

**GREATER NEW BEDFORD REGIONAL REFUSE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
DISTRICT MEETING – April 29, 2013**

Final Minutes

The Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District Committee held a publicly posted meeting on Monday, April 29, 2013 at 3:30 PM at the Dartmouth Town Hall, Room 314, 400 Slocum Road, Dartmouth, MA.

District Committee Members in attendance: Rosemary Tierney, Chairperson; Isaac Graves, Greg Lynam, and Nathalie Dias. Richard Medeiros is absent. Jeff King is absent due to the fact that the meeting date was rescheduled.

Also present: Scott Alfonse, Executive Director; Hank Van Laarhoven, Director of Operations, Cynthia Cammarata, Secretary.

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Tierney called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

2. Salute to the Flag

All in attendance stood to salute the Flag.

3. Legal Notices

Chairperson Tierney called for a motion to accept that Legal Notices were posted timely both in New Bedford and Dartmouth. Motion made by Mrs. Dias, seconded by Mr. Graves, voted 4-0.

4. Approve Minutes of the District Meeting on January 22, 2013

Chairperson Tierney called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the District Meeting on March 26, 2013. Motion made by Mr. Lynam, seconded by Mrs. Dias. Voted 4-0.

5. New Business

a. Director's Report.

Chairperson Tierney asked for a motion to hear the Director's report. Motion made by Mrs. Dias, seconded by Mr. Lynam.

Chairperson Tierney recognized the Executive Director. Mr. Alfonse thought that it might be helpful to provide the committee with a brief memo, and referred to 5a included in the packet. He is open to any input as to whether this is helpful and asked there are any suggestions or comments. Mr. Alfonse said he would be happy to elaborate on any of the subjects. Mr. Lynam commented that he felt this is excellent, and Mrs. Dias concurred and thanked Mr. Alfonse. Mr. Alfonse will prepare this monthly. There was a brief discussion about the gull population; the most effective deterrent is a propane fire banger.

Chairperson Tierney called for a vote to accept the report and place it on file. Voted 4-0.

b. Appointment of Chief Procurement Officer

Chairperson Tierney called for a motion to appoint Scott Alfonse Chief Procurement Officer. Motion made by Mr. Lynam, seconded by Mrs. Dias.

Chairperson Tierney called for a vote to appoint Scott Alfonse Chief Procurement Officer. Voted 4-0.

RECEIVED
JUL 03 P 12:21
DARTMOUTH TOWN CLERK

- c. Authorization to advertise Invitation for Bids for Security services.

Chairperson Tierney called for a motion to authorize the advertisement of an Invitation to Bid for Security services. Motion made by Mr. Lynam, seconded by Mr. Graves.

Chair Tierney asked if there were any questions. Mr. Lynam asked where we stand now on security. Mr. Alfonse told the Board that the District uses roughly 63 hours per week; from 3:00 PM to 11:00 PM on weekdays, and from 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM on weekends and holidays. Mr. Alfonse said that the biggest threat for vandalism is with the ATV's. Mr. Van Laarhoven explained that when the landfill first opened, the neighbors were concerned about odors; due to economic reasons we have reduced the amount of Security hours.

Chairperson Tierney called for a vote authorize to advertise Invitation for Bids for Security services. Voted 4-0.

- d. Authorization to advertise Request for Proposals for Temporary labor services; Wastewater maintenance services; Landfill inspection, testing and monitoring services

e. **Chairperson Tierney Authorization to advertise Request for Proposals for Temporary labor services; Wastewater maintenance services; Landfill inspection, testing and monitoring services**

- f. Update on Hawes property, Quanapoag Rd.

Chairperson Tierney asked for a motion to discuss the role of the District Committee. Motion made by Mr. Lynam, seconded by Mr. King.

Mr. Lynam stated that he wanted to discuss the role of the District Committee. He said that when he served on the Finance Committee, he was put there to find out where things had gone wrong in the town's finances and does not want to see those mistakes repeated. Mr. Lynam pointed out that the District does not have a five year plan for revenues and expenses, and did not think Mr. Alfonse had developed such a plan in the last three months since he raised this issue with him.

Mr. Lynam stated that he was insulted that he felt he was not allowed to ask questions about the budget at the December meeting.

Chair Tierney explained the history of the District Committee and that it is a policy body. The Chair stated that if Mr. Lynam had questions about his role on the committee, he should direct those to his appointing authority. Chair Tierney stated that the budget was put before the District Committee after it had been reviewed by the Personnel Subcommittee and Budget Subcommittee.

Mr. Medeiros asked for clarification on what Mr. Lynam was trying to address.

Mr. Lynam said he wanted to have more discussion on the particular issue.

Mr. Medeiros said that the meetings are generally informal, and that they should be able to address issues. If this did not happen, Mr. Medeiros said he apologizes for it.

Mr. Lynam asked what the role of the committee is and whether it has budgetary oversight and his concern that there was not discussion on the budget.

Mr. Medeiros said that the Committee just discussed a number of important issues.

Mr. Graves noted that some of these issues have budgetary impacts.

Mr. Medeiros noted that he understood Mr. Lynam's point and that in the future it would not happen.

Mr. Lynam said the Budget Subcommittee received the budget four days before it was approved by the Committee, and that it included a budget for personnel. He asked why the Budget Subcommittee could not make changes to the Personnel budget.

Mr. Medeiros explained that the Personnel Subcommittee had made a recommendation to the District Committee. Mr. Lynam stated that it's the Budget Subcommittee's role to review the budget. Mr. Lynam said that a committee does not always follow the recommendations of a subcommittee. He asked Mrs. Dias if the board of selectmen always followed the recommendation of a subcommittee. Mrs. Dias said it did not.

Mr. King said that he and Mr. Lynam were looking for a discussion of different options regarding the Personnel Budget. Chair Tierney stated that they were given answers to that, although Mr. Lynam and Mr. King may not have agreed with them. Chair Tierney stated that you have the right to disagree. Mr. Medeiros stated that Mr. Lynam's recommendations were considered and incorporated into the pay raises for the employees. Mr. Medeiros suggested that in the future if a committee has a meeting they bring it back to the board. Mr. Lynam would like clarification on the role of the Committee concerning Budgets. Mr. Medeiros pointed out that the salary budget for FY14 is less than it was last year and he feels that is good business. Mr. Medeiros apologized if Mr. Lynam felt slighted, but there surely was no malice involved.

Chair Tierney said that anyone on the District Committee was invited to attend the Personnel Subcommittee meeting. Mr. Lynam said that he was not aware of the dates of the meeting and asked Mr. King if he was aware of the meeting. Mr. King said that he thought there was a general understanding. Mrs. Dias said that the Personnel subcommittee meeting date was set during a Committee meeting. Mr. Lynam said that no one was notified about the second Personnel Subcommittee meeting. Mr. Alfonse stated that he had posted the second Personnel Subcommittee meeting. Mr. Lynam stated that members would have to visit Town Hall to know about the meeting.

Chairperson Tierney reiterated that this is a Policy Committee, and suggested to go back and sit with Mr. Vincent to discuss the role.

Mr. King said that we are talking about two separate issues. He said that the Budget subcommittee had asked the Executive Director to develop 2 or 3 alternate budgets to be presented to the Committee. He said these were not provided. Mr. King asked if Mr. Alfonse remembered being asked for alternate budgets. Mr. Alfonse said yes, and that he put the budget on the agenda for discussion. The committee voted to approve it at that time. Mr. Alfonse explained that he had put it on the agenda for discussion, and was not intending to force anyone to vote on it on that day.

Mr. Lynam stated that he felt the Committee was expected to vote on the budget without discussion. He said the budget is a simple budget, and that it could be presented to the committee earlier than December to allow more time for discussion. He asked if the Committee did not have a right to have multi-year projections on finances.

Mr. Graves suggested that the Committee establish a policy moving forward. He expressed a desire to move the discussion forward and said that in the future the budget will be discussed with the Committee.

Mr. Lynam said that Chair Tierney will not allow us to have this discussion. Chair Tierney stated that the basic problem here is that Mr. Lynam was outvoted. She suggests that he go back to the appointing committee. Chair Tierney suggested that Mr. Lynam should have come to the subcommittee meetings. Mr. Lynam stated that he wasn't invited to them. Mr. Alfonse stated that he had discussed this with Mr. Lynam. Mr. Alfonse said he was not aware of a District procedure to notify all committee members of subcommittee meetings, but he

will do this from now on. Mr. Lynam told Mr. Alfonse that there is no policy to notify all Committee members of a subcommittee meeting. Mr. Alfonse said he would be sure to do this in the future.

A discussion ensued regarding Policy and Budget decision making. Mr. King suggested that anything discussed by a subcommittee should be brought to the board,

Mr. Medeiros said that subcommittees should bring their recommendations to the Board for discussion and this should be our practice moving forward.

Chair Tierney stated that Mr. Lynam could go onto every one of the committees.

Mr. Graves made a motion that going forward the Board will bring all financial discussions to the District Committee. Mr. Medeiros added that all of the subcommittee discussions should be brought to the Committee.

Chair Tierney stated that she agrees with that; she did not like the way that Mr. Lynam said it in a confrontational way. Mr. Lynam apologized to the Board.

Chair Tierney suggested that anyone who is sitting on this Board and has not read the initial Legislature on the Organization itself should definitely do so.

Ms. Dias asked Chair Tierney if she is referring to Massachusetts General Laws; this may be found on the internet.

Mr. Graves reiterated that going forward the Board will try not to make the same mistakes.

Mr. Lynam apologized for his tone.

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Set dates for next District Committee Meeting

The next District Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2013 at 3:00 PM.

8. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Graves, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Voted 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:10 PM.