

DRAFT

**CHITTENDEN SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
IN-PERSON/ZOOM MEETING
November 15, 2023 - Regular Meeting**

PRESENT

BOARD MEMBERS:

Bolton	-----
Burlington	-----
Charlotte	Ken Spencer
Colchester	Liz Hamlin Volz
Essex	Alan Nye
Essex Junction	Mike Sullivan
Hinesburg	Rick McCraw
Huntington	-----
Jericho	Leslie Nulty
	Tom Joslin, alt.
Milton	Henry Bonges
Richmond	Andrew French
Shelburne	Margy Wiener
So. Burlington	Paul Stabler
	Allison Lazarz, alt.
St. George	-----
Underhill	Paul Ruess
Westford	-----
Williston	Kelton Bogasky
Winooski	Bryn Oakleaf
	Rachel Kennedy, alt.

STAFF: Sarah Reeves, Amy Jewell, Jen Holliday, Josh Estey, Jeannine McCrumb

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Myers, Myers Recycling, Michael Casella, Casella Waste Management

AGENDA:

1. Agenda
2. Public Comment Period
3. Consent Agenda
4. FY 25 Preliminary Budget
5. Asphalt Shingles
4. Other Business

1. CALL TO ORDER and AGENDA - Chair Paul Ruess called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. He requested to discuss the asphalt shingles prior to the FY 25 Preliminary Budget.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – Mike Casella expressed concern for the proposed increase to the solid waste management fee in the proposed FY 25 Budget.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA** – minor changes to the minutes, accepted as presented, with changes included.

5. **ASPHALT SHINGLES** – S. Reeves reviewed that Myers Recycling Facility submitted a request to extend the waiver for separation and collection requirements for asphalt shingles and to extend the waiver of the solid waste management fee (SWMF) for this material. Due to no viable markets, in August 2022 the Board approved a temporary waiver through 8/31/2023 and extended the waiver through 12/31/2023 and also agreed to waive the SWMF for previously stockpiled material. The stockpiled material is approved for road building use at the landfill in Coventry. S. Reeves noted that Compliance Specialist Jeannine McCrumb researched regional markets and concluded there currently are no markets for asphalt shingles. The first resolution in the memo is to waive the separation requirement that is listed in CSWD's Solid Waste Management Ordinance. S. Reeves also noted that we could remove this additional separation requirement from our Ordinance. J. Estey reviewed the process for Ordinance changes, which includes several board meetings, a public review process, and an appeals process, with an expected effective change date of July 1, 2024. P. Ruess asked if we waive this, do the shingles go into the landfill?. J. McCrumb answered that is part of the discussion for tonight regarding previous versus new material.

MOTION by R. McCraw second by Kelton Bogasky, be it Resolved that the Chittenden Solid Waste District's Board of Commissioners hereby waives until further notice the separation and collection requirements for asphalt shingles as described in the Solid Waste Management Ordinance. VOTING: ALL Ayes. Motion Carries.

S. Reeves explained that our Board also waived the requirement for Myers to pay the SWMF fee. CSWD's SWMF is \$27/ton, but when material is used for alternate daily cover (ADC) or other landfill site improvements it is charged 25% of that fee at \$6.75/ton. The rationale for the waiver was that Myers had been collecting and separating the material with the hopes of recycling it and did not collect the SWMF from their customers. If they now had to bring that material to a landfill the additional cost is a burden. The Board agreed to waive the fee for a 12-month period which was extended to December 31, 2023. Staff is now recommending that as of January 1, 2024, 25% of the SWMF, as outlined in the ordinance be instituted.

Discussion was held regarding consideration to extend the waiver or to implement the 25% SWMF. Staff recommends implementing the 25% SWMF as of January 1, 2024, partially due to there being precedent for materials being used in a similar way. Jeff Myers represented to the Board the work done at his facility to separate the shingles which includes four employees hand sorting the material. He said that this recycling process is beneficial to the community and to Casella, who uses it for road building at the landfill in Coventry, saving them money by not buying virgin material such as stone. J. Myers said that his facility is doing more recycling than any other transfer station in Vermont and should not have to pay the \$6.75/ton fee.

The Board held a lengthy discussion on the logistics of Myers collection process and Casella's savings in using that material for road building. Questions included inquiry regarding Casella and Myers negotiating preferential rates given Casella's savings from using this material and whether Myers is passing the SWMF fee onto his customers. J. Holliday informed the Board that that State has waived the landfill ban on asphalt shingles so there is no requirement and S. Reeves noted that CSWD's Ordinance states that the Board may exempt or partially exempt other materials from the imposition of the SWMF upon good cause shown.

J. Estey noted that any approved materials sent to the landfill that are used for beneficial reuse, such as alternative daily cover, and are approved by the State, are charged 25% of the SWMF fee. J. McCrumb said that we want to be consistent and the reason that the Board approved the initial waiver for Myers is because the stockpiled material wasn't charged the SWMF fee. Once that stockpile is depleted, the staff recommendation is to implement a 25% SWMF. J. Estey explained this reduced fee was put in place to acknowledge that the material was being used for beneficial reuse and replacing virgin material, but to also recognize that in the end, it is ending up in a landfill. A board member asked whether any other materials that have historically been approved for beneficial reuse in the landfill, and thus a 75% reduction in the SWMF, have required similar additional processing as shingles – S. Reeves confirmed that to her knowledge they didn't.

MOTION by P. Stabler, second K. Spencer to continue the waiver of the solid waste management fee on asphalt shingles that are used for road building in the landfill in Coventry through December 31, 2024, and furthermore to direct staff to continue to investigate markets for this material and report back to the Board in a timely manner. MOTION: All Ayes. Motion carries.

P. Ruess thanked Myers for the recycling program that they have in place and acknowledged the work that is done at that facility including the previous work done in hand-sorting asphalt shingles for recycling.

4. FY 25 Preliminary Budget –

P. Ruess introduced that this is a preliminary budget required by Charter to be presented to the Board no later than December 1 and that further work will be done on the proposed budget and presented to the Finance Committee and then the Board. He noted that this process is done to notify member municipalities if an assessment will be charged.

S. Reeves introduced the proposed FY 25 Budget and noted that there are no member assessments contained in the proposed budget. She informed the Board of the key drivers for the budget as presented. Those include: a 4% cost of living, which we believe will go down when the budget is further developed in February; a 10% increase to health insurance and fuel and utilities; a 10% increase to the MRF tipping fees; increase to revenue from interest (200%), and a 1% increase to the solid waste management fee. S. Reeves noted while she is recommending an increase to the solid waste management fee from \$27/ton (set in 2013) to \$30/ton, the increase is not yet factored into the proposed budget. She noted that we have seen double-digit cost increases in recent years with no change to the SWMF. The fees will allow the District to augment the Closed Landfill Reserve, which is likely to fall short of anticipated need should PFAS treatment of the landfill's leachate be required by either the EPA or ANR. It was noted that \$27 in 2013 dollars would roughly equate \$36 dollars in 2023.

MOTION by Kelton Bogasky, second by Alan Nye, be it Resolved that the Board of Commissioners acknowledges the receipt of a proposed Fiscal Year 2025 budget to be further developed through the normal budget process.

VOTING: All Ayes. Motion Carries.

M. Casella noted that CSWD is in the black and commended CSWD for the nice job that has been done in building infrastructure. He said he would like to know specifically what the increase will be used for and understands the need for post-closure money for the landfill.

6. Other Business. No other business

Motion to adjourn. Moved by K. Bogasky, seconded by A. Nye. VOTING: All ayes. Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Amy Jewell, 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 Williston.

Amy Jewell, Secretary