

DRAFT
CHITTENDEN SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
19 Gregory Drive South Burlington
MEETING ROOM
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
June 25, 2025

***Hybrid Meeting via Zoom.**

PRESENT

BOARD MEMBERS:	Bolton	-----
	Burlington	Lee Perry
	Charlotte	Ken Spencer
	Colchester	Lauren Eagan
	Essex	Alan Nye
	Essex Junction	Mike Sullivan
	Hinesburg	Rick McCraw
	Huntington	Barb Winters
	Jericho	Tom Joslin, Alt.
	Milton	Henry Bonges
	Richmond	Andrew French
	Shelburne	Margaret Wiener
	So. Burlington	Paul Stabler
		Alison Lazarz, Alt.
	Underhill	Paul Ruess
	Westford	-----
	Williston	-----
	Winooski	Rachel Kennedy, Alt.

STAFF: Sarah Reeves, Amy Jewell, Jen Holliday, Josh Estey, Becky Johnston, Dan Goossen

OTHERS PRESENT: Thomas Melloni, Legal; Brian Somers, Curb Resources Collection

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order & Agenda
2. Public Comment Period
3. Consent Agenda
4. MRF Update
5. MRF Bond
6. Other Business

1. CALL TO ORDER & AGENDA – Accepted as presented. P. Ruess called meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – Brian Somers from the Curb Resource Collection asked about the tax that the City of Burlington charges CSWD for recycling. S. Reeves responded that she would respond to Brian by the next full Board meeting.

3. CONSENT AGENDA –

- Pulled the Executive Director update and discussed the fire system at the new MRF. M. Weiner, R. McCraw, and L. Nulty asked about the logistics of the new system and H.

Bonges asked about the impact it might have on insurance rates. Also noted in the update was a new section for Commissioner questions received by Sarah in between meetings.

- Legislative update – J. Holliday provided the following information on the legislative update
 - Household Hazardous Waste Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Law – The law that was passed two years ago is the first EPR for HHW law in the U.S. and producers were having difficulty getting organized. Implementation of the law was extended one year to provide more time for the producers. HCPA, a trade organization of producers will likely serve as the producer stewardship organization and will that have more time to submit a plan to the State agency; if a plan is not submitted, the Agency will implement its own plan and charge the producers accordingly.
 - Pesticide Collection and Disposal Costs – The VT Agency of Agriculture has supported pesticide collection programs provided by Solid Waste Management Entities such as CSWD for the past 25 years -giving grants to reimburse for the cost of pesticide disposal. Funds for the grant come from an annual registration fee that producers are required to pay. The fund has not kept up with the cost of pesticide collection. This legislative session, the law was changed to provide additional funding by increasing the registration fee for pesticide producers and also requires the Agency of Agriculture to study other more sustainable funding methods including EPR and report back to the legislature this December.
- Rick McCraw asked about EPR for tires. J. Holliday responded noting the difficulty of passing an EPR on tires due to lack of support from the producers and retailers and data. Notes that Connecticut is the only state to have passed an EPR law for tires to date, and that they are having issues with the law. K. Spencer asked about the tires and using community cleanup fund for tires. P. Ruess tabled the question for a later time.

4. MRF Update – S. Reeves gave an update on the MRF Project. A Conservation Commission meeting will be held in July and will come back and talk about Class III wetlands and the habitat report and that will go as well. August will be the DRB review. This project does not require an Act 250 permit, which shaves time and cost from the total process. We are also exempt from Archeology. We are municipal project disturbing fewer than 10 acres. Adding significant future flexibility with the storage size. S. Reeves showed the map of the new system and the outline of the truck flow through the MRF and over the scale. P. Ruess asked about the timeline, the goal of which is still to break ground in September. Stormwater permit takes about 60-70 days, and we are waiting on the habitat disturbance report. It was requested that a MRF cash flow forecast be brought to the board. Do plan to have a groundbreaking ceremony and have the Board in attendance.

5. MRF Bond Issuance – T. Melloni introduced the resolution to approve issuance of \$12 million bond to finance a part of the cost of the MRF. He noted that voters approved the Bond in March 2022 for \$22 million and the resolution is to approve the remaining \$12 million through the Vermont Bond Bank. He said they will be pricing their bonds on July 19, 2025, and closing on August 16, 2025. The resolution approves the issuance of the bond and authorizes the Chair and Vice Chair to sign. He noted the resolution is to defer principle for four years, with final maturity payment in 2049. He noted that there is a loan agreement that requires a signature. L. Nulty said that she would have been more comfortable if there had been a financial cash flow forecast, noting that it is several

years later and there have been lot of changes with the economy. **Motion by L. Nulty, Second by P. Stabler that the Board adopt the resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the Chittenden Solid Waste District for the bond financing as presented in the board packet and presented at this meeting. Voting: All Ayes. Motion Carried.**

6. Other Business

B. Winters noted that the Huntington Conservation Commission is aware that many folks in Huntington are cleaning up invasives in their yards and at FEMA sites. She doesn't feel it's publicly known that these could go to the ORF. She requested that staff sends a write up about invasives and proper management disposal to put on Front Porch Forum. D Goossen responds that it is not loudly advertised because it is a complicated issue, and because there are some exceptions to which invasives can be taken and how. CSWD staff will follow up with language to post to FPF.

S. Reeves publicly acknowledged Jen Holliday for receiving the ***Lifetime Achievement Award – Pioneer - Extended Producer Responsibility*** award from the Product Stewardship Institute for her 25 years leading EPR efforts, in Vermont and nationally. S. Reeves said that CSWD is fortunate to have Jen working for CSWD.

D. Goossen said that Gardener's Supply is filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. They are a major customer of CSWD, representing about 26% of product sales. He noted that this will mean that we will have more product available to sell to others as we always sell out and we do have other garden centers who can purchase more material. Gardener's Supply owes CSWD approximately \$74,000 and we are twentieth on the list for collecting from Gardener's. CSWD is working with T. Melloni to protect our rights and file a claim as needed. D. Goossen said that this is the end of the sales season, so what is currently owed represents the total amount and at that a national company might purchase Gardener's Supply providing further opportunity. Further information will be available by August 6th. D. Goossen notes that demand is here locally and that CSWD is optimistic for future sales, despite this change to Gardener's Supply.

7. Adjournment – Motion by P. Stabler, seconded by A. Nye to adjourn the meeting. Voting: All Ayes. Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44PM.

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 _____.
