – Conway; MA Swedlund – Deerfield; Bryan Smith – Erving; Vicky Jenkins – Gill; Will Cosby – Hawley; Annette Herda – Leverett; Chris Boutwell – Montague; Bob MacEwen – Northfield; Terry Narkewicz – Shelburne; Larry Kuttner – Whately

Representatives Absent: Marti Ferguson – Buckland; Valentine Reid – Charlemont; Hilma Sumner – Heath; Amy Fagin – New Salem; Priscilla Curtis – Orange; Laurie DiDonato – Wendell; Dan Poplawski – Rowe; 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 6:06 p.m.

I. Review and Accept Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Vicky Jenkins to accept the minutes from January 18, 2023 and seconded by Michael Shuipis. No discussion. There was one abstention. Motion passed by majority.

II. GSB Account Changes: M.A. Swedlund made a motion to remove Susan Conger and to add Stephanie Meehleder to the Greenfield Savings Bank account. It was seconded by Terry Narkewicz. Motion passed unanimously.

III. FY23 Budget vs Actual: Jan shared the current FY23 Budget vs Actual report. There is a small profit showing with 1.5 months remaining in the fiscal year.

IV. Bernardston Super Site Closure: Jan reviewed an ongoing situation with the Town of Bernardston and the status of their super site. The site has been closed while she has been trying to resolve ongoing issues. She asked the Board for input on how to proceed. There was a lengthy discussion about possible options. A motion was made by Bryan Smith that the Board support the Director in sending a certified letter to the Bernardston Select Board informing them of the District's intention to remove the super site sheds as of June 30th. The motion was seconded by Terry Narkewicz. Further discussion ensued. M.A. Swedlund called the question and this was seconded by Lynn Rubinstein. A vote was made to call the question. 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions. Question passed by majority. A vote was then taken on the original motion for the Board to support the Director notifying the Bernardston Select Board of the closure of the super site. There were 10 in favor, 1 opposed and 1 abstention. Motion passed by majority.

V. Executive Director's Report: Jan shared photos of the transfer stations that installed guard rails for fall protection. This was the result of a \$30,000 grant from MIIA last October to the towns. The District also received an \$8,000 grant from MIIA to conduct six OSHA trainings for

town administrators. MIIA is now using these templates with the help of Lynn Rose to modify and implement these safety trainings across the state. Conway has become the final town to implement a “pay-as-you-throw” trash program. They have chosen to use a modified program to ease the residents into this transition. She recently assisted Montague in drafting the RFP for curbside collection. Montague is also now accepting sludge from other district facilities and could save towns as much as \$400 per load vs. the cost of having it hauled to Lowell. This is especially good since Lowell has increased hauling fees by 18% to 20%. The FY23 Recycling AMV & Revenue totals were shared. All the board representatives are now considered Special Municipal Employees. Jan will compile and send the documents specifically for each board representative. More detailed information can be found in the Executive Director’s report.

VI. Program Director’s Report: Amy reports that on April 20th the 16th annual Reduce Reuse Recycle guide was inside the print and e-editions of the *Greenfield Recorder*, the *Daily Hampshire Gazette*, the *Athol Daily News* and the *Amherst Bulletin*. In the spring Going Green magazine, Amy’s column was titled “Plastic Recycling Figures Explained” and addressed the misinformation surrounding plastic recycling. The next Going Green will be in newspapers May 24th. The District assisted with two successful Styrofoam collections that took place in the month of April. Residents from Montague and Northfield participated and this was run by volunteers. The District will hopefully be offering this program to other towns in the future. The District is stepping away from the Shelburne Falls Compost Collaborative and handing it off to the participating businesses that now manage their own compost dumpsters. The Springfield MRF Advisory Board has just released newly updated magnets, postcards and brochures that Amy will be distributing to transfer stations. Amy worked with Gill Elementary School to fine-tune their compost program. Amy gave a public presentation on composting at the Wendell library, and she’s giving another one on June 3rd at Gill Elementary. These events are open to all Franklin County residents. At the MassRecycle Conference in March, Amy presented about organics programs at the District’s transfer stations. Franklin County has 14 (soon to be 15) transfer station compost programs. Colrain’s program is starting this month, funded by a Community Compact grant. There have been quite a few special waste pickups from transfer stations this spring. The District recently hired someone to process and pick up batteries at transfer stations. Household Hazardous Waste Day is set for September 23rd. The spring bulky waste day was just this past weekend. More detailed information can be found in the Program Director’s report.

VII. Other Business / Next Meeting: Jan shared that the OSHA trainings for transfer stations are now posted on our website.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20, 2023. This is the annual meeting for election of new officers.

Terry Narkewicz moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Will Cosby. Motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

The following written materials were used at the meeting:

- FY23 Budget vs Actual
- AMV & Net Revenue Report
- Photos of newly installed guard rails
- The 16th Annual Reduce, Recycle, Reuse Guide
- Amy’s article “Plastic Recycling Figures Explained” from the Spring Edition of Going Green