

ACADIA DISPOSAL DISTRICT

Minutes of Regular Meeting, February 7, 2024

Minutes Approved, February 20, 2024

Attendance: Directors: Tony Smith (Mount Desert), Carey Donovan (Tremont), Jim Fortune (Cranberry Isles), Martha B. Higgins (Trenton), Jim Vallette (Southwest Harbor) via Zoom

Absent: Richard Ladd Turner (Frenchboro),

Public: Lee Worcester (EMR), Damaris Smith (EMR), Jesse Dunbar (Tremont), Ken Rozsahegyi (Southwest Harbor Recycling Task Force) via Zoom, Ellen Pope (Southwest Harbor Recycling Task Force), Kyle Sullivan (Haley Ward) via Zoom

1. Call to order 9:30 a.m. by Smith.

2. Consider Draft Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2024.

Motion to Approve Draft Minutes of Regular Meeting January 26, 2024.

Motion: Smith; Second, Fortune, 5-0.

3. Financial Report. Treasurer Kathi Mahar provided a draft operating budget for FY25. There were no concerns about the proposed budget, which would be the same as the FY24 budget.

Motion to approve ADD Budget for FY25.

Motion: Fortune; Second, Higgins, 5-0.

4. Regular Business.

A. Update on ADD's development of a Household Hazardous Waste regional collection Facility. Kyle Sullivan from Haley Ward continues to assist ADD in developing the HHW Project. He has been in communication with the Maine DEP about regulations that would apply. Sullivan has also communicated with Environmental Projects, Inc. (EPI), the company that collects the Hazardous Waste at our annual collection event. EPI shared their data from our event with Sullivan. At our 2023 Collection Day, they collected 854 units of Hazardous Waste.

EPI is willing to work with us on this project that would allow more opportunities for citizens to safely dispose of Hazardous Waste. It has been recommended that HHW be picked up, by EPI, within 48 hours of its drop-off. This would argue for a monthly opportunity for citizens to bring their hazardous waste. EPI also offered that since they would be coming to pick up the waste, they would be willing to have one of their workers be the receiver of the waste. This would be very helpful since we would be assured that the person managing the waste is well trained.

Chairman Smith also informed the ADD that the League of Towns and Ellsworth has been asking if they could participate in our HHW/UW collection date this fall. Smith has said that it would not work, because it would be more waste than we can handle, and it would create traffic problems with too many cars being backed up on the road. He will get back in touch with Ellsworth. It may be that ADD could help them with one HHW/UW event, and then they could do it on their own after that.

B. Update on Municipal Waste Solutions (new name for the Fiberight plant). They are now taking waste from a few towns to test how the equipment is working and whether there are some changes to be made. They have designated 2025 as the year to begin accepting waste from all 115+ towns. It will not be all at once - they will take on a few towns at a time until all are served.

C. Discussion of the EMR, Inc. solid waste contract due to expire in June 2024.

Mr. Worcester stated he will be providing a proposal, separate from and independent of the contract, to handle corrugated cardboard as a distinct product. The towns can accept the contract as is, and enter into separate agreement for the cardboard handling, or discuss any issue with Mr. Worcester.

D. Discussion of means to address cardboard. Mr. Worcester has taken out the baler and checked it to see if it still works. It appears that it does, but he hasn't yet tried baling a load of cardboard.

E. Director comments. None.

5. Any other business as may be legally conducted.

- 6. Input from the attending public.** Ellen Pope informed the ADD that Southwest Harbor has put together an ordinance on waste issues, to be voted on at the Southwest Harbor Town Meeting. Trenton is also working on crafting a solid waste ordinance. The Chair of Trenton's Solid Waste Committee is Ed Meadows. There will be a meeting of the two groups on March 18, 12:00-1:30, at the Southwest Harbor Town Office. This meeting is open to anyone who wants to attend.

Ellen Pope also informed the ADD that the Maine Resource Recovery Association (mrra.net) will hold its annual Solid Waste conference on April 29-30 at the Samoset in Rockland. More info can be found on the MRRRA website.

7. Assignments per Director:

- Chairman Smith will continue to work with Kyle Sullivan on advancing the Household Hazardous Waste project.

- Chairman Smith will get back to the League of Towns and Ellsworth about hosting HHW/UW Collection Days.
- Donovan will contact Barn Dog Creative about posting Agendas and Approved Minutes on our ADD website.

8. Executive Session. None scheduled.

9. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting. Wednesday, February 21 @ 9:30.

10. Meeting adjourned, 10:10 a.m.