

**JEFFERSON BELMONT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 13, 2025**

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Bob Baird, Mike Bianconi, Jerry Echemann, Scott Fabian, Andrew Henry, George Irvin Jr, Tony Kolanski, Robert Krajnyak, Joe Luckino, James Mavromatis, Mitch Morelli, Rob Sproul

ABSENT: John Davies, Chuck Dawson, Dan Lima

OTHERS: Anita Petrella, Scott Renforth, Natalie Lysle, Louise Holliday, Mark Bigler, Robert Kuchinski, Shawn Albaugh, Paul Romano, Tony Morelli

A quorum being present, Chair Scott Fabian called to order the regular meeting of the Jefferson Belmont Regional Solid Waste Authority Board at the JB Green Team building, 228 Technology Way, Steubenville, Ohio at 5:20PM on, Monday, January 13, 2025.

MINUTES: A motion to approve the December 9, 2024 regular monthly meeting minutes was made by Mr. Luckino, and seconded by Mr. Mavromatis. **Vote: 9 said Aye, with Mr. Echemann, Mr. Kolanski and Mr. Morelli abstaining. Motion passed.**

CORRESPONDENCE: Scott Fabian

Mr. Fabian read a Thank You Card from the Daily Bread Center in Martins Ferry for the \$50 to support feeding of local families.

STAFF REPORTS:

Fiscal Report: Scott Renforth

Mr. Renforth reported revenues for December 2024 of \$1,538,549.32, explaining that this includes the inter-fund transfer from \$1,250,000.00 from Funds 01 and 02 to cover Fund 03. So the \$288,549.38 is the Income less the \$1,250,000 amount. Total Expenditures for December is \$1,558,921.36, again 1,250,000 of that is from the transfer, and would be \$308,921.36 and leaves a negative net income for December of -\$20,372.04. Both Payroll and Non-Payroll Expenses were attached for review. Mr. Echemann asked if there was something with non-payroll that caused the negative amount. Mr. Renforth explained that everything comes due at the end of the year, he has only been here two Decembers, and it seems like Decembers are always in a negative.

A motion to accept the fiscal officer's report and approve Expenditures for December 2024 was made by Mr. Echemann and seconded by Mr. Irvin. **VOTE by Roll Call: All said Yes. Motion passed.**

The November Apex Report was reviewed by Mr. Renforth showing 10,046.82 tons In-District, 22,919.14 tons Out-of-District, 124,173.55 tons Out-of-State, yielding \$242,145.43 in fees.

Mr. Renforth asked for approval of the presented Tax Budget for 2025, explaining this budget was already approved in June 2024 and will be used in establishing a Temporary Appropriations for fiscal year 2025. He will have the Permanent Appropriations for the Board at the March Board Meeting.

A motion to approve the 2025 Tax Budget was made by Mr. Krajnyak, seconded by Mr. Irvin. **Roll call vote: All said Yes. Motion approved by unanimous vote.**

Mr. Bianconi asked about the Contract Fee Fund 02 of \$900,000 under the Non-payroll Expenses on page 2. Mr. Renforth explained that is part of the Intra-fund transfer of \$1,250,000. \$900,000.00 came out of Fund 02 to go to Fund 03, and \$350,000 came out of Fund 01 to go to Fund 03.

Mr. Renforth asked for a transfer of funds Fund 01 and Fund 02 to Capital Improvements Fund. Explaining that the Authority had ordered trucks about a year and half ago, and recently discussed them at the October meeting. Ms. Petrella stated this includes the extra truck to keep in Belmont County for a spare during breakdowns. Mr. Renforth stated that Fund 20 does not have enough money to cover the cost of both trucks. Ms. Petrella stated there would be one trade in and is estimating it at a trade-in value of \$60,000 like the last truck traded in. Mr. Renforth stated due to this he is asking for a transfer of up to \$400,000 to cover the trucks when they come in. The purchase of the trucks has already been approved by the Board.

Mr. Bianconi made a motion to transfer up to \$400,000 from Funds 01 and 02, into Fund 20 Capital Improvements. Mr. Sproul. **Roll call vote: All said Yes. Motion approved by unanimous vote.**

Director's Report: Anita Petrella

Ms. Petrella reported about the new generator that was put into place at the Belmont building to run the new drainage pumps that divert water runoff from around the building during power outages. She stated that when she arrived at the Belmont building on Friday morning before 7am the building was covered in, and full of white smoke. One driver was already there inside by the door. She immediately called ERB to get it shut down and they had someone there within 10 minutes. ERB said there had been a power outage before 2AM on Friday morning, which kicked on the generator as intended, for the first time. The generator motor had blown up, it was explained to her that it was a manufacturing defect that caused oil to drip onto the motor, not an installation error, and will be replaced by the manufacturer.

Ms. Petrella stated that six (6) concrete ballads were put in today to protect the generator from vehicles backing into it as requested by the Board Chair. It sits outside on the left side of the garage.

EEO Contracts

Ms. Petrella stated that Belmont Deputy Contract is for \$89,098.13 and the Jefferson Deputy Contract is for \$90,000.00. So both are around \$90,000.

Mr. Bianconi made a motion to accept both County Sheriff Contracts for 2025. Mr. Henry seconded. **Roll call Vote: 11 voting Yes, Mr. Irvin voting No. Motion approved.**

ADR Contract

Ms. Petrella stated the Annual District Report is done yearly, and the Fifteen Year Solid Waste Plan will need renewed in the upcoming months since it is done every 5 years, the Ohio EPA will notify her when that should begin. The quote from RRS to do just the ADR this year is

\$6,955.00. Ms. Petrella asked for a motion to allow her to sign the agreement with RRS who has done the Report for the last several years.

Mr. Luckino made a motion to allow Ms. Petrella to have the Annual District Report done by RRS for the amount of \$6,955. Mr. Krajnyak seconded. **VOTE by Roll Call: All said Yes. Motion passed.**

Electronic collections.

Ms. Petrella stated that information regarding Electronic Collections had been requested by Mr. Dawson and discussed at the meetings for the last six months but was tabled so that Mr. Dawson could be present for the discussion. Although he was unable to attend this evening she went ahead and explained that she sent an email to the Board with the details which included cost by weights. They could do one in the Spring and another in the Fall in Belmont County, but they cannot be on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday and will have to be between hours of 9-1. She requested to have two semi-trucks go to Belmont, and the company is looking for a way to track TV's taken directly to them from Jefferson County residents on a set scheduled day(s). The set dates would be announced, and she has no idea how much these collections will cost. She recommended setting the budget at \$40,000 in each county. The Household Hazardous Waste Collections now cost about \$50,000 each. Members discussed briefly.

A motion was made to approve up to \$40,000 in each County for Special Electronic Collections by Mr. Kolanski. Seconded by Mr. Bianconi. **VOTE by Roll Call: All said Yes. Motion passed.**

Special Community Cleanup Collections

Ms. Petrella stated that she will need approximately \$200,000 to do the Special Community Cleanup Collections that begin in the Spring annually. They usually run a little less than that, but that amount should cover them for the year.

Mr. Bianconi made a motion to approve \$200,000 for the Community Cleanup Collections in 2025. Seconded by Mr. Irvin. **Roll call vote: All said Yes. Motion approved.**

EEO 2024 Reports

Ms. Petrella presented the 2024 Environmental Officer's End of Year Reports to the Board for review.

The Junction

Ms. Petrella stated she heard back from Mr. Ewusiak from The Junction who told her they are ready to proceed in taking our materials and he would have the signed contract to her before tonight's meeting, but she has not yet received it. The Junction in Mingo will bale and haul the materials to the plant in Follansbee. She stated that there is a tour planned for that plant on Thursday, January 23rd if anyone is interested. She has already sent an email to the Board with that information. Members discussed briefly.

Mr. Bianconi made a motion to allow Ms. Petrella to sign the contract for doing business with The Junction in Mingo Jct. and begin taking the materials when the contract is received and signed by Ms. Petrella. Mr. Irvin seconded the motion.
Discussion. Ms. Petrella explained that the Authority will pay them \$50 compared to the \$100 currently paid to Kimble, and they will match what the Authority receives for paper

from Valley Converting. We will still take our paper to Valley, but it will be helpful during the Holidays, when Valley is shut down annually for maintenance, to have another location to take the paper/cardboard. Mr. Luckino asked if The Junction will still take plastics #1 through #7. Ms. Petrella answered yes they will, and they will take it all straight from the trucks rather than sorting. A lot of (the truck loads) are currently considered contaminated by Kimble because of plastics #3 through #7, but those plastics will then be acceptable through The Junction.

Roll Call Vote: All said Yes. Motion approved.

2025 Grants

Ms. Petrella stated the JB Green Team Recycling Initiatives Competitive Funding Project Grant program needs approval for 2025 funding. Mr. Renforth asked the Board to increase the amount from last year since the total funds requested ran pretty close. Members discussed briefly.

Mr. Bianconi made a motion to approve funding of up to \$110,000.00 for the 2025 JBGT Recycling Initiatives Competitive Funding Project Grants, Mr. Henry seconded. **Roll call vote. All said yes. Motion approved.**

Styrofoam Recycling

Ms. Petrella said she sent an email to the full Board about recycling Styrofoam, the Board was agreeable to doing a program about six months ago but the Authority would not generate enough volume to ship to them. She was recently contacted by a company with a different program that uses a machine to shrink and compact it into a small heavy brick, they have bins that they use with a bag system that can be collected with a pickup truck. Once we have 2-3 skids of compacted Styrofoam they will purchase them through a company in Mason, Ohio. The collection truck has a route and can add our location as a stop. The bins are \$2,700 each, the main densifier would cost \$75,000 to \$90,000, which would be placed outside the Jefferson building, and would need 3 phase electric, which it already has, and a 220-volt hookup. She estimates it will take about \$200,000 investment to start the program if bins are purchased for all sites in both Counties. She asked the Board if they would want to try the program, and if so how many sites, and bins they would want. She added that she is waiting to hear back from Ohio EPA to make sure it is allowable in the Solid Waste Plan. Mr. Baird asked what happens to the bins if this program doesn't work or ends. She answered they would likely get scrapped. The Board discussed and decided on starting off at a couple of the busier sites, introducing bins at five (5) sites in each county, for total of 10 bins.

Mr. Bianconi made a motion to Ms. Petrella to move forward in purchasing equipment to start the Styrofoam recycling program by purchasing 10 bins, 5 for each County, and the densifier to be placed at the Jefferson Building. Mr. Krajnyak seconded. **Roll Call Vote: All said Yes. Motion approved.**

Ms. Petrella continued to explain the process, adding that they will come and train the Authority staff on the densifier process which is included in the price.

Driver retiring in March

Ms. Petrella informed the Board that another Jefferson driver is retiring this year, Mr. Romano is planning to retire in March. She would like permission to hire a replacement driver now for training.

Mr. Krajnyak made a motion to allow Ms. Petrella to advertise and hire a replacement driver. Mr. Luckino seconded. **Vote: All said Aye. Motion passed.**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: Scott Fabian

Did not meet.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Rob Sproul

Did not meet.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT: Jim Mavromatis

Did not meet.

GRANTS/SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT: Mike Bianconi

Did not meet.

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT: Joe Luckino

Did not meet.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: George Irvin

Mr. Irvin stated the Committee did meet.

Mr. Irvin made a motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(1) Personnel Exception to consider the (choose any and all that apply) appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee. Mr. Sproul seconded. **Vote: All said Aye, motion approved.**

Mr. Irvin made a motion to exit Executive Session, Mr. Luckino seconded. **Vote: All said Aye, motion approved.**

Mr. Irvin made a motion offering a Contract to the Executive Director with a 5% increase from 2024 to 2025, and 3% increase each in the next two years, retroactive to January 1, 2025. Seconded by Mr. Baird. **Roll call vote: 10 voting Yes. Mr. Bianconi No, Mr. Echemann No. Motion approved.**

Mr. Irvin made a motion granting a .50 cent increase for office personnel, making it commensurate to what the drivers also received in increase from last year to this year, retroactive to January 1, 2025. Mr. Sproul seconded. **Roll Call Vote: 11 Yes, Mr. Echemann No. Motion approved.**

Mr. Irvin stated that in regard to the open position of Belmont County Coordinator, the application deadline closes on Wednesday, January 15th, so the Committee needs to schedule a time to meet with the top applicants. Members discussed and set Monday, January 27th at 4:30pm at the Belmont Building to meet. Mr. Fabian stated that the Belmont Educator position

will be next, but thinks the new Coordinator should be included and sit in on those interviews to have input.

LANDFILL REPORT: Andrew Henry

Mr. Henry reviewed the Apex Reports. The report provided reflects the entire 2024 year showing no Notice of Violations. Throughout the year his staff did detect odor 16 times during odor patrol which is down by 4 from the prior year, most of the time the odor was light overall. For the Month of December, the MSW was 157,094.06 tons, and CD&D was 105,086.10 tons, the CD&D total went up pretty substantial from 2023 to 2024. MSW was slightly higher. 2024 has a total of 240 Odor Complaints, which was down substantially from the previous year.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS: Scott Fabian

Mr. Fabian stated the Government Policy Group Contract is due, basically the same with monitoring for \$3,000 a month. Senate Bill 119 is being reintroduced in a new type of version, last year GPG stated under his language is said multiple counties will be affected. Mr. Fabian had asked that the verbiage be set so that multiple means three (3) or more Counties, so that it would no longer affect our two Counties. That language is being considered and may be put in.

Mr. Bianconi made a motion to approve the contract with the Government Policy Group for 2025 in the amount of \$3,000 a month. Mr. Luckino seconded. **Roll Call Vote: All said Yes. Motion approved.**


Next meeting is set for Monday, February 10, 2025 at 5:30pm at the Belmont JB Green Team building.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 pm. with a motion from Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Mavromatis. Vote: All said Aye. Motion approved.

ATTEST:


Scott Fabian, Chair


Mike Bianconi, Secretary