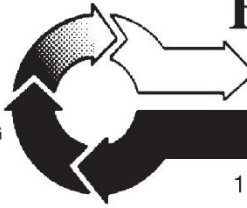


REDUCTION  
RECYCLING  
COMPOSTING  
DISPOSAL



# Franklin County Solid Waste Management District

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

## DISTRICT BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES MEETING MINUTES November 15, 2023

**Representatives and Alternates Present:** Marti Ferguson – Buckland; Michael Shuipis – Colrain; Lynn Rubinstein – Conway; MA Swedlund – Deerfield; Bryan Smith – Erving; Vicky Jenkins – Gill; Will Cosby – Hawley; Elissa Viarengo – Heath; Chris Boutwell – Montague; Priscilla Curtis – Orange; Dan Poplawski – Rowe; Terry Narkewicz – Shelburne; Asa de Roode – Wendell; Larry Kuttner – Whately

**Representatives Absent:** Andrea Donlon – Buckland; Valentine Reid – Charlemont; Annette Herda – Leverett; Bob MacEwen – Northfield; 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 6:01 p.m.

**Welcome new members:** Dan Poplawski - Rowe

**I. Approve minutes of September 20, 2023:** A motion was made to approve the September 20, 2023 meeting minutes by Will Cosby and seconded by Bryan Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

**II. FY23 Financial Audit – Review and Accept:** An independent, financial audit for fiscal year 2023 was conducted by Roselli, Clark & Associates. The report was discussed. A hard copy will be sent to all town Selectboards and Finance Committees. A motion was made by Terry Narkewicz to accept the auditor’s financial report and seconded by Bryan Smith. There was one abstention. The motion passed by majority.

**III. FY25 Proposed Budget – Review and Adopt:** The FY25 budget proposal was presented and discussed. A motion to adopt the FY25 proposed budget was made by MA Swedlund and seconded by Michael Shuipis. Motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Executive Director’s Report:** Jan has been conducting transfer station inspections and reports will be provided to the town select boards soon. Jan continues to work with consultant, Lynn Rose, on the OSHA transfer station trainings and hopes to have this completed in the next few months. Updates are currently being made to a handbook designed for town administrators. Jan applied for a grant with the Department of Industrial Accidents for \$20k to pay for another 2-day training. The DIA has agreed to allow the District to use some of these funds to hire a professional videographer to record and edit two 4-hour trainings. These videos will be made available on the District YouTube page to allow new hires to access these trainings on their own. Jan will be presenting at the MassRecycle Conference in March regarding the OSHA program. Jan has been contacted by several communities across the state regarding the OSHA safety trainings and this will be a good platform to share more information. Conway implemented their new modified pay-as-you-throw program on October 8<sup>th</sup>. In

three weeks, the town decreased trash disposal by 8.8 tons and saved \$900 on tip fees. The current AMV report and the Springfield MRF recycling fees were shared. More information can be found in the Executive Director's Report.

**V. Program Director's Report:** Amy shared her column, "Ask the Recycling Maven" which was published in the current edition of Going Green. This publication is available as an insert in the Recorder, The Athol Daily News and The Daily Hampshire Gazette. Massachusetts Farm to School invited Amy to be a presenter for their statewide webinar on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Amy presented "Composting Food Waste for the School Cafeteria: Focus on School Kitchens." On October 26<sup>th</sup>, she gave a presentation to the Leverett Plastics Reduction Working Group entitled "Too Many Plastics in our World! Time for Local, Regional and Global Action." On November 8<sup>th</sup>, Amy gave a school wide presentation at Hawlemont Elementary School on composting. Amy has shipped a record breaking 70 boxes (1803 pounds!) of rechargeable batteries to Call2Recycle so far in 2023. In 2018 the weight collected and shipped was 1/3 that volume. This program had always been offered for free, but starting in January, Call2Recycle will be charging \$80 per box. The District will be implementing a charge of \$0.75 per pound for rechargeable batteries starting in January. Jan and Amy, along with other members of the Springfield MRF Advisory Board, received the 2023 MassRecycle Award for Outstanding Institution. On November 30<sup>th</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup>, Amy will conduct a 2-day training at the Whately town offices for transfer station attendants. This will include an on-site tour of the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility. This is the first training of this type since 2018 and all attendants are encouraged to attend. More information can be found in the Program Director's Report.

**VI. Informational Topic: Why can't this be recycled:** Jan shared a presentation "Why Can't This Be Recycled?" Information on why certain materials cannot be recycled.

**VII. Other Business / Next Meeting:** Next meeting January 17, 2024.

**VIII. Items not anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting:** n/a

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Larry Kuttner and was seconded by Bryan Smith. The motion was accepted unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

The following written materials were used at the meeting:

- FY24 Financial Audit
- FY25 Proposed Budget
- Presentation for "Why Can't This Be Recycled"
- Fall/Winter edition of "Going Green" publication.