

# Saline County Regional Solid Waste Management District

## Regular Board Meeting

October 21, 2015

2:00 PM

**Board Members Present:** Mayor Janie Lyman, Dr. Dean McCormack, J.R. Walters, Judge Jeff Arey, and Chairman Jim Erwin.

The regular October Board Meeting was called into order at 2:00 PM

Minutes from the August 19, 2015 were reviewed and a motion to approve minutes by Judge Arey was initiated, and seconded by J. R. Walters.

### Reports:

#### Financial Statement and Financial Position

Executive Director, Michael Grappé, presented the Financial Position of the District for September, 2015. First item of review of the 2014-2015 budget was that we were about \$43,000 over budget primarily due to two items: (1) the purchase of the IDCO vehicle, and (2) a significant increase in the expenditure of the yard debris program (cost estimated about \$8,000-\$10,000 a month). Chairman Jim Erwin interjected that there was an increase in the APERS expenditure. Mr. Grappé noted that the increase in APERS expenditures was due to the addition of the new Office Manager, Cathy DePelsMaeker.

Motion to approve the September Financials was initiated by J.R. Walters, which was seconded by Mayor Janie Lyman.

#### Inter-District Waste Tire Program

Due to the absence of Ms. Stacy Edwards, Executive Director, Michael Grappé, presented information and statistics for the nine-county Inter-District Waste Tire Program for year to date. In addition, Mr. Grappé spoke to the board about the rather large tire fire in Pulaski County today. That particular site was actually identified several months ago by Ms. Edwards and IDCO Officer, Mr. Shane Knight, as being of particular concern because of its hazardous nature.

#### IDCO

Mr. Michael Grappé offered Illegal Dump Control Officer, Mr. Shane Knight's, report centering on his activities since the August Board Meeting. His reporting included 10 illegal dumpsites, 2 open burn barrel situations, and 2 warning situations issued for the improper securing of solid waste.

He also added that there have been questions from the District Attorney in regards to enforcement of some of the rules, such as pulling over vehicles traveling to the landfill (when they have debris leaving their vehicle). One of the problems with this statute of enforcement is that there is not a description of how infractions can be enforced. Mr. Grappé informed the board that Mr. Knight is not stopping people anymore. Any infractions that occur on a roadway are being referred to local law enforcement. Mr. Knight will center his activities on illegal dumping and burn barrel issues until a satisfactory solution to the enforcement is agreed upon.

#### Marketing

Ms. Tiffany Dunn told the Board members that her YEA! Team is off to a great start this year with teachers already in place. This is the second year for the YEA! Team. One noteworthy event is the collection of plastic shopping bags at Harp's and Target. A recycled plastic bench will be the prize to the top participating school. Every school is a winner because decorative planters will be given to each participating school. The October 17<sup>th</sup> HHW/Recycle Bikes Day event was a success. A preliminary total of bikes collected was: 230. Two more scheduled events for the month include: October 24<sup>th</sup>: Benton Matters/Trail cleanup from 8am-noon, and also on the 24<sup>th</sup>- Spook City in Downtown Benton. YEA! Team kids will be helping out with Spook City. (Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> will be the rain date for Spook City.) Ms.

Dunn also stated that there is burn ban information on our website, and reminded attendees that residents need to call individual city offices regarding the specifics of the burn ban for the city that they reside in. Ms. Dunn concluded her report by adding that she is prepping for the May 7, 2016 Refashion Bash.

## **Executive Director Report, Old and New Business**

### **2015 Landfill Coupon Update**

Mr. Grappé offered recycling data with regard to the month of September, and also offered data for the Landfill Coupon Program. Statistically, things have remained fairly consistent, with approximately 25% of people who purchase coupons stating that they either burn their trash or do not have home trash pick-up. Mr. Grappé reminded attendees that in 2016, residents will be required to show proof of trash service. A recommendation by Mr. Sam Ed Gibson was made in regards to the coupon program. Since the rule is amending on January 1, 2016 from “any resident of Saline County can receive coupons” to “resident who has trash service”, we will have to publicize this change and have a public meeting prior to the next meeting scheduled for December 16, 2015.

### **Yard Waste Project Update**

Mr. Grappé updated the board on the arrival of the chipper, which will be here in three weeks. Next month, chipping will begin, due to the delay on the order for a screen. Commercial viability can be determined after chipping is begun. Judge Jeff Arey inquired about the location of the chipper, and it will be housed by Bin There, Dump That. Mr. Grappé also added that we will be paying Bin There, Dump That for the storage space and any utility usage by the chipper.

### **Recycle Saline and Logo**

Mr. Grappé presented a new logo and new name of our organization to the Board: “Recycle Saline”. Upon approval, we will also be updating our website name and Facebook page. Jim Erwin inquired if Smarty the Fox is copyrighted. Mr. Grappé responded that Smarty is copyrighted, but not trademarked. By which, Mr. Erwin responded by suggesting that we should trademark him. Mr. Grappé referred this inquiry to Mr. Sam Ed Gibson, and he affirmatively agreed with Mr. Jim Erwin. Mr. Sam Ed Gibson stated that he would investigate trademarking Smarty the Fox, and the board was in agreement.

### **Tipline**

A tipline was added last month. As of October 20, 2015, we have received 11 calls, which resulted in 7 clean-ups. The addition of the tip line also reduced our phone bill, as we were eligible for a discounted rate.

### **New Business**

#### **Adoption of Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Operations Budget**

Mr. Grappé mentioned one item of reducing operating costs was the contract expense of \$70,000 per year to pick up materials from schools. Currently, we have a 5-year plan in place, with all 4 school districts, to reduce and eventually eliminate this expense. We are looking at saving \$50,000 with the potential of saving \$70,000 to \$80,000. A second goal to reduce budgetary expenses is to reduce the money spent per year on disposal of yard waste per month (which is approximately \$8,000 to \$10,000 a month). Mr. Grappé stated that he is currently in discussions with the ADEQ about a remediation to this problem. He further stated that based on current industry statistics, we can anticipate a \$100,000 loss in the coming year. Hence, this is one reason why we are seeking to eliminate the school recycling program. A motion was made by Mr. J.R. Walters to approve the 2015/2016 Budget; Mayor Janie Lyman seconded the motion.

Mr. Grappé also brought to the Board’s attention that in 2016, it will be the last year that we are guaranteed a royalty (minimum) by Republic Landfill. Chairman Erwin inquired if we are currently compensated based on tonnage. Mr. Grappé responded that we are not currently, as Republic has to pay the tax on tonnage. Chairman Erwin voiced concerns about the “checks and balances”. Keeping in mind that tonnage reports are done by gate receipts, Mr. Sam Ed Gibson

voiced concerns about the integrity of the numbers being reported. Mr. Gibson also stressed that the District has the right to audit those figures, scales, and scale receipts. Mr. Grappé and Chairman Erwin concurred that this was something that was conducted in the past, and will be continued into the future.

### **Personnel Manual**

Michael Grappé presented our new Personnel Manual to the Board. It is with appreciation that Ms. Powell re-wrote and updated our Personnel Manual so it is current and compliant. He advised the Board to please review and offer any suggestions for editing by the next Board Meeting. This Manual will be active on January 1, 2016. Ms. Powell added that Mr. Sam Ed Gibson has re-written the Resolution, and Mr. Sam Ed Gibson added that this manual can be adopted without advertisement. He further stated that any future changes to this manual after adoption need to be made by formal Resolution.

### **Sam Ed Gibson**

Mr. Gibson provided an update on the Jackman Trail illegal dumpsite. He stated that he has been in contact with ADEQ, and as of this morning, a remediation plan is under consideration. The plan should be in place within the next few weeks; the implementation of the plan was hindered because there is a pond on the site, therefore, complicating the remediation situation. Mr. Gibson is anticipating a plan by the time of our next Board Meeting.

Mr. Grappé alerted the board of our next meeting December 16th, and we will need to determine who will be Board President in 2016. Judge Arey moved to re-elect Jim Erwin to serve as our President for 2016. Mr. J.R. Walters seconded that motion. All were in favor of that motion, and Chairman Erwin accepted serving as President in 2016.

The Board adjourned its October meeting at 2:34 PM.