

Kosciusko County Solid Waste Management District

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes – May 6th, 2024

Present: Brad Jackson, Bob Conley, Dave Wolkins, Jerry Frush, Ashley McGinnis, Becky Dye, Scott Reust, Tom Ganser, Patrick Webb – InkFree News, Mike Lewis

Absent: Cary Groninger, Jeff Grose, Leslie Williams

- Call to Order:
 - Brad Jackson called the meeting to order.
- April 2024 Board Minutes
 - Brad Jackson asked for a motion to approve Minutes from the April 2024 Board Meeting. Ashley McGinnis 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 \$8,851.88. The ending checking account balance is \$215,022.26, in addition to the 1.4-million-dollar investment.
Brad Jackson asked if there were any questions regarding the financial reports. There were none. Ashley McGinnis made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented. Dave Wolkins seconded the motion with the Board approving.
- New Business
 - Resignation of Leslie Williams
 - Tom Ganser stated that Leslie Williams resigned from her position as Educator. Tom stated the search will begin to fill the role as he will put an ad on Indeed as well as local news.
- Old Business
 - Amnesty Period
 - Tom Ganser stated that there continues to be a great response to the amnesty period. In the month of April, the District serviced 965 customers, and had almost 250 customers in the Reuse Room. In addition, there was over 1,800 pounds of paint taken from the Reuse Room.
- Reports
 - Tom Ganser stated that the Director and Educator Reports were included in the meeting packet and asked if there were any questions regarding the reports. There were no questions or comments.

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- **Comments and Questions**

- Tom Ganser mentioned that they recently sent out a large load of paint to American Paint Recyclers.
- Mike Lewis, former owner of Lewis Salvage, introduced himself and asked if the meeting is open to the public. It was confirmed that the meetings are open to the public. Mike Lewis stated that he has recently retired and would like a seat on the Board if possible. Brad Jackson stated that the seats on the Board are through public entities and not open for the public. Mike Lewis stated that he would like to join the Citizen Action Committee if possible. Tom Ganser stated that he would be able to join the Committee and that the District has been trying to get the Committee going for a couple years with no success yet.

Mike Lewis then stated that he is concerned about the amount of money sitting in the District's account – \$1.4 million. Mike asked the Board what would be done with this money in the future as he did not see any discussion about what would be done with it. Mike added that Rhonda Helser gave him some guidance on the financials through the Gateway website.

Brad Jackson stated that the District currently keeps a decent rainy day fund due to the fact that the District receives very little from taxes, and the tipping fees, the main source of funding, is not always consistent. Tom Ganser added that if the District had gone with either of the bidders for the recycling programs in 2022. Then the investment would have quickly been burned through within roughly three years as the drop off sites would have cost a half a million dollars per year.

Mike Lewis added that he would like to see a new program added to ensure less was going to the landfill.

Scott Ruest stated that he recently had someone in his office stating that it is hard to get rid of tires and asked why the District does not accept them. Tom responded by stating that one of the main goals of the District is not to compete with the private sector, and most tires stores in the area accept tires for a small fee.

Discussion briefly continued on the matter.

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Brad Jackson added that he would be willing to discuss any of this one-on-one with Mike and would love to hear any ideas.

- Adjournment
 - Bob Conley made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dave Wolkins seconded the motion, with the board approving.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, June 18th, 2024, at 11am.