

DISTRICT BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES MEETING MINUTES September 20, 2023

Representatives and Alternates Present: Marti Ferguson – Buckland; Michael Shuipis – Colrain; Lynn Rubinstein – Conway; Bryan Smith – Erving; Vicky Jenkins – Gill; Will Cosby – Hawley; Elissa Viarengo – Heath; Chris Boutwell – Montague; Bob MacEwen – Northfield; Priscilla Curtis – Orange; Asa de Roode – Wendell; Larry Kuttner – Whately

Representatives Absent: Andrea Donlon – Buckland; Valentine Reid – Charlemont; MA Swedlund – Deerfield; Annette Herda – Leverett; 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 6:03 p.m.

Welcome new members: Elissa Viarengo of Heath and Asa de Roode of Wendell.

I. Election of Officers: Lynn Rubinstein nominated the current slate of officers: Chris Boutwell, Chair; Terry Narkewicz, Vice-Chair; M.A. Swedlund, Treasurer; Stephanie Meehleder, Clerk. This motion was seconded by Vicky Jenkins. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Review and Accept Minutes: Minutes were reviewed and a grammatical error was corrected. A motion was made by Lynn Rubinstein to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2023 meeting and seconded by Will Cosby. There were 2 abstentions. The motion passed by majority.

III. Informational Topics for Future Meetings – Jan proposed options for adding topics to the agenda for informational purposes. The Board is interested in adding an informational discussion to future meetings.

IV. Executive Director’s Report: Jan discussed the new contract for septage disposal for the Colrain Sewer District. Jan will begin transfer station inspections in October. Conway has now implemented a modified pay-as-you-throw program. The current AMV report and the Springfield MRF recycling fees were shared. Household hazardous waste day will be on September 23rd and the numbers of registrations are comparable to last year. More information can be found in the Executive Director’s Report.

V. Program Director’s Report: Amy’s summer Going Green article covered why ice cream cartons are not recyclable. In the fall edition, she discussed plastic bag recycling at supermarkets.

The Springfield MRF Advisory Board created a resource sheet for all schools in Western MA to help connect teachers with the recently released recycling education videos and other resources. Report was given on the events that borrowed materials from our compact and recycling equipment loan program. Amy also reports that dozens of volunteers participated in the waste diversion program at the Franklin County Fair. Amy has been conducting training to new transfer station attendants and asked that she be informed whenever a new attendant starts. Outreach has been done for both upcoming household hazardous waste day and bulky waste days. Colrain has started a food waste compost program. More information can be found in the Program Director's Report.

VI. Other Business / Next Meeting: Next meeting Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Marti Ferguson moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Priscilla Curtis. Motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

The following written materials were used at the meeting:

-N/A