

**CHITTENDEN SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES
CSWD OFFICE, REDMOND ROAD
FEBRUARY 21, 2007**

EXECUTIVE BOARD PRESENT: Paul Stabler, Mike Coates, Bert Lindholm, Ken Nolan

CSWD STAFF PRESENT: Tom Moreau, Tony Barbagallo, James Ticehurst, Amy Jewell

AGENDA ITEM:

1. Approve minutes of January 17, 2006
2. Finance
 - a. FY '07 2nd Quarter Financial
 - b. FY'08 Budget Wages & Benefits – Discussion Only
3. Regional Landfill
 - a. Landfill Design Financial Update – Discussion Only
 - b. Amendment to Shaw Agreement – Discussion Only
 - c. Evaluation of Impact on Property Values – Discussion Only
4. Program Updates
5. Other Business
6. **Executive Session** – to discuss ongoing and pending litigation, property purchases, personnel issues, and contract negotiations.
 - a) Regional Landfill
 - b) MRF Contract

Agenda #1: Approve minutes of January 17, 2007. Motion by Mike Coates, second by Paul Stabler. Approved – All Ayes.

Agenda #2: Finance –

a.) FY '07 2nd Quarter Financial - T. Moreau handed out the Budget to Actual Comparisons for the six months ending December 31, 2006. T. Moreau emphasized that these are draft copies and are preliminary numbers. He noted that the revenues are at 55% with operating expenses at 48% for the first half of the year. T. Moreau noted that although CSWD is confident that almost all information is included, a more detailed reconciliation is required prior to a final copy being put in the full board packet on Friday.

b.)FY '08 Budget Wage & Benefit- A. Jewell explained that the FY '08 Wage and Benefit spreadsheet was included as a preliminary sheet that would change by the time it went to the Board in April for budget approval. It was sent to the Executive Board to inform them that the Finance Committee recommended increasing the cost of full-time employee health insurance to 2.25% of salary in FY '08. B. Lindholm mentioned that the COLA was 3.59% with a 1.25% for step increase. T. Moreau commented that he requested that the portion of health insurance increase to 2.5% of an employee's salary but Amy effectively argued that employees are paying increased out of pocket expenses for prescriptions this year and have already seen a

large increase in 2007. B. Lindholm noted that the finance committee will revisit this issue again next year with a potential for another employee increase.

Agenda #3

a.) Landfill Design Financial Update – T. Barbagallo explained that CSWD’s agreement with Shaw was for \$614,263, with \$104,504 reserved for construction once permits are complete. Because CSWD has paid 82% of the total costs there are concerns that the costs are being front-loaded, however, Shaw has committed to completing the project and said that they know this is the case. B. Lindholm questioned the spreadsheet total of \$1,020,674, of which \$759,808 is for original and extras. T. Barbagallo explained that we haven’t committed to Task 6 and haven’t approved Task 7 at this time.

b.) Amendment to Shaw Agreement – T. Barbagallo handed out the CSWD Site 21 Landfill Design and Permitting Conceptual Design Plan D Amended Scope and explained the changes to the Agreement. The total change is \$35,000. This issue was brought for discussion only.

c.) Evaluation of Impact on Property Values – T. Moreau noted that some board members did not feel we should be looking into this because there are too many variables. T. Barbagallo felt that CSWD should look into this and be more proactive than reactive. S. Goodkind agreed that this is something that will have to be faced. T. Barbagallo asked if CSWD would like to have someone look at the following three issues:

- literature search around country
- What happened with values in relation to Phase III
- What we might consider for homeowners in the area

K. Nolan commented that we would be looking at historical data. M. Coates did not feel that this information would be very helpful. K. Nolan did not feel it was necessary to do appraisals and noted that there are too many factors on the housing market to pinpoint one issue.

Agenda #4. Program Updates – T. Moreau noted that the solid waste management fee tonnage is down a small amount and that MRF newspaper is up \$20 per ton.

P. Stabler asked about the gasification at the landfill. T. Barbagallo said that the building is there and CSWD is hopeful this could be up and running in the next few months.

M. Coates informed the executive board that he and B. Lindholm attended a meeting on the feasibility of rail going to Coventry. B. Lindholm explained the logistics of making this work do not seem to be feasible. K. Nolan agreed that it was an inefficient method to transport trash a short distance with the current rail system.

B. Lindholm noted that former board member, Dave Eaton, would be writing a letter on the history of the Williston Landfill.

B. Lindholm requested that a letter be sent to the Select Board members for those cities/towns without members on the CSWD Board of Commissioners.

Agenda #5 Other Business -

T. Moreau handed out a spreadsheet named *Components of the Trash in CSWD on an Annual Basis*. He summarized that CSWD's tonnage going to the land fill is steady or slightly down. He explained that differentiating the MSW in Table 2 between the Residential (55%) and Commercial (45%) MSW is difficult to verify but this is our best estimate. He explained that in Table 3 Trash Components if all the Curbside Recyclables, Other Recyclables and Biodegradable Organics could be successfully diverted, then the residue left would be only 52,700 tons per year. CSWD would need a new infrastructure to handle these materials to be diverted but would not need unproven processing technology. However, it is unrealistic to assume 100% recovery of any recyclable material. T. Moreau said that the landfill proposal has generated a lot of conversation. Our public outreach consultant Kimball, Sherman and Ellis was approached by CLF Ventures, advocacy piece of CLF, to see if CSWD would be interested in them assisting us with this project.

T. Moreau mentioned that after building and opening the Vermont's first lined landfill in Colchester (Ratte property) for the City of Burlington, he was instructed to develop a "menu" for the City Council to choose from that would divert waste from going to the landfill. This would provide for a longer landfill life. This menu plan included cost estimates and plans for diverting material thru curb-side recycling, clean wood waste processing, hazardous waste segregation, and composting. He found that giving the public well defined options to choose from was the most successful. T. Moreau and N. Plunkett are spending considerable time researching diversion techniques and alternate technologies.

T. Moreau explained that the Canadian subcontractor (GSI) that is responsible for composting our biosolids in Quebec has notified our contractor (New England Organics - NEO) that they intend to stop servicing the contract as of April 1, 2007. NEO assured CSWD that they will continue to honor our contract but may have to landfill our sludge until the contract ends in June 2008. They will do this for the same cost that we are paying now. The Canadian composting site is 138 miles one-way. Though the composting at this site results in beneficial reuse of the biosolids, it is certainly not the best situation as far as fuel usage. Milton has suggested that they may be interested in hosting a future biosolids processing facility. T. Moreau explained that he would like to put out an RFP, using money from the biosolids reserve and a small grant from ANR to research additional short and long term options.

He noted that a new formula passed last year by the Vermont Legislature on Vermont's \$6 per ton solid waste franchise fee has resulted in a pass thru block grant resulting in \$68,000 for CSWD. This is up from the previous system where CSWD obtained ~ \$22,000 per year. T. Moreau would like to use some grant money study the pros and cons of franchising solid waste collection in CSWD.

T. Moreau noted that CSWD is continuing to pursue parallel paths, designing a landfill for an estimated waste quantity while simultaneously working on methods and programs to divert more waste for beneficial reuse. T. Moreau noted that CSWD has good data as to the

components of our trash and is ahead of the country with this data. Because we know what we have, we can develop specific programs for diversion.

T. Moreau said that he met with Paul O'Leary & Ben Siebecker to discuss the landfill and how to finance so that later generations pay their share. CSWD will be working with our financial advisors on this.

Ken Nolan commented on the DSM Study and noted that in terms of public relations we ought to be letting folks know that we are in the top tier in the country by recycling 490 lbs of recycling a year from each household.

T. Moreau noted that Alan Nye had contacted him about Essex having two open seats on the Select Board and identifying the landfill's potential impact on property values as one of the issues being discussed.

Agenda #6: Executive Session – to discuss ongoing and pending litigation, property purchases, personnel issues, and contract negotiations.

MOTION by Paul Stabler, SECOND by Mike Coates, that the Executive Board of the Chittenden Solid Waste District go into Executive Session to consider pending civil actions and contract negotiations where premature general public knowledge would clearly place the District, its member municipalities, and other public bodies or persons involved at a substantial disadvantage, and further, to seek and discuss the advice of attorneys on various legal issue where premature public knowledge could adversely affect the outcome of such civil action against the District, and to permit staff and the Solid waste District attorney(s) to be present for this session. VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

Executive Session was entered at 6:13 p.m.

MOTION by Mike Coates, SECOND by Paul Stabler, to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting. VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

Executive Session was adjourned and the regular meeting reconvened at 6:35 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mike Coates, SECOND by Paul Stabler, to adjourn the meeting. VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.