

**RAPPAHANNOCK REGIONAL  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD**

Wednesday  
February 18, 2009  
Stafford County's Administration Center  
Conference Rooms A,B,C

Meeting Convened. An annual meeting of the Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board (R-Board) was convened at 1:43 P.M., Wednesday, February 18, 2009, at the Stafford County Administration Center, Conference Rooms A,B,C.

Roll Call. The following members were present: Paul V. Milde, III, Chairman; Harry E. Crisp; Matthew J. Kelly; Phillip L. Rodenberg; and Anthony J. Romanello. Mr. Solley was absent.

Also in attendance were: William H. Hefty, Esq., R-Board Attorney; Robert L. Hundley, Resource International, Ltd., Consulting Engineer; Tammi Ellis, Acting Executive Director of Administration; Tim Barody, Deputy County Administrator; Andrew J. Mikel, Superintendent of Solid Waste Management; Diane L. Jones, Recycling Coordinator; and Patricia S. Rowe, Clerk.

Others in attendance were James Lawrence, citizen of City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, and Laurel Hammig, Regional Planner/Coordinator, Regional Litter Control Program, George Washington Regional Commission.

Mr. Kelly motioned, seconded by Mr. Crisp to approve the November 19, 2008 minutes. By voice, the vote was:

Yea:	(5)	Crisp, Kelly, Milde, Rodenberg, Romanello
Nay:	(0)	

Presentations By The Public. Mr. Lawrence of the City thanked staff for their excellent work in getting Board packages together and making it available to the public. Mr. Lawrence also stated that he was in favor of recycling in downtown Fredericksburg and suggested a location for a bench. Ms. Hammig stated GWRC is in the early stages of a government committee on green government and this committee wants to know how it can help with the downtown recycling issue to be discussed later in the meeting.

Report of the R-Board Attorney. Mr. Hefty reported there is no litigation against the R-Board at this time.

Report of the Consulting Engineer. Mr. Hundley reported on the following:

**Old Permit No. 74 (Old Stafford County Landfill - Post Closure)**

- The next quarterly landfill gas (LFG) sampling event will occur in March.

**Permit No. 589 (Cells A/B/C/D/E - Active)**

- Resource has received approval from the Department of Historic Resources (DHR) for the Dovetail Phase 2 archeological and architectural survey. The DHR agreed with the report requiring no further investigation of the historic sites within the limits of the Phase 2 Expansion Area.
- Resource has completed a wetland permit application for any impacts that may be caused by the development of the Phase 2 expansion area and has reviewed it with the Solid

the Fredericksburg Residency Office. Mr. Mikel and Mr. Hundley have been working with VDEQ on this issue but approval has not been granted. Mr. Kelly stated that there has been a change in management and with the Board's approval he will contact the Fredericksburg Residency Office about this issue.

- Resource attended a meeting at the landfill with DEQ to review the composting permit status. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) demonstration permit expires in April. The DEQ staff indicated that a Virginia Pollution Abatement (VPA) permit will be required once the VDH demonstration permit expires. They also indicated a willingness to extend the VDH demonstration permit until such time as the new VPA permit is processed and takes effect. The VPA permit is a "no discharge" permit which will require collection of any liquids used during the composting operations as well as prevention of any storm water contact with the operation. Resource suggested that the runoff liquids could be collected and sent into the leachate force main within the access road. The DEQ staff may also require an individual storm water discharge permit for the current operations until the VPA permit takes effect.

Mr. Mikel stated that staff has found some very efficient means of covering the composting using tarps and he is confident that staff can come up with cost efficient means of satisfying DEQ and moving forward on this issue.

#### **Fredericksburg Landfill**

- Weekly sampling of the landfill gas monitoring wells is continuing until the non compliant results near the group home are corrected. Resource is coordinating directly with the landfill gas system contractor to ensure every effort is being made to eliminate the non compliant readings. Mr. Hundley stated that he believes the issue is water condensation in the lines and he is confident that the contractor will address that.

#### **Report on Finances:** Mr. Mikel reported on the following:

- Landfill Aging Report - Quantico is somewhat behind on its bills and staff is working to get into Quantico's new system to resolve that issue. J & E Recycling is on a payment plan and they have been very diligent in their payments.
- Weight and Material Analysis Report - Mr. Mikel reported that the tonnage has been behind going into FY09 compared to the two previous years but there has been a trend showing in December, January and February a slight increase over last year which looks hopeful.
- Landfill Revenue
- Landfill Expenses

Mr. Mikel reported on the 2009 financial snapshot which shows funds originally projected in the CIP at \$5.3 million. The Board took on regional litter and the dividend which came to \$5.7 million that was obligated for in FY09. Staff has made significant cuts within its budget and projecting out now think the end of the fiscal year will be about \$4.6 million. Staff has made significant cuts in maintenance costs and held off on capital expenditure on a 730 dump truck.

Mr. Mikel stated that new projections based on revenues look to be \$4.1 million and \$460,000 will be drawn from the general fund. The R-Board has absorbed the brunt of the economy so far.

Mr. Mikel also stated that looking at the revenue comparison there is another element there. The tonnage revenue comparison was down \$1000 in January but the actual tonnage was down by 1000 tons which brings back the R-Board vision which is to preserve landfill space. This has been attributed to recycling office work and composting and staff is excited on moving forward. Mr. Milde stated that the life of the landfill is 35 years and asked if this average were to hold would it add an extension to the 35 years. Mr. Mikel stated that in 3-5 years we could make up what was lost on the civil war forts.

Mr. Milde also asked about the sales of recyclables. Mr. Mikel responded that there is enough recycling with Waste Management to have a provision in the contract that guarantees \$7.50/ton for recyclables. Staff is looking into other markets that if one market dries up there will be another to fall back on.

Mr. Kelly asked if a story could be put out on what a great job government is doing.

**Report of Staff:** Mr. Mikel reported on the following:

- Emergency Action Plan – Staff plans on designing a draft of a playbook to be presented at the May meeting. Plans will be ready to launch with responses already prepared.
- Wetlands Credit Bank - Staff has been exploring the feasibility of establishing wetland mitigation credits or stream restoration credits in order to offset future development costs in regards to wetlands impact. Items to consider in this include long term development plans and the Civil War sites. To investigate the potential feasibility of this bank, Resource International, Ltd. has offered to survey and make recommendation. As the 80 acre site is developed, the R-Board could use its own bank instead of writing a check to another wetlands bank. Resource believes the figure is about \$600,000 to pay for the wetlands offset for the .74 acres on the 80 acre development. Mr. Hundley reported that there is potential for wetlands credits and because of the creeks there is potential for creek restoration credits which are very valuable as well. Mr. Mikel stated that the civil war area should be kept in mind and a coordination with Glenn Trimmer that the civil war plan is incorporated into anything the R-Board does. Once the proposal of what is to be protected is set in place, it will be hard to change. Mr. Milde asked that Mr. Mikel meet with Mr. Trimmer and report back at the next meeting.
- Staff extends an invitation to members of the R-Board to tour the Recycle America Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Prince Georges County, MD on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February. We will carpool from the landfill leaving approximately 8:30 a.m. and return by 1:00 p.m. Please RSVP with Pat Rowe.
- Staff recommends assisting the City of Fredericksburg in the purchase of a compactor to facilitate single stream recycling in the region.

Mr. Romanello motioned, seconded by Mr. Kelly to approve proposed Resolution RB09-01.

By voice, the vote was:

Yea: (5) Crisp, Kelly, Milde, Rodenberg, Romanello,  
Nay: (0)

**Resolution RB09-01 reads as follows:**

A RESOLUTION TO ASSIST THE CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG  
IN THE PURCHASE OF A SINGLE STREAM TRUCK

WHEREAS, the Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board (R-Board) and the City of Fredericksburg do not currently pay tipping fees; and

WHEREAS, by converting to single stream, approximately 30-40% of trash from the city would be recycled; and

WHEREAS, this would support extending the life of the landfill and increase single stream revenues; and

WHEREAS, this would also contribute to the R-Board's overall recycling percentage; and

WHEREAS, funds are available in the Contingency line item (560-5501-504-58-02) to support this purchase;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board on this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2009, that it be and hereby will assist the City of Fredericksburg in its purchase of a single stream truck in an amount not to exceed SEVENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$70,000).

- Mr. Mikel stated that Julie May is continuing with the composting classes and has set a goal of teaching another 100 people how to compost this spring.
- The R-Board website has had over 5,000 visitors since the end of August 2008. Staff plans to revamp the site and make the 3 R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle a more prominent theme in the next few weeks.
- Mr. Mikel stated that a very successful hauler meeting was held in January. Staff will continue to foster that relationship with businesses that it serves. Mr. Romanello stated that at the next meeting if it could be mentioned to the haulers that their staff do not wear florescent safety vests which makes it very dangerous working in the dark. Mr. Mikel stated that at the next hauler meeting, staff will invite the Sheriff's office to address safety issues.
- Mr. Mikel stated that an email on a Consent and Agreement for Ameresco had been sent out. Mr. Hefty stated that Ameresco had initially financed the gas plant and Ameresco has six or seven plants that they want to roll together for financing and they have set an agreement with their lender to do that. Mr. Hefty asked the R-board to approve the Consent and Agreement allowing their lenders to take over their duties and obligations should Ameresco default and Mr. Hefty recommends that the Board allow Mr. Romanello to sign this agreement subject to the County and City attorneys and Mr. Hefty's approval.

Mr. Kelly motioned, subject to the approval of the R-Board attorney after meeting with the City and County attorneys, seconded by Mr. Crisp, to approve proposed Resolution RB09-02.

By voice, the vote was:

Yea: (5) Crisp, Kelly, Milde, Rodenberg, Romanello,  
Nay: (0)

**Resolution RB09-02 reads as follows:**

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AND AGREEMENT  
FOR AMERESCO STAFFORD LLC

WHEREAS, the Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board (R-Board) on May 17, 2006 entered into an agreement with Ameresco to take methane gas from the landfill and convert it into electricity; and

WHEREAS, the R-Board receives an annual stipend from Ameresco for the methane gas; and

WHEREAS, Ameresco financed the project originally from its revolving credit account; and

WHEREAS, Ameresco now wants to obtain permanent financing for several of its projects, of which this is one;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board on this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2009, that it be and hereby approves the consent and agreement for Ameresco to obtain permanent financing for its projects of which the taking of methane gas from the Regional Landfill to convert to electricity is one of those projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that signage of this agreement will be subject to the approval of the R-Board attorney after meeting with the City and County attorneys.

Mr. Hefty stated that he did not see where the Board of Supervisors and City Council had to sign the agreement since it was a R-Board question but he did want the respective attorneys to be comfortable with the document.

**Discussion of Litter:**

Mr. Milde wants to be kept in the loop every couple of weeks with reports on roads cleaned, bags collected, etc. Mr. Milde also wants reports at the R-Board meetings on the important component of what is being done on litter pickup, sign removal, etc. Ms. Jones responded that sign removal would not be separated anymore. She also stated that reports will be more on what staff does; checking weights, tracking number of hits on a road. What is really important is the number of hits on a road instead of the weights because the weights have stabilized with the consistent cleaning. Ms. Jones also stated that the litter crew will work on a revolving schedule so that no day will go by without cleaning. Mr. Romanello stated that the City and the County have worked out a plan with the Jail so the R-Board budget will need to reflect the cost at 100%. Mr. Milde asked if any federal or state grants deal with litter or litter enforcement. Mr. Mikel

stated that staff will look into it and report back at May meeting. Mr. Crisp stated that trash

trucks going down Kings Highway at 70 MPH blow trash out of the trucks and the sheriff's office could enforce the litter while patrolling for speeders.

Ms. Jones asked if the City was happy with the roads that the litter crew has committed to? Mr. Rodenberg responded yes and that Route 3 near Westwood could use some cleaning. Mr. Kelly asked if King George could be sent another letter to address the litter on Rt. 3. Mr. Rodenberg requested that another letter be sent to the King George County with a copy to the Sheriff Jett.

Mr. Milde asked staff to explore the costs of using billboards to advertise litter prevention. Mr. Romanello stated that in next year's budget, staff may want to set aside money for the Sheriff's department to run sting operations on the weekends.

**Discussion – Downtown Recycling**

Mr. Kelly has had contact with some of the downtown people about recycling. He stated that there is an untapped resource on recycling in the downtown area and now may be the time to place recycling bins in and around the downtown area to encourage more recycling. Mr. Kelly has talked with Mr. Mikel, Dave King and Doug Fawcett with the City Public Works, about recycling opportunities for downtown. Mr. Kelly stated that it may be a good time for the R-Board to get together with the Downtown Retail Merchants for opportunities for recycling both for business and residential. Mr. Kelly also stated that he would contact Mr. Mikel, Dave King, the current president of Downtown Retail Merchants, and GWRC staff to pick a date and start a conversation. Mr. Rodenberg wants part of the discussion to include the placing of boxes, maintenance of the site, and who will be responsible for caring for those boxes. Mr. Kelly stated that there is lots of potential in the downtown area and the issue needs to take advantage of regional help. Mr. Kelly tasked staff to come back w/options at the May meeting.

**Future Session:** The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 at the Stafford Government Center, Board Chambers, at 1:30 P.M.

Mr. Mikel pointed out the brochure that was handed out shows single stream has gone from 60 tons to 760 tons in a five month period. He also stated the average haul load of recyclables coming into the landfill before single stream collection was about ½ ton, now that load is about 3-1/2 tons and some secondary benefits is less hauler time and number of trucks on the road. This is a benefit to the community.

Mr. Mikel stated that the FY2007 audit was received and will be presented at the May meeting and that the audit is unqualified.

**Adjournment.** The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:37 P.M.

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Paul V. Milde, III, Chairman

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George Solley, Vice Chairman

Patricia S. Rowe, Clerk

