

Draft

**CHITTENDEN SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
IN-PERSON/ZOOM MEETING
April 24, 2024 - Regular Meeting**

PRESENT

BOARD MEMBERS:

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

STAFF: Sarah Reeves, Amy Jewell, Jen Holliday, Josh Estey, Beth Parent, Dan Goossen

OTHERS PRESENT: Thomas Melloni, Attorney

AGENDA:

1. Agenda
2. Public Comment Period
3. Consent Agenda
4. Outreach & Communications Update
5. ORF Contamination Policy
6. Other Business

1. CALL TO ORDER and AGENDA - Chair Paul Ruess called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – No public present.

3. CONSENT AGENDA – Accepted as presented.

Minutes changes from Rick McCraw:

- P. 4, change fees to costs - municipalities have payroll “*fees*” over 50%” to “*costs*”
- P. 4, correct typo in the first bullet, to read **\$4.3** million.
- Revised Maintenance and Roll-off bullet regarding the accounting sentence and trailer

Further discussion/clarification on:

- compostable “foodware” versus “products”
- capital projections sentence clarification.
- request to change the terminology in the future from “waterfall effect.”

Minutes accepted with above noted corrections.

4. OUTREACH & COMMUNICATIONS – CSWD’s Community Engagement & Outreach Manager Beth Parent introduced the Outreach team and the work they do in the community. She presented a PowerPoint that included an introduction of the three Outreach Coordinators, Rhonda Mace, Gabriella Stevens, and Kat Moody. Outreach encompasses five buckets, including business, community, and school outreach, as well as online outreach and partnerships. She praised the work that the team does in providing tactical assistance, workshops, presentations, and education. B. Parent said that this year the team is working on partnerships, which expands the education and engagement in our community. The goal is to partner with like-minded organizations to further CSWD’s mission.

CSWD partnered with *Astronomers Without Borders* to collect and reuse the solar eclipse glasses, which started small and then the project grew. Many other organizations joined forces in the collection process, which also generated media interest locally and nationally. This story was picked up by the Boston Globe and the Associated Press.

She noted that the Outreach Team has taken over the CSWD Digest, started *Frequently Asked Friday* on our social channels, and quite regularly spotlights businesses, schools, and events, with photos and holds tabling events. She requested that the board join our social channels and encouraged them to give a like or a share.

P. Ruess said that the enthusiasm is infectious and thanked the team for the positive work. R. Kennedy thanked the outreach team for the initiatives they are working on. K. Spencer suggested that if CSWD sends the posts to Board members, they could be shared with Front Porch Forum. She noted that a lot of the information will be in the CSWD Digest as well. P. Ruess asked why we do Outreach. B. Parent said that the team feels that this work is rewarding, and the personal connections help to further the mission. S. Reeves noted that we have a lot of folks from out of the area moving in and we have to educate them as well. S. Reeves also said it is an obligation within our Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP), which has requirements regarding education and outreach. She noted that CSWD far exceeds the SWIP minimum requirement. P. Stabler said that the major factor of having the highest recycling rate in the country is because of the outreach work. J. Holliday also noted that we also have one of the lowest contamination rates at our MRF and this is also attributed to the education being done. B. Oakleaf said that the online presents are awesome and adding monthly events and partnerships and co-promotion has been a great addition. She also noted that she is glad the website A-Z list is being used and enhanced because she uses it all of the time.

5. Organics Recycling Facility Contamination Policy – S. Reeves reviewed the proposed ORF Contamination policy, which was presented to the board last month and is being brought back with minor changes as outlined in the memo. She noted that there was a section that was confusing and

that has been removed and can be handled in a different way. She said that if the board approves this tonight, the policy would be in place for July 1, 2024.

D. Goossen said we presented in March, but not all board members were there so he's available to answer any questions. He said that ORF enjoys good quality, low contamination food waste as compared to other compost facilities around the country but is also looking forward to having a tool to bring this back to a lower level of contamination. M. Wiener suggested that photos be included in this process because it is so convincing. D. Goossen said that photos would be included and will have in-person invites to haulers and generators to see what contamination looks like. K. Bogasky agreed that having this will be helpful and partnering with the Outreach team to continue to re-educate when needed. S. Reeves said that the goals are to identify problem areas and provide education.

R. McCraw said in the rates table the last page under load status accepted, associated fine, change from "no additional fine" to "no fine."

B. Oakleaf asked about how the flow from the hauler to the generator will work. D. Goossen said that they won't be able to identify the generator each time, but it will be up to the hauler. CSWD will provide education when the generator is known. The haulers do support the contamination policy and will pass fines on when they can, which may not be all of the time. B. Oakleaf asked about logistics and messaging and how that will reach the right place to provide education versus it just becoming a financial issue. D. Goossen explained that CSWD will try to identify the violator in the incident report and will notify within 36 hours. B. Oakleaf said she was reviewing the document and cautioned the 36-hour window. S. Reeves suggested modifying the wording to read, "*...will aim to complete a contaminated load report and send the hauler a digital copy within two business days.*" This change would accommodate any additional time needed for contaminated loads that are received on a Saturday.

A. Nye asked about the haulers and the change. D. Goossen said that we have had in-person meetings and a lot of support from haulers with this process. D. Goossen said the implementation tonight would give us some time to work through the process without assessing fines.

L. Nulty said that S. Reeves talked about contaminated organics and identified schools as one of the problem areas and would assume other cafeterias would be problem. She felt that the Outreach team should take this back to the problem areas. S. Reeves agreed that this would be the first step after identifying where the materials are originating, and we do need the haulers help with that.

R. McCraw asked about the table of fine. If hypothetical of 5-10% area of contamination, it would be a \$75/ton and add in some incidental contamination, would that be on top of the contamination. D. Goossen said yes it would be in addition to.

MOTION by K. Bogasky, Second by P. Stabler, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the Organics Recycling Facility Contamination Policy as written, with implementation of any financial policies associated with contamination to begin July 1, 2024, with the following noted changes:

- 1) wording to read "*...will aim to complete a contaminated load report and send the hauler a digital copy within two business days.*"

2) First line of the rates, change “no additional fines” to “no fine”

VOTING: All Ayes, motion passes.

6. Other Business –

- S. Reeves reminded cities/towns that start with letters A-K, that Board appointments are up at the end of May and to remind your towns to let Amy know of reappointment and to send a copy of the minutes.
- B. Oakleaf, happy Green Up Day.
- P. Ruess noted that the May meeting will be an important with the MRF Construction project and encourages board members to attend. S. Reeves said had 7 or 8 attend walk through meeting and is hoping we have at least 2-4 bidders.

Motion by K. Bogasky, Second A. Nye to adjourn the meeting. VOTING: All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 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 South Burlington.

Amy Jewell, Secretary