

Saline County Regional Solid Waste Management District

Board Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2011

Board Members Present: Judge Lanny Fite, Mr. J.R. Walters, Mayor Jeff Arey, Dr. Don Brashears, and Mr. Jim Erwin

Board Members Present by Proxy: Mr. Bob McKeon – Proxy, Mr. J.R. Walters

Others Present: Mr. Michael Grappe', Executive Director; Mr. Sam Ed Gibson, Attorney for SCRSWMD; Mr. Gary Beck, Saline Waste & Recycling of Benton; Mrs. Tai Marshall, Office Manager; Mr. Roger Finley, Terry's Waste; Mr. Michael Brooks, Powell Sanitation; Mr. Lamont B. Cornwell, City of Benton; Mr. David Blevins, Environmental Officer

Mayor Arey called the meeting to order. Mayor Arey recognized five Board members present in person and one present by proxy. Mayor Arey asked everyone to sign in on the sign in sheet. Mayor Arey asked how Mr. McKeon is doing. Mr. J.R. Walters stated that Mr. McKeon is doing much better and Mr. Grappe' stated that he had been to see him several times in the hospital.

Reading of Minutes: Mayor Arey stated the first order of business was the reading of the minutes. Dr. Don Brashears made a motion to approve the August meeting minutes. Mr. Jim Erwin seconded the motion. Motion passed with no opposition.

Financial Statement and Financial Position: Mr. Grappe' stated that the District \$499k in Revenue Account, \$1.3 million in the operating account; \$135k in Recycling Account, \$1.2 million in Closure/Post Closure Account; \$1.2 million in Capital Improvement Account, and \$611.73 in Disability Disbursement Account. Mr. Grappe' stated that at some point the District needs to close the Closure/Post Closure Account. Mr. Gibson stated that is on his To- Do list, but because the District hasn't been pressed for money, he hasn't pushed it to the top of the list. Mr. Gibson stated that we will have to get the proper paperwork through the Solid Waste Division and then terminate the trust at Regions Bank, and then move to the money to the appropriate account. Mayor Arey asked if the Board was under any restrictions on accounts other than the Recycling Account. Mr. Gibson replied no other than the original restrictions from when the accounts were originally set up. Mr. Gibson stated the Capital Improvements account was restricted by the bonds, which have now been paid off, and the Closure/Post Closure account is restricted but will be removed once the trust is dissolved. Mr. Grappe' read the remainder of the District and Recycling Operations for the month. Mr. J.R. Walters made a motion to approve, and Judge Fite seconded the motion. All were in favor and motion passed with no opposition.

Inter District Tire Update: Mr. Grappe' stated that Mr. Goble was unable to attend today, because he was helping at the Pulaski County E-Waste Collection Event in Little Rock.

Executive Officer Update: Mr. Grappe' stated that Officer Chris Maher is no longer the environmental officer due to a lateral move somewhere else, and Sheriff Pennington has appointed a new

environmental officer, Officer David Blevins. Officer Blevins will be attending the five day Environmental Officer Training Course in Texas next week. The Board welcomed Officer Blevins.

Executive Director Update

New Office Update: Mr. Grappe' stated that we should be in the new office hopefully next week. Mr. Grappe' stated that the plumbing has been repaired, because four years ago Arkla put in a gas line next to the building and put it through the middle of the sewer line. Mr. Grappe' stated that the landlord worked with Arkla and the plumber to correct the problem with a sump pump connecting to a drain near the location of the old furniture store. Mr. Grappe' stated that the H/AC work is completed, along with new grids and ceiling tiles. Mr. Grappe' stated the new floor will be laid tomorrow and the doors will be put in.

Credit/Debt Report: Mrs. Marshall stated the credit and debt report has not changed since the last meeting. Mrs. Marshall stated that we are still owed by 12 companies and owe 2 credits. Mrs. Marshall stated that 2 debtors have been turned over to the attorney. Mr. Gibson stated that we will not be able to collect on Central Arkansas Foundation Homes due to the bankruptcy, but he is still working on the Dewpoint case. Mayor Arey asked if the three set up on payment plans are still paying, and Mrs. Marshall replied yes. Mrs. Marshall stated that she will be sending out registered letters soon for the last attempt to collect payment before turning last 7 over for collections.

Recycle Update: Mr. Grappe' stated that the Recycling Program is growing. Mr. Grappe' stated that we have drop off locations set up in Benton on East St., Bryant by City Hall, Bethel Middle School, and behind Haskell City Hall. Mr. Grappe' stated we have had a huge success in Benton and will be putting a second paper container in Benton this week. Mr. Grappe' stated that he wrote a blog for the website if anyone has time to read it, concerning citizens that take the time to recycle but then place their recyclables on the ground hence becoming litterbugs. Mr. Erwin asked about the paper container in Bryant. Mr. Grappe' stated that it has the big heavy plastic lid on it, and he is currently talking to Republic about designing a new "user friendly recycling container". Mr. Grappe' stated that these are made and designed for pick up but not given thought to the people that will using the containers and what would be user friendly.

TRG Incident: Mr. Grappe' stated that a week ago, the scrap metal trailer in the recycling center was loaded and later picked up by TRG for disposal. Mr. Grappe' stated that in that trailer load, there were eight propane bottles, and one exploded in the shredding process. Mr. Grappe' stated that we had a meeting on Monday with a TRG representative, because before they could buy metal from the District again, they needed to discuss what can and cannot be placed in the metal trailer. Mr. Grappe' stated that the most liability we have due to this incident is that we will lose the sale from the particular trailer load. Mr. Grappe' stated that when the District owned the landfill, we controlled what came in and out of the gate, and now due to selling, we do not have that control. Mr. Grappe' stated that our recycling operator loaded the trailer; therefore we are ultimately responsible for what goes into it. Mr. Grappe' stated that our recycling operator was not aware of the rules of what goes into the trailer, however, he is now.

Appraisal Report: Mr. Grappe' stated at the last meeting, the piece of property across from the Saline County Jail on Neely St. was discussed. Mr. Grappe' stated that he had the land appraised and there was no change in the land value from the last time the principal report was done. Mr. Grappe' stated that the value of the property is \$60k. Mr. Grappe' stated that if we pursue in the purchase of this land, he feels that will be the next step in the evolution of this recycling process we are trying to achieve. Mr. Grappe' stated that we are originally started with our personal trailers and are now using commercial roll-offs, and there are lots of citizens that are unhappy with the current process. Mr. Grappe' stated that the next step is a manned recycle center. Mr. Grappe' stated that this location would be set up with the individual containers for plastic, paper, and metal; people would drive up and 309s would take the recyclables out of the car and place it in the proper location to later be baled. Mr. Grappe' stated this would be the first of two sites he is looking at. Mr. Grappe' asked what the will of the Board is on this matter. Dr. Brashears asked what the Board would be waiting on to not move forward. Mr. Grappe' stated that he didn't know of anything and he suggested we move forward with the negotiations. Mr. Erwin asked if this would affect the curbside recycling we are striving for. Mr. Grappe' stated that at the end of the road this would not impede the curbside, but we will have to have a recycling murf to do curbside. Mr. Grappe' stated that we could use grant money to purchase this land. Mayor Arey asked if the improvements we would make would be beyond just the purchase of the land. Mr. Grappe' stated yes – fencing, equipment, etc. Judge Fite stated he would like to place a gate across the road to prevent dumping at night which would have to be discussed with the city. Judge Fite made a motion to move forward on trying to purchase the property with grant money up to \$60k and allow the executive director enter into negotiations. Mr. J.R. Walters seconded the motion. Mayor Arey asked for any discussion or questions. Mr. Gary Beck asked who the owner of the property. Judge Fite commented Mr. Wilson Jones. There were no other comments. All were in favor and motion passed with no opposition. Mr. J.R. Walters asked what hours this manned drop off facility would be open. Mr. Grappe' stated that he hadn't discussed that with the sheriff yet, but was thinking 7a.m. to 7p.m. Mr. Walters said his concern is if people will drive up there at night and just throw stuff over the fence. Judge Fite stated that's why we would be using 309s, because they would be picking it up the next morning. Mr. Grappe' stated that what we are currently doing is driving to the commercial drop off locations daily and picking up the recyclables and trash that citizens are just dropping off.

ARC Conference Update: Mr. Grappe' stated that he and Mr. Erwin were unable to attend, but Dr. Brashears attended representing the District. Dr. Brashears thanked the Board for allowing him the opportunity to attend the conference and that he had an enjoyable time. Dr. Brashears stated he got to tour the factory that makes the baling machines and bins which gave him a new prospective on how recycling is being done, and he was very impressed. Dr. Brashears stated that he absorbed a lot of information and was pleased with the four speakers at the seminar. Dr. Brashears shared a little bit of the information he learned at the conference. Dr. Brashears stated that the conference dealt with principles and specifics of the recycling industry.

Recycle Center Update: Mr. Grappe' stated that he is working with Republic on our current recycling center that we still have at the landfill. Mr. Grappe' stated that Mr. Fallon met with his corporate office last week in Nashville and is working on a plan with different scenarios to present to corporate. Mr.

Grappe' stated some of the scenarios are the District keeping the recycling center and operating it with 309s, or Republic operating the recycling facility, or the District purchasing equipment and Republic operating. Mr. Grappe' stated that the plan is being working on.

Temporary Help: Mr. Grappe' stated that because the recycling program has grown, he hired another temporary recycling operator to help Mr. Adams for the next 60-90 days.

Reclamation Project: Mr. Grappe' stated that Judge Fite has been researching the process of reclamation as a fix for composting in our District. Mr. Grappe' stated that he is thinking about purchasing a chipper and utilizing the Road Department to operate it at the Road Department's new site going out by the Saline County Airport. Mr. Grappe' stated that currently we have yard waste dumpsters at the landfill. Mr. Grappe' explained that using reclamation, citizens could come to the Road Department off of Reynolds Rd. and dispose of the wood waste, which would then be chipped up and then spread around the County in places the pH is too high and then seeded for grass. Mr. Grappe' stated that he is currently investigating purchasing a baler for grass clippings and the green yard waste could be baled up and then sold. Judge Fite stated that ADEQ has agreed for the composting, we could use the wood chips, and that Alcoa stated they would take as many wood chips as we could provide. There was general discussion on this topic. Dr. Brashears made a motion to move forward with the plan to research the reclamation process. Mr. Jim Erwin seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed with no opposition.

Household Hazardous Program Plans: Mr. Grappe' stated that he contacted Mayor Arey about setting up a meeting with Rineco to discuss a household hazardous waste program, and how they can help the Board. Mr. Grappe' stated they will have a meeting in the next couple of weeks. Mr. Grappe' stated that he wants to have two collection centers for this.

Upcoming visits to plastic companies: Mr. Grappe' stated that he has a meeting in El Dorado with a company that makes plastic containers, to discuss possibly making the District some recycling paper containers for the business offices and schools. Mr. Grappe' also stated that he has a meeting with Seraphim plastics about disposing of the plastics the District has collected in the past two years. Mr. Grappe' stated that he will be putting 3 paper collection bins for the Courthouse, OEM, and the District Court.

County Fair Update: Mrs. Marshall stated that the District had two recycling booths at the Saline County Fair and held four contests. Mrs. Marshall explained she provided a recycling container filled with empty plastic bottles, and had three questions for participants to guess answers. Mrs. Marshall awarded each winning contestant a \$25 gift card, and had two drawings for overall participation which awarded \$50 gift cards. Mrs. Marshall stated she also asked citizens to complete a recycling survey to see where the District stood in the goal of neighborhood recycling. Mrs. Marshall had a \$25 drawing each night for participants of the survey. Mrs. Marshall read the Board the results to her recycling survey. Mrs. Marshall stated that out of 155 participants, 145 stated YES they would support curbside recycling, and 87 said they would pay for recycling with 60 stating no. Mrs. Marshall stated that based on these results, most citizens recycle paper, metal, and aluminum, but are borderline on plastics, and

hardly any compost. Mrs. Marshall stated that she also provided brochures to the public to educate about the District and its operations as well as recycling. Judge Fite stated that he was surprised to see on the website that it takes 100,000 empty water bottles to make a 1 ton bale of plastic. There was discussion of plastic recycling and educating the public on this issue. Dr. Brashears stated that in the next few years there will only be one kind of plastic classification instead of seven per the ARC conference informative.

E-Waste Event: Mr. Grappe' stated that the District's E-Waste collection event will be held this Saturday. Mr. Grappe' stated that we have two billboards on I-30 and have run a quarter page ad in the Saline Courier and radio coverage by KEWI and FOX 16 news. Mr. Grappe' stated that we are partnering with Goldman Recycling and Bin There Dump That to have three drop off locations from 8-4, Bishop Park-Bryant, Old Harvest Foods parking lot-Benton, and Woodlands Auditorium- Hot Springs Village. Mr. Grappe' stated that people will be able to drive up and volunteers will unload the e-waste from their vehicle, place it in Gaylord boxes and those boxes will be placed onto a truck and hauled off for recycling, citizens never have to get out of the vehicle. Mr. Grappe' stated that we have three school groups and 4-H volunteering, and we'll provide breakfast, lunch, drinks, and snacks for workers and volunteers. Mr. Grappe' stated that we will hold a county office e-waste collection event at a later date due to the paperwork that is involved, and we will provide the bins for collection.

Miscellaneous Items: Mr. Lamont Cornwell stated a three year plan to condemn six homes on Misty Circle in Hidden Valley that flood year after year. He stated FEMA has purchased the homes and it is 75% FEMA, 25% City matching program, and of that 25%, 12.5% must be cash, and the other 12.5 can be in kind. Mr. Cornwell stated the County has provided the equipment needed for the tare down. Mr. Cornwell asked the Board to work with them on trying to get free dumping or help the city in the expense for the condemnation of these houses and that will take care of the 12.5% kind. Dr. Brashears made a motion to provide authorization to Mr. Grappe' to handle this situation. Mr. J.R. Walters seconded the motion. Judge Fite asked if the District was allowed to dump a certain amount per month at the landfill. Mr. Gibson stated he believed it was 50 tons per month. Judge Fite suggested asking for that 50 ton allowance be used for this, since we have not used that quota up this year. Mayor Arey stated that was an excellent idea, because this event will be spread out over a few years. Mr. Grappe' stated that the disposal cost per house is \$500-\$750. Mayor Arey asked for any other discussion. Dr. Brashears asked how long the 50 tons is good for. Mr. Gibson stated he wasn't positive of this but would look. Mayor Arey stated that if we can't get the dumping fee down to zero for this, that the District pay for this. Dr. Brashears restated his motion to say the Board authorize Mr. Grappe' to negotiate with Republic according to the terms of the contract as we understand in the disposal of the FEMA houses on Misty Circle in Hidden Valley in the City of Benton. Mr. J.R. Walters seconded the restated motion. All were in favor of the motion. Motion passed with no opposition. Mr. Cornwell thanked the Board.

Mr. Grappe' stated that the website is new and improved.

Mr. Grappe' stated that right now he is on a \$500 vehicle allowance, and there had been discussion before of purchasing him a vehicle when the District moved to the new office. Mr. Grappe' asked if he

needs to look at new or used vehicles. Judge Fite recommended putting on the next meeting agenda to look at the state bid list for Mr. Grappe' a vehicle.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business: All new business was discussed in executive director report.

Public Comments: Mr. Erwin stated that he spoke with Bryant superintendent and he needs more paper recycling containers at the schools. Mr. Grappe' stated that we will be picking up Benton schools e-waste next week. Mr. Erwin stated that Bryant city offices would be receptive to gaining paper containers for pick up as well. Mr. Grappe' stated that he would meet with Mr. Erwin after the meeting to discuss that issue. There were no other comments.

Mr. J.R. Walters made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Don Brashears seconded the motion. All were in favor and motion passed.