

**BERKS COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
September 20, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Board of the Berks County Solid Waste Authority (the "Authority") was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on September 20, 2016, in the Commissioners' meeting room, 13th Floor, County Services Center, 633 Court Street, Reading, Pennsylvania.

The following members were present:

Mr. Charles Mowbray
Ms. Michelle Kircher
Mr. Brian Clements
Michael Gombar, Jr., Esquire
Charles Jones, PE

Absent were, Ms. Dale-Ann Farina, Mr. Tony Rymar, Mr. Tony Sacco and John Pagerly, CPA.

Also present:

Ms. Jane Meeks, Executive Director of the Berks County Solid Waste Authority
Douglas Paul Rauch, Esquire, Geogeadis/Setley

The Chairman declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public chose to speak.

MINUTES

Upon a motion by Ms. Kircher, seconded by Mr. Clements, the minutes of the regular meeting of July 19, 2016, were unanimously approved.

FINANCE

Treasurer's Report:

Ms. Meeks distributed the Treasurer's Report and invoices for payment and reviewed them with the Board. Upon a motion by Mr. Gombar, seconded by Ms. Kircher, the Board approved the payment of all invoices, ratified the payment of invoices previously paid and accepted the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Jones abstained from this vote, due to the payment to Great Valley Consultants for engineering work completed at the Recycling Center.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Mr. Mowbray and Mr. Rauch recommended that the Board enter into Executive Session to discussion current litigation with New Morgan Landfill Company.

At 3:30 PM, upon a motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Ms. Kircher the Board entered into Executive Session, to discuss litigation. At 3:45 PM, upon a motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Ms. Kircher the Chairman declared the Board meeting back in open session.

Upon a motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Ms. Kircher the Board unanimously approved having our Solicitor enter a written appearance in response to the New Morgan Landfill Company, Inc. lawsuit.

Mr. Rauch indicated that in addition to the New Morgan issues, he has been assisting with the Bern Township Land Development project, for the improvements at the Recycling Center.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Update on fall collection events

Ms. Meeks reported that the Paper Shredding and Household Hazardous Waste collections are all on schedule with all arrangements completed. She indicated that the Authority will once again partner with Opportunity House to collect used books for their initiative. She indicated that she currently has volunteers from the Conrad Weiser football team, Exeter School District and the Adult probation, in addition to other volunteers.

Ms. Meeks also, reported that the 2017 collection dates and locations have been confirmed and that information on those collections will be distributed at our fall collection events. Those events will be held on the following dates, from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

Paper Shredding

April 22nd – Governor Mifflin Intermediate School
October 14th – Berks County Ag Center

Household Hazardous Waste

April 15th – Governor Mifflin Intermediate School
October 21st – Berks County Ag Center

B. Update on paving project

Ms. Meeks updated the Board on the status of the Land Development Plan and new storage building. She indicated that on August 11th we were notified by LTL, Bern Township Building Code Official that the proposed new storage building is not compliant with the International Fire Code 2009. A fire hydrant is required within 400’ on the fire apparatus access road, within the front of the new

storage building. She indicated that a meeting was held in response to this issue, with Keary Bortz, LTL, Chief Fisher, Greenfield Fire Chief, Brian Potts, Bern Township Manager and herself to discuss this issue. It was agreed that the number of fire apparatus and available tankers that would respond to a fire at this location is adequate, since the County Insurance Company has submitted a letter indicating that they are willing to insure this structure, without adequate fire suppression, as required under the International Fire Code of 2009. Ms. Meeks indicated that now that this major issue has been resolved the only outstanding issue is related to the submission of the electrical plan, which is being developed by Blatt & Zaffary, who has been awarded the electrical contract and two small issues related to the height of the threshold for the man door and the size of the landing. Pioneer Pole Barn is currently redoing those drawing to correct this issue. Once we have these two final issues resolved a building permit can then be obtained. Ms. Meeks indicated that due to these setbacks this project will not be completed until the spring of 2017, rather than this fall as originally planned.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. Meeks indicated that Len McKinnon has been working at the recycling center for a few months through County Employment. She requested and the board agreed to hire Len as a part-time employee at a rate of \$12.50 at the termination of his contract with County Employment.

Ms. Meeks indicated that she has had many conversations with ECOvanta regarding the extension of our electronic recycling contract for 2017. She indicated that at this time, they believe that they will be able to service our contract for 2017 with little or no change in our current contract. She indicated like in the past, ECOvanta will not have a final answer from the manufacturers until sometime late fall or the first part of 2017.

Ms. Meeks indicated that 56,500 residents have participated in our full-time electronic recycling center since opening in July of 2010, recycling over 6.5 million pounds of electronics. Over 13,000 of those residents used the site during the first eight months of 2016, recycling nearly two million pounds of electronic waste.

Ms. Meeks indicated that she has resubmitted the County 904 Performance grant to include the materials from Tilden Township, since they have decided not to submit an application this year. She indicated that this increased the County performance grant to over \$44,000 an increase of nearly \$16,500.

Ms. Meeks indicated that the 902 Recycling Grant program that was originally anticipated to be announced in July, have been put on hold. She indicated that \$9 million dollars has been moved from the recycling fund to help balance the State Budget.

Ms. Meeks indicated that most of the other items outlined in her report have been discussed throughout today's meeting and offered to answer any questions that members may have, regarding her report.

Next Meeting Date

Mr. Mowbray indicated that the next Authority meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 3:00 PM in the Commissioners' meeting room.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:05 p.m., upon a motion by Ms. Kircher, seconded by Mr. Gombar the Board unanimously resolved to adjourn.