

**CHITTENDEN SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
SOUTH BURLINGTON CITY HALL
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 22, 2006**

APPROVED COPY

PRESENT

BOARD MEMBERS:

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Bolton | ----- |
| Burlington | Steve Goodkind |
| Charlotte | John Hammer, III |
| Colchester | Dirk Reith |
| Essex Junction | ----- |
| Essex | ----- |
| Hinesburg | Thomas Nostrand |
| Huntington | ----- |
| Jericho | Bert Lindholm |
| Milton | ----- |
| Richmond | Mary Houle |
| St. George | ----- |
| Shelburne | ----- |
| So. Burlington | ----- |
| Underhill | Mike Weisel |
| Westford | Bill Leach |
| Williston | Mike Coates |
| Winooski | ----- |

STAFF:

Tom Moreau
Tony Barbagallo
Thomas Melloni, Esq.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ron Gonen, Recycle Bank
Al Sabino, Casella

- AGENDA*:**
1. Call to Order
 2. Agenda and Public Comment Period
 3. Approval of Minutes (February 22, 2006)
 4. Finance
 5. "Recycle Bank" Presentation
 6. PUD Transfer – Legal Fees
 7. Amend CSWD Solid Waste Management Plan
 8. Residuals Management Agreement Amendment Extension
 9. Program Updates
 10. Other Business
 11. Executive Session
 12. Adjournment

* As revised

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bill Leach called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

2. AGENDA and PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The order of the agenda was changed to allow the presentation by Recycle Bank to occur following Item #4 – Finance. There were no comments from the public at this time.

3. APPROVE MINUTES

February 22, 2006

MOTION by Mary Houle, SECOND by Mike Coates, to approve the 2/22/06 minutes as written. VOTING: all ayes except one abstention (John Hammer, III – Charlotte); motion carried.

4. FINANCE

a) Finance Committee Report of Warrants

The warrants were approved by the Finance Committee. There were no questions from the Board.

b) Bank Balances as of 2/28/06

Tom Moreau explained the monthly transfer of funds to boost the Debt Service Fund which was low due to significant scheduled bond interest and principal payments.

c) Revised Balance Sheet as of 12/31/05

Tom Moreau explained the corrected error in posting. The Board received a refreshed balance sheet.

5. RECYCLE BANK PRESENTATION

Ron Gonen with Recycle Bank reviewed their recycling program which pays homeowners to recycle via a coupon system (\$25/month up to \$400), saves landfill space, creates jobs, and preserves the environment. Presently the program is successfully operating in suburban communities in Philadelphia. Each participant in the program receives a recycling container (wheeled cart) with an embedded computer chip identifying the owner. The container is weighed at the truck when emptied by the collector (special equipment on the truck weighs the container and reads the chip) and the number of Recycle Bank ‘dollars’ is calculated and put into the participant’s account. The participant receives coupons for the ‘dollars’ that can be used at participating partners, such as Home Depot, Starbucks, Bed, Bath & Beyond, Coca Cola, grocery stores. The ‘dollars’ may also be applied as a credit on the participant’s trash collection bill. The website for Recycle Bank (<http://www.recyclebank.com/>) contains information on recycling and the program. Recycle Bank can generate reports from the statistics collected so solid waste district programs can become more efficient. Recycle Bank gets paid in part from the savings generated by landfill diversion. In Vermont, Casella is instituting the program in the fall, 2006. It is suggested CSWD partner with Recycle Bank to announce the program and do some of the facilitation, stated Mr. Gonen. Recycle Bank wants to work with CSWD to improve the existing recycling program. It will cost approximately \$8,000 per truck for the computerization equipment needed for the

program. Box trucks can be retrofitted. Recycle Bank will supply the carts for participants. The breakeven point for a hauler will be about 10 pounds above what is being collected for recycling today. The cost of the program for participants is \$2/month/household.

Bert Lindholm mentioned the bottle return program in Vermont. Ron Gonen stated more bottles may end up in the recycle bin because it will pay more to the participant to have more recycling and it is an easier way to return bottles/cans.

Mike Coates asked about collection at condominiums which is typically in one general area (dumpster). Mr. Gonen explained each unit receives a recycling bin with a chip which is read by the collection truck and credit is given to the owner of the bin.

There was discussion of the challenge of implementing the program in a rural area. Ron Gonen assured when people are paid to recycle, they will do it, but if someone does not want to participate, they are not forced to do so. Some possible solutions for rural areas include having the recycle cart at the end of the driveway or in one general location and using the smaller blue bins to transport materials from the house to the cart.

Tom Moreau reported presently 146,000 tons of waste material is generated in Chittenden County of which 42,000 tons is construction and demolition (C&D) material and 104,000 tons is municipal solid waste (MSW). Of the 104,000 tons of MSW, 60,000 tons is residential waste and 44,000 tons is commercial waste. Of the 60,000 residential MSW, 15% is recyclable material. This equates to 9,000 tons per year of recyclables not being captured (at \$100/ton to bring the material to a transfer station and a \$0/ton MRF tip fee is \$900,000 plus the revenue generated by resale of the recyclable material on the market). The MRF is currently receiving about 22,000 tons per year including commercial waste from within CSWD. The issue is how to capture the outstanding 9,000 tons of recyclables. The program offered by Recycle Bank will help. Also, Recycle Bank builds a database so recycling can be increased and tonnages going to the landfill decreased. Ron Gonen reiterated Recycle Bank is launching their program with Casella, but would like CSWD to be involved. Recycle Bank is interested in increasing recycling and wants to partner with the District on this endeavor.

MOTION by Dirk Reith, SECOND by Mike Coates, that the General Manager further investigate partnering with Recycle Bank and develop a reasonable proposal for consideration by the Board.

DISCUSSION: There was general agreement the program sounds like a great plan. There was question of incentive for haulers to decrease the cost of pickup rather than issuing coupons to customers. It was noted Recycle Bank dollars can be used to pay for hauler services. A credit is given for participating in the program and there are incentives beyond that (i.e. more pounds of recyclables earn more ‘dollars’). Public announcements can be made recognizing people and/or organizations successful in recycling. Participants in the program can decide what to do with their earned Recycle Bank dollars: spend them, give them away, donate them, or save them. There

is no financial incentive to cheat (i.e. add weight to a bin) because it is easy to receive the credit for participating and earn extra plus haulers can stop the tipper if there is something in a bin that should not be there (like a bowling ball to increase the weight). A letter is generated to the bin owner about the discovery. Casella is going with the program due to its uniqueness in offering incentive and money to recycle. Casella feels the program creates sustainability. Recycling is always going to be there, but the landfill will not. With the blue bin system, CSWD captures only 75% of the potential in the residential recycling program. The unique nature of rural pick up was mentioned. Recycle Bank will try to address specific needs. Recycle Bank only works with single stream recycling in place. Recycle Bank is growing and presently operating in Philadelphia. There was continued discussion of the Recycle Bank program. It was noted Recycle Bank has a commercial program where employees are given incentives to recycle.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

Steve Goodkind stressed Burlington most likely will not be increasing its collection fee to cover the \$2/month/household charge for the Recycle Bank program.

6. PUD TRANSFER – LEGAL FEES

MOTION by Bert Lindholm, SECOND by John Hammer, III, to authorize the transfer of \$1,077.84 from the PUD budget to the Future Projects budget for payment of related legal fees for January, 2006. VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

7. AMEND CSWD SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Tony Barbagallo explained the request from Mr. Beaudoin in Milton to keep his 'stump dump' open. Certification for the stump dump must be amended to indicate the facility is to remain open. CSWD's Solid Waste Management Plan must be similarly amended. There was mention of gathering input from the CSWD Board member from Milton before making a decision. It was noted local zoning will handle any violations.

MOTION by Mike Coates, SECOND by Thomas Nostrand, to table action on the request from Mr. Beaudoin regarding his categorical disposal facility (stump dump) in Milton until the Milton representative to the CSWD Board is present. VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

8. RESIDUALS MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT AMENDMENT EXTENSION

Tom Moreau explained the request to change the date of Notice of Termination from March 31, 2006 to June 30, 2006 to allow staff time to complete meetings with participating treatment plant personnel and New England Organics. The final date will be approved by the CSWD attorney. Mr. Moreau reported New England Organics is still wanting to pursue a fuel surcharge because to date they have absorbed the increases in fuel costs.

MOTION by Mike Coates, SECOND by Dirk Reith, to change the date of Notice of Termination from March 31, 2006 to June 30, 2006 as recommended by staff, and that the final date will be approved by the CSWD attorney. VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

9. PROGRAM UPDATES

Regional Landfill

Tom Moreau briefly reported on the hearing at Vermont Law School on 3/16/06. As yet a ruling has not been made.

Compensation System

Report on the CSWD compensation system is delayed, but forthcoming.

Litter

Northeast Waste Services has been alerted to the problem of trash blowing off their trucks. It appears people in general are littering along the roadsides as well.

FOG

Each town will receive a map showing the location of restaurants relative to the sewer system and information on how to regulate fats, oil, and grease in the system. There will also be information about where restaurants can bring the material for disposal (not down the drain).

10. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Dirk Reith, SECOND by Mary Houle, to adjourn the meeting. VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

M.E.Riordan, Recording Secretary

I agree that this is an original copy of minutes and they have been approved by motion of the Board of Commissioners at the _____ meeting held in _____.

Mike Coates, Secretary/Treasurer