

# **Kosciusko County Solid Waste Management District**

## **Board of Director's Meeting Minutes – June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Present: Brad Jackson, Joe Thallemer, Jerry Frush, Cary Groninger, Scott Reust, Dave Wolkins, Tom Ganser, Rhonda Helser, Leslie Williams, Liz Shepherd – InkFree News

Absent: Bob Conley, Rick Swaim

- Call to Order:
  - Brad Jackson called the meeting to order.
- May 2023 Board Minutes
  - Brad Jackson asked for a motion to approve Minutes from the April 2023 Board Meeting. Cary Groninger made a motion to approve as presented. Jerry Frush seconded the motion, and the Board approved the motion unanimously.
- Claims and Financial Report
  - Rhonda Helser presented the claims in the amount of \$21,689.78. The ending checking account balance is \$156,209.63, in addition to the 1.3-million-dollar investment. Cary Groninger asked what the checking account balance for the previous month. Rhonda responded by saying the amount was slightly less than this month at \$144,619.32. Cary then asked if this was what we expected after closing the sites – that the District would have more steady funds. Tom Ganser replied by stating that some of the big-ticket claims have not been taken out yet (i.e., chemicals, electronics, etc.), but the District's account is seemingly staying steadier, and is on track to break even. Joe Thallemer made a motion to approve the financial report. Cary Groninger seconded the motion, and the Board approved the motion unanimously.
- New Business
  - Syracuse Site
    - Tom Ganser stated that the District has had no sealed bids submitted for the Syracuse site. Tom added that the assessed value of the property may have deterred bidders. Brad Jackson suggested that the bidders be called back and see if they would still like to place any bid on the property. Joe Thallemer asked what the assessed value is. Tom replied with \$55,000. Tom added that he would reach out the possible bidders and see if they would still like to place a bid.

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- 2024 Budget Review

- Tom Ganser stated that he typically presents a spreadsheet with a trend and notes. This spreadsheet shows the past couple of years of budgets.

Tom stated that, in the 100 series and just as normal, the wages reflect a 10% bump. Brad Jackson asked if the District is expecting a 10% bump in wages. Tom replied with no, Council will come back with the amount that they approve. Tom dropped the wages for the part time employee as the District is fully staffed – so that will not be reflected in the 2024 budget. Tom then stated that, in the 200 series, it is comparable to the 2023 budget. He stated that there is a slight increase in office supplies, operating supplies, and gas.

Tom stated that, in the 300 series, there are typically the largest amounts of spending. Some of the categories have gone up, but it is generally the same. Tom mentioned that he kept the Education budget the same, even though it has been lower than expected recently. Tom added the Leslie, the District's Educator, has been out in the field more and he wants to keep funds available for her. Tom stated that advertising will stay the same as well – the District will be doing radio adds soon.

Tom stated that, in the 400 series, there has been the biggest change, or reversal. Since there are no longer any recycling sites, the budget has dropped from \$480,000 to \$6,500. The \$6,500 is for recycling at the Depot and at the County, and any other possible recycling programs that happen within the District.

Tom mentioned that \$4,000 is budgeted for continued education and conferences. Part of this would go toward helping Leslie sharpen her skills on grant writing – so getting her into a program.

Tom stated that there is no budget under the Capital Investments category; however, he did mention that there is a leak in the back part of the roof of the building and repairs will be made soon. He added that there may be an additional cost associated if a large repair is needed, but there is money set

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aside in the 2023 budget if needed.

Tom stated that the entire budget-spend for 2024 would be \$451, 057.00. Tom then mentioned that the projected revenue would be \$449,806.00 for 2024. Tom added that he feels very good about this number as they are very close.

Brad Jackson asked what the total change was between the 2023 and 2024 budgets. Tom stated that the change was very large. In 2023, the budget was \$922,000, while 2024, the budget is right around \$450,000.

Cary Groninger asked Rhonda Helser what the interest rate on the District's investment is. Rhonda stated that she was not sure, but the current short-term investment rates are higher than long-term investment rates.

Joe Thallemer asked about miscellaneous revenue and how that would be covering the budget. Joe then asked if there would be any property taxes. Tom replied by stating that the district's property tax rate would remain the same at the 0.0001% (less than \$6,000 per year from property taxes).

Tom stated that many of the disposal/recycling rates for programs that the District currently has (i.e., chemical, paint, electronic) have increased 30-40%; however, the District has not had to raise user fees due to having the budget ability to cover the extra costs.

Tom stated that there is currently no vote needed on the budget – that will be done at the July meeting. Tom asked if there were any other questions.

- Floating holiday for July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023
  - Tom Ganser stated that since the day before Independence Day in on Monday, he would like to propose to the Board to allow the Depot to be closed and employees to use their floating holiday for July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. Cary Groninger made a motion to approve the allowance of employees to use a floating holiday and for the Depot to be closed on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. Jerry Frush seconded the motion, and the Board approved the motion unanimously.

- Old Business

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- None to be reported.
- Reports
  - Tom Ganser stated the Director and Educator Reports were included in the meeting packet and asked if there were any questions regarding these reports. There were no questions or comments.
- Comments and Questions
  - There were none.
- Adjournment
  - Dave Wolkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jerry Frush seconded the motion, with the board approving.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 11 am.