

**BERKS COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
January 15, 2013**

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 January 15, 2013, 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. Tony Sacco
Mr. Brian W. Clements
Ms. Dale-Ann Farina
Ms. Karen Feridun
John Pagerly, CPA
John Bradley, Esquire

Absent was Charles Jones, PE.

Also present:

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

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

Public Comment

No members of the public chose to speak.

Reorganization:

a. Election of Officers:

The Nominating Committee submitted the following slate of officers, for 2013:

Charles Mowbray – Chairman
Michelle Kircher – Vice Chairman
John Pagerly – Treasurer
Dale-Ann Farina – Secretary
Tony Sacco – Assistant Secretary

Ms. Feridun moved and Mr. Sacco seconded the closing of nominations.

Upon a motion by Ms. Feridun, seconded by Mr. Sacco, the above slate of officers were unanimously elected and approved.

b. Appointment of Solicitor:

Upon a motion by Ms. Feridun, seconded by Ms. Kircher, the Board unanimously resolved to retain the services of Georgeadis Setley Attorneys and Advisors, for the fiscal year 2013, at an annual retainer of \$25,000.

c. Appointment of Auditor:

Upon a motion by Ms. Feridun, seconded by Mr. Pagerly, the Board unanimously resolved to retain the services of Reinsel Kuntz Leshner, to conduct our 2012 Audit, at a rate of \$6,900 and to authorize the Chairman to sign the engagement letters.

Minutes

Upon a motion by Ms. Kircher, seconded by Ms. Farina, the minutes of the regular meetings of November 20, 2012, were approved.

Finance

a. Treasurer's Report:

Ms. Meeks distributed the Treasurer's Report and reviewed it with the Board. Upon a motion by Mr. Sacco, seconded by Ms. Feridun, the Board unanimously approved the payment of all invoices, ratified the payment of invoices previously paid and accepted the Year End Treasurer's Report, subject to Audit.

b. 2013 Authority Budget

Ms. Meeks indicated that the Finance Committee, which is made up of Mr. Jones, Mr. Mowbray and Mr. Pagerly met to review and develop the 2013 Authority Budget. She then reviewed the revenue and expenses, with the Board. Ms. Meeks indicated that the Authority has received the \$185,000 allocation from the County, for 2013, which is one of our largest revenue sources.

Upon a motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Ms. Farina, the Board unanimously approved the 2013 Budget, as proposed. A copy of the budget is attached hereto.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Rauch reported that since the Authority's last Board meeting, he has been working on various matters including the termination of the Food Waste contract with Cogle's Recycling and issues related to the Berks County Solid Waste Management Plan revision. Mr. Rauch indicated that he is currently working with PADEP to ensure that the revision will be

considered a minor revision and to ensure that similar contracts will be permitted and that the receipt of Host Fees by the County will not be affected. Mr. Rauch indicated that he hopes to have additional information for our March Board Meeting.

New Business

A. 2012 Annual Report

Ms. Meeks distributed and reviewed the 2012 Annual Report with the Board. Mr. Mowbray indicated that he thinks the Report is helpful in clarifying the role of the Authority and the projects undertaken by this Board. The Board unanimously agreed to accept the Report and thanked their Executive Director for putting this information together. Mr. Mowbray requested that Ms. Meeks share this Report with the Reading Eagle and the County Commissioners.

Ms. Meeks stated that she will post the Report on our website and will send an electronic copy to the Commissioners for their review.

B. Update on changes to Rural Recycling Program

Ms. Meeks indicated that based on the bids that were received by the County, for our Rural Recycling program, the County has awarded the three year contact to AJ Blosenski for the full-time recycling centers. She indicated that this change is expected to result in a \$ 36,000 savings for 2013 and even greater savings in future years, over staying with the rotating schedule. This will require the Authority to purchase three (3) new roll-off containers at a cost of \$16,000, which will be recouped during the first year of the program.

Old Business

A. Food Waste Composting

Ms. Meeks indicated that Cogle's Recycling has been given notice of termination of our contract effective February 7, 2013. She indicated that she requested information from Mid Atlantic Waste Systems on the estimated value of our food waste totes and roll-off container. Mid Atlantic originally thought that the roll-off container could be worth as much as \$40,000 and that a fair value for the tote would be between \$10 and \$25 each. She indicated that Summit Trailer, who built our roll-off container provided a depreciation schedule indicated that he believes the roll-off container purchased in 2011 for \$49,200 would be worth \$31,881.60 at this time. Ms. Meeks explained that she has received a written proposal from Cogle's Recycling to purchase 291 of our totes at \$8 each and the roll-off container for \$31,881.60. Ms. Meeks also indicated that the Berks County Jail System is interested in 134 of the totes that are currently stored at our Recycling Center for use in their food waste composting project and other recycling programs at the jail. Ms. Meeks indicated that 90% of the revenue received for the sale of this material will be returned to the State, since it was originally purchased through a 902 grant.

After much discussion the Board directed their Executive Director to contact Cogle's Recycling to see if they would be interested in purchasing just the totes and if so, authorized her

to advertise the roll-off container for bids. If they are only interested in purchasing the toters and roll-off container as a package, they requested her to ask Cogle's to resubmit their offer at a higher value.

The Board requested their Executive Director to contact the Board by e-mail prior to our March Board meeting with an update on the Cogle's proposal and recommended that a vote by e-mail be taken on this subject.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Meeks briefly reviewed her Executive Director's report, which is attached.

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, March 19, 2013 at 3:00 PM in the Commissioners' meeting room.

Adjournment

At 3:55p.m., upon a motion by Ms. Kircher, seconded by Mr. Pagerly, the Board unanimously resolved to adjourn.