

MINUTES  
RAPPAHANNOCK REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD  
FEBRUARY 17, 2022  
Conference Room A/B/C

**Meeting Convened:** A regular meeting of the Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board (R-Board) was convened at 8:34 a.m. on February 17, 2022.

**Roll Call:** The following members were present: Timothy J. Baroody; Meg Bohmke; Jon A. Gerlach; and Frederick J. Presley. Monica Gary arrived at 9:13, and Matthew J Kelly was absent.

Also in attendance were: Bill Hefty, R-Board Attorney; Rick Markwardt, Landfill Superintendent; Chris Hoover, Assistant Landfill Superintendent; Diane Jones, Recycling Manager; Francesca Johnson; Community Outreach Supervisor; Pamela Timmons, Clerk; and Joe Buchanan, Director.

**Approval of the minutes of prior meeting:** Mr. Presley motioned, seconded by Mr. Baroody, to approve the minutes from the November 17, 2021 meeting. Mr. Gerlach abstained.

By roll call, the vote was:

Yea:	(3)	Baroody, Bohmke, Presley
Nay:	(0)	

**Presentations by the Public:** The following members of the public desired to speak:

Robert Withers - Owns a business vehicles that he desires to use when visiting the Landfill.

**Presentations by the R-Board:** No members desired to speak:

**Report of the Landfill Superintendent:** Mr. Markwardt reported on the following:

**Cell F3 Operations** Cell F-3 is filling without any issues at this time. The flyover took place on February 1, 2022 with our new Environmental Consultants, SCS Engineering conducting the flyover. Due to the short turnover from Draper Aden, we have received the flyover data and life calculations for cells F-1 through F-3.

**Compost** The new Compost Permit was signed by DEQ and became effective on January 1, 2022. This permit is valid for the next 10 years and will expire on December 31, 2031.

**New Equipment** FY22 authorized the leasing of three new pieces of equipment, 1 Excavator, 1 Dozer, and 1 Compactor from Carter Cat. The Excavator was received on February 3, 2022. The Compactor is expected around April 15, 2022, and at this time there is not a build date for the Dozer. Also, we are expecting the Posi-Shell machine between the middle of February to the beginning of March of this year.

**Free Brush** During the period of January 5-24, 2022, residents were allowed to bring storm yard debris free of charge. The specific trailer rules/commercial vehicle usage were waived during this period. There was a total of 2,635 loads, and staff is in the process of burning the brush that was received.

**Report of the Assistant Landfill Superintendent:** Mr. Hoover reported on the following:

**Staffing** The R-Board is currently authorized for a total of 42 staff positions. At this time, 35 full-time and 5 part-time positions are filled. Thad Beach, Heavy Equipment Operator II has retired after 15 years of working for the landfill.

There have been several new staff members to join the team since our last meeting. Tyler Schmidt has been hired as the new Environmental Technician. Tyler comes to us with a Bachelor's degree in Geology from the George Mason University and a Master's degree Environmental Management from University of Maryland University College. Luis Alvarez Beltran as the Landfill Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, and Bradley Cook as a Heavy Equipment Mechanic II.

Carlus Logan and Alphonso Webster joined us as Heavy Equipment Operator II's. We are currently working with Human Resources to fill an additional position for a Landfill Maintenance Worker.

**Training and Career Development** All staff is in the process of completing their 2021 Annual Performance Review on Cornerstone. Tyler Schmidt obtained a DEQ Certification as a Responsible Land Disturber.

**CDL Training Requirements** as of February 7<sup>th</sup>, a new federal rule for entry-level CDL license training has gone into effect. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has made new regulations for anyone seeking to obtain their Class A or Class B CDL license for the first time. This training includes curriculum and behind the wheel training, that must be done at an approved training location. The R-Board has been registered and approved with the FMCSA as a private training provider for the Entry-Level Driver Training as of February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Belman Road Improvements** Staff will be looking to make improvements at Belman Road Convenience Center in the near future. This will include additional asphalt, fence repairs, and a new storage shed.

**Environmental Compliance Report:** Mr. Schmidt reported on the following:

**VA DEQ Consent Order (Update)** On August 20, 2021, VA DEQ issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) regarding numerical effluent limitations for stormwater discharge. DEQ wished to resolve the NOV by entering a Consent Order with R-Board. On December 7, 2021, staff received the consent order and on December 16, 2021, it was accepted and sent the response back to DEQ. Since then, staff has been following the Corrective Action Plan from October 6, 2021, and maintaining compliance.

**Sediment Basins (Update)** Two sediment basins located on the NE side of the R-Board landfill are in the process of being dredged. Sediment Basin F-2 is expected to be completed during the week of February 14, 2022. Sediment Basin East is expected to be completed during the week of February 28, 2022, if weather permits.

**Trench Burn & Storm Debris** Due to severe winter storms over the past few weeks, significant amounts of road-side debris and yard waste has been generated. To deal with the excess waste, staff rented an air curtain to limit soot emissions from a trench burn. Proper permits and authorities were contacted to seek approval. It is estimated to take a few months to burn the estimated 14,000 cubic yards.

**SCS Engineers & Environmental Regulations** At the start of 2022, staff continued to use Draper Aden Associates services for a portion of the month of January to maintain an environmental contractor, while the contract was out for bid. SCS Engineers won the contract and on January 28, 2022, SCS Engineers met with staff to discuss the final contract while the temporary contract was signed on January 14, 2022.

Ms. Bohmke thanked all for the debris collection, as it was a great help to the residents.

### **Third Entrance/ R-Board Upgrades:**

**Situation/Opportunity** As the northern Virginia area continues to expand due to growing population, new opportunities are arising for the R-Board to meet and service this growth. The additional commercial and residential waste present added revenue. However, with current infrastructure at the facility, there is limited capability to meet this demand and potential to cause issues in the future. To resolve this new influx of waste, a third entrance with modern technology is proposed.

**Purpose Statement** The purpose of this proposal is to expand Landfill infrastructure to improve accuracy for tracking waste and debris, efficiently utilize personnel, develop an effortless system for customers, and integrate technology into daily operation.

#### **Objectives**

- Establish third entrance with modern scale system
- Implement technology into daily tasks and objectives
- Develop equitable payment system for all customers
- Improve environmental monitoring
- Improve traffic flow dynamics

#### **Success Criteria**

- Increase revenue from expanded infrastructure
- Improve availability and accessibility of information
- Reduce system downtime, related to maintenance and overcrowding
- Improve trackability of waste stream entering the facility

#### **Methods/Approach**

- Seek proposals from engineering firms for design and alternatives to a third entrance
- Grading and foundational work completed by employees

- Construct new scale and housing system, while providing training for personnel
- Implement new data stream from the system to improve management of the facility

**Proposed Budget:**

<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Cost</u></b>
1. Design and Permitting	\$100,000
2. Scales and Scale Housing	\$400,000
3. Construction and Roads	\$500,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>

**Schedule:**

This project is estimated to be a multi-year construction effort with an estimated time frame below:

<b><u>Sequence of Projects</u></b>	<b><u>Estimated Time</u></b>
1. Establish funding/credit for the entrance	2022 - 2023
2. Design and Permitting Phase	2023
3. Grading and Foundation	2024
4. Scale, Scale Housing, Roads, and Training	2024 - 2025

Mr. Baroody asked for confirmation, that there is no plan to open a third entrance to allow any disposal from disposal other than Stafford County and the City of Fredericksburg. Mr. Schmidt confirmed that Mr. Baroody was correct. Will the trailer fee be negated at that point? Mr. Schmidt also confirmed that it would be negated.

Ms. Bohmke asked if an escalator for inflation was used in the calculations. Mr. Buchanan stated that there was – using 3%.

**Recycling Manager Report:** Ms. Jones reported on the following:

**Household Hazardous and Electronics Waste Collection Day** A request for Quotes was performed and ECOFLO was awarded the job as the most responsible reply. ECOFLO has been performing household hazardous waste collections since 1994. They also maintain permanent collection sites. They performed 128 individual day events in 2021. Comparable references were very positive regarding their services. It has been decided that we will continue to collect waste electronics at the event. Waste electronics have been collected at this event for several years. Staff believes it will better serve participants.

To approve on efficiencies staff reached out to our private hauling companies to seek sponsorship opportunity. Traditionally, the R-Board collects the trash produced at the event. The 20 cubic yard containers fill and to replace them requires stopping the service flow. It also requires staff to haul the containers to and from the landfill. County Waste has offered to place one of their compactor trucks at the event. The compactor truck will be much easier to load and will not require replacement during the event. Lastly, the Stafford Regional Airport Authority has asked staff to attend their March 8<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to cover how we intend to conduct operations.

The next HHW will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2022 at Stafford Regional Airport.

**Single-Stream Update** At its last meeting, the R-Board asked staff to research the recyclability of plastic bottles. The following information was relayed to staff by our current single-stream vendor, Tad Phillips, Vice President of Business Development. "Tidewater Fibre Recycling (TFC,) ships and sells on average 300 tons or 600,000 pounds of PET bottles every month! We need and want PET bottles. There may be confusion due to the outgoing governor's Executive Order 77 that banned single-use plastics from state agencies. The EO77 deemed PET water bottles as single use. Staff also saw the value of single stream per ton dip after a rally up this past summer/fall. Here is the response from our vendor at TFC. We believe there will be continued strong demand for recycled materials throughout this next calendar year. The big factor in pricing during 2021 was the sudden demand for plastics and aluminum, with Natural HDPE at over a \$1/pound for several months. There is a finite supply of milk jugs in the recycling stream which will keep the price strong, and although it has declined to around \$.60/pound in January, we see it as stable. In fact, we see all prices staying close to where they are now."

Staff is working on having TFC perform a single-stream audit. This audit (based on the percentages of materials in our single stream mix) should be in our favor. There is far less glass and more cardboard (OCC.) The audit would bring our value up. At the time of this report, staff is looking at the waste audit date to be early March.

**DEQ Report Work** Staff has begun preparing for the mandated Department of Environmental Quality, (DEQ) recycling percentage report. An essential component necessary to meet the mandated percentage of recycling is a voluntary Commercial Recycling Audit. Staff is well under way with this this audit. At the May meeting of this Board staff will bring statistics regarding this year's data overall versus past.

**Tires** Currently we have a 40 cubic yard container of oversized tires. These tires cannot be handled by the vendor handling our regular sized tires. Staff performed an RFQ. A local vendor, Scrap Tire Solutions

of Virginia, was the most responsive reply. They will be splitting the tires so that they can be properly handled thru landfilling.

**Outreach Community Supervisor Report:** Ms. Johnson reported on the following:

**Central Rappahannock Regional Library Webinars** Staff supported two “Backyard Composting 101” webinars and one Lunch & Learn: Cold Composting webinar with the Central Rappahannock Regional Library.

**Dixon Smith Middle School Classroom Presentation** Presented a recycling presentation to a 7<sup>th</sup>-grade science class. Approximately 20 students attended the presentation. The presentation focused on the four R’s (refuse, reduce, reuse, and recycle).

**Stafford High School Lunch Presentation** Provided a “Recycle Right” tabletop presentation during Stafford High School’s four lunch sessions. The tabletop presentation educated 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students on how to recycle. The students were excited to learn and many stopped by the table to learn about recycling. The presentation encouraged recycling at the high school. Information on recycling at home, and R-Board accepted recyclables was shared.

**R-Board Virtual Landfill Tour** The R-Board utilized Kevin Henry Mileposts to produce a virtual landfill tour in the summer. The video features an overview of the landfill, the landfill facilities, and the landfill gas to energy program. The virtual tour was created as an alternative to the in-person landfill tours which are no longer offered due to COVID. The video is complete and is available on the R-Board’s website.

**Clean-up Efforts** Supplied equipment to Dixon Smith Middle School clean-up efforts, at Old Mill Park in the City of Fredericksburg. An estimated 30 students, staff, and parents collected 396 pounds of trash.

**Earth Day 2022** The R-Board is sponsoring a recycling relay and will have an interactive booth at the Fredericksburg Parks, Recreation, & Events, Earth Day 2022 event on Saturday, April 23, 2022. The free event will engage the public with hands-on activities for adults and children aim at recycling and reducing impacts on the environment. This is a great opportunity to showcase the R-Board’s recycling and litter prevention programs. The estimated attendance is 5,000.

**Stafford County/R-Board Projects 2022**

The R-Board is collaborating with the Stafford County Community Engagement department to create four informative videos for residents. The videos will focus on how to recycle, how to utilize the landfill, anti-litter messaging, and household hazardous waste collection.

**R-Board Website Launched**

The R-Board website was launched at the end of November. The new site is user-friendly. The resident section provides easy access to frequently asked questions and lists the Belman Road Convenience Center, Regional Landfill Residential Entrance, the R-Board Administrative Office, and four additional drop-off recycling centers (Hugh Mercer Elementary, Walker Grant Middle School, Rowser Building, and Gayle Middle School).

**R-Board Customer Satisfaction & Knowledge Survey Launched** R-Board Customer Satisfaction & Knowledge Survey cards were implemented on January 24, 2022. The R-Board is no longer offering an incentive due to logistical issues for annual pass holders since they would not benefit from a landfill coupon. Each person that takes the survey has the option to provide their name and preferred contact information to participate in future focus groups and/or the Volunteer Recycling Educator Program. As of February 4, we have received 80 completed surveys with 15 people giving contact information. The surveys have been well received by residents. R-Board staff will analyze the survey results and implement changes, and communication efforts. For example, many survey completers believe that local tax money funds the R-Board. This will be addressed in our upcoming landfill video with Stafford County. We will also provide this information in upcoming communications.

**The following comments were received through the survey or by email:**

- “Thanks for letting me dump the brush at no charge for someone on a fixed income it was a big help for us.”
- “Appreciate your efforts.”

**Storm Debris Fee Waiver** The storm debris fee waiver was implemented due to January’s winter storm. The waiver went from January 5, 2022, to January 24, 2022. The R-Board storm debris fee waiver was promoted three times in *The Free Lance–Star* at no charge. Residents were appreciative of the waiver.

**R-Board Solid Waste Management Committee** The R-Board will be forming a Solid Waste Management Committee to look at long-term goals, changes, and technologies for managing solid waste. The committee could be comprised of 2 board members, a commercial hauler, an environmental organization, possibly citizens. Representation from the City of Fredericksburg and Stafford County would be necessary. If you have any name suggestions for the committee or candidate suggestions, please send them to Joe Buchanan. The R-Board will have more information at the May R-Board meeting.

Ms. Bohmke stated that she is a walker and will pick up trash along the way. She was happy to learn of the school’s involvement.

Mr. Baroody requested that the City be included for a separate or collaborative effort regarding the solid waste management committee.

**Litter Collection** The R-Board collaborates with the Rappahannock Regional Jail (RRJ) to utilize the adult probationer community service requirement for roadside litter cleanup. The court assigns probationers

a certain number of hours to be completed by a set date. Through this cooperation, from November 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022, there have been:

- 36 active adult probationers currently in the program
  - 386 non-paid hours
  - 559 bags of roadside litter collected
  - 180 miles of roads cleaned
- 16 adult probationers completed the program
  - 408 non-paid hours
  - 474 bags of roadside litter collected
  - 162 miles of roads cleaned

Staff also works with the Rappahannock Regional Adult & Juvenile Drug Court located at 618 Kenmore Avenue. The premise is the same as the RRJ assignees, but these folks have fewer hours and a quicker turnaround time. The court meets on Mondays and staff receives a new list of assignees on Tuesdays. The following information is provided from November 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022:

- 5 active assignees (these assignees have not started their hours)
- 19 assignees completed the program
  - 86 non-paid hours
  - 133 bags of roadside litter collected
  - 52 miles of roads cleaned

With so many community service organizations closing their doors due to COVID, this program has continued to thrive. It is a win-win for the assignees, and certainly for Stafford County and the City of Fredericksburg.

Staff also contract with RRJ to clean road areas where it is considered unsafe to send the probationers. RRJ provides 1 officer to oversee a crew of inmates (usually about 5 individuals). From November 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022 the following areas have been cleaned:

- Route 3 East (3 days) collected 66 bags of litter (City of Fredericksburg)
- Route 17 (3 days) collected 80 bags of litter (Stafford County)
- Eskimo Hill Road (1 day) collected 53 bags of litter (Stafford County)
- Stafford Wayside (1 day) collected 44 bags of litter (Stafford County)

Ms. Bohmke asked if any education was provided for probationers. Ms. Johnson said that there was not, but loved the idea.

**Report on Finances:** Mr. Buchanan reported on the following:



**Financial Summary** Finances for the R-Board are in good shape through January 2022. The fiscal year to date revenue is \$5,467,237. This is 5% % over budget. Expenses for fiscal year to date are \$2,758,878. This is 26% below budget, and the equipment lease is included. Currently the R-Board has \$14,807,855 dollars in cash and short-term investments.

Caterpillar has delivered the new excavator the first of February. The new compactor is expected in May, and the Dozer is still awaiting a build date.

The R-Board budgeted \$40,000 per month for the lease purchase of this equipment within the FY 2022 budget. The delay of the equipment reduced spending by \$280,000 for the first seven months of FY 2022.

The delay in delivery of the new equipment has meant staff had to redirect these funds for the following:

- Equipment Rental
- Maintenance Service
- Materials and Supplies
- Agricultural

In addition, a long-standing lawsuit involving the R-Board was settled at a cost of \$13,500.

The Landfill compactor on order was intended to replace the current compactor, and since this did not happen, we will need to replace the compactor wheels to keep the current unit operational. Once the new equipment arrives, this unit will be an excellent back-up. The compactor is an essential piece of equipment, that if not kept in working order, the Landfill will fill up quicker and put us out of compliance with the DEQ.

In January, the Landfill lost a week's worth of revenue due to the inclement weather from the January 3<sup>rd</sup> storm event. This led to decreased residential and commercial activity by 78%. Not only was the Landfill closed, but commercial businesses were as well, which led to the reduction of waste produced. We believe that this is a one-time weather event this season, and are still on track overall.

Mr. Hefty confirmed that there are no other lawsuits.

Mr. Buchanan presented the SCS proposed Resolution RB22-02. He stated that there has already been a impact. Staff has seen improvements, and the SCS staff is very forward-thinking.

Mr. Baroody motioned, seconded by Ms. Gary, to approve resolution RB22-02.

By roll call, the vote was:

Yea:	(5)	Baroody, Bohmke, Gary, Gerlach, Presley
Nay:	(0)	

Resolution RB22-02 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING, QUALITY ASSURANCE, AND QUALITY CONTROL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board (R-Board) issued Proposal # 22-005-5501SP, for Professional Services for Environmental Monitoring; and

WHEREAS, Stearns, Conrad and Schmidt, Consulting Engineers, Inc. (SCS) has proposed to provide environmental monitoring and engineering support services for FY2023 in an amount not to exceed \$311,900; and

WHEREAS, staff has reviewed this proposal and determined it is reasonable for the scope of services; and

WHEREAS, funding in the amount of \$311,900 will be available in the adopted FY2022 budget, beginning July 1, 2022, for this purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board on this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022 that the County Administrator be and he hereby is authorized to execute a professional services contract with Stearns, Conrad and Schmidt, Consulting Engineers, Inc. for a period of one (1) year, commencing July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Eleven Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$311,900), unless modified by a duly executed contract amendment; and

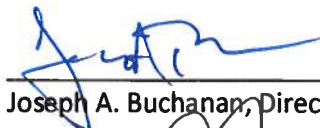
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the R-Board will have the option to renew this contract for four (4) additional one-year terms.

Ms. Bohmke asked that the R-Board be kept updated on the progress at the Landfill. Mr. Buchanan stated that he plans to have SCS provide an update at future meetings.

Ms. Bohmke introduced and welcomed the two new R-Board members, Ms. Gary and Mr. Gerlach.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 a.m.

**Future Session:** A regular meeting will be held on May 18, 2022, at 8:30 a.m., in Board Chambers.

  
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Joseph A. Buchanan, Director

  
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Pamela L. Timmons, Clerk