

**BERKS COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF  
September 18, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Board of the Berks County Solid Waste Authority (the "Authority") was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on September 18, 2018, in the Commissioners' meeting room, 13th Floor, County Services Center, 633 Court Street, Reading, Pennsylvania.

The following members were present:

Mr. Charles Mowbray  
Ms. Michelle Kircher  
Mr. Brian Clements  
Mr. Tony Rymar  
Michael Gombar, Jr., Esquire  
Charles Jones, PE  
John Pagerly, CPA

Absent were, Ms. Dale-Ann Farina and Mr. Tony Sacco.

Also present:

Ms. Jane Meeks, Executive Director of the Berks County Solid Waste Authority  
Douglas Paul Rauch, Esquire, Geogeadis/Setley

The Chairman declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present.

MINUTES

Upon a motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Ms. Kircher, the minutes of the regular meeting of July 24, 2018, were unanimously approved.

FINANCE

Treasurer's Report:

Ms. Meeks distributed the Treasurer's Report and invoices for payment and reviewed them with the Board. Upon a motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Pagerly, the Board approved the payment of all invoices, ratified the payment of invoices previously paid and accepted the Treasurer's Report.

## SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Rauch reported that since the Authority's last Board meeting, he has been working on various Authority matters, including the drafting of a formal press statement of the Authority, which had previously been distributed to the Board for comment. Both Mr. Mowbray and Ms. Kircher indicated that they had some comments they would be sending to Mr. Rauch for inclusion. Mr. Rauch indicated that once the comments are received he will update the statement and redistribute to the Board.

Mr. Rauch also presented the framed proclamation that will be presented to Mr. Spencer of United Document Destruction and Storage and the Commissioners meeting on Thursday, September 20, 2018.

Mr. Rauch then recommended that the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss the current litigation with New Morgan Landfill Company.

At 3:20 PM, the meeting reconvened.

## NEW BUSINESS

### A. Update on fall collection events

Ms. Meeks reported that the Paper Shredding and Household Hazardous Waste collections are all on schedule with all arrangements completed. She indicated that the Authority will once again partner with Opportunity House to collect used books for their initiative. She indicated that she currently has volunteers from the Conrad Weiser football team, Bern Twp. Fire Police and Adult probation, in addition to other volunteers.

Ms. Meeks also, reported that the 2019 collection dates and locations have been confirmed and that information will be distributed at our fall collection events. Those events will be held on the following dates, from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

#### Paper Shredding

April 20, 2019 - Governor Mifflin Intermediate School

October 12, 2019 – Berks County Ag Center

#### Household Hazardous Waste

April 13, 2019 – Governor Mifflin Intermediate School

October 19, 2019 – Berks County Ag Center

B. Status of Baler project

Ms. Meeks indicated that at the last Board meeting there was discussion on the possibility of obtaining a baler from the City of Reading, that was previously purchased through a 902 Recycling Grant. She indicated that she attended the Bern Township Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors meetings and obtained a waiver on Land Development for this project. The Authority will be required to submit a Sketch for Record for this project. She indicated that since our last Board meeting she has obtained quotes on the cost of moving the baler and also the demolition and construction of a new building to house that equipment. Attached is a spreadsheet listing those estimated expenses. She indicated that due to the overall cost of this project, the Authority will be required to put this project out for bid and recommended hiring an engineering firm to assist with this project. She indicated that she has received one quote, so far, from Great Valley Consultants to assist with the engineering on this project, with a not to exceed cost of \$17,000. The Board recommended obtaining two other quotes for this engineering work.

Upon a motion by Ms. Kircher, seconded by Mr. Rymar the Board approved hiring an engineering firm to assist with this project, at a not to exceed cost of \$17,000, with Mr. Jones abstaining.

Ms. Meeks recommended not starting any of the design or construction until the 902 Recycling Grant covering a large percentage of this project is actually awarded.

C. Electronic Recycling Contract

Ms. Meeks indicated that we are currently in the first year of our contract with ECOvanta. She indicated that the current contract is a one year contract with two, one year options for renewal at the 2018 pricing. Ms. Meeks indicated that she is very happy with the performance of ECOvanta and recommended renewing the contract for the second year. She indicated that she has spoken to Gordon Burgoyne, Business Manager of ECOvanta regarding the extension and they are in agreement to continue our relationship for 2019.

Upon a motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Gombar, Jr. the Board unanimously authorized extending this Contract for the second year.

D. Current 902 Recycling Grants and next round

Ms. Meeks indicated that Berks County currently has sixteen municipalities with grant applications pending in the amount of \$3,159,177. She indicated that DEP is currently working on an issue regarding one of the applications and once that issue is resolved the grants will be awarded and another round of grants is expected to open up immediately. She indicated that DEP is anticipating awarded \$40 million for the current round of grants and expect to have \$17 million available for the next round. She indicated that Berks County will have nineteen municipalities that are eligible for funding under the next round and she has been in contact with those municipalities to see who is interested in applying. She indicated that she has had discussion with four of the nineteen that will be interested in applying and believes there will be at least a few more that will also have projects that are eligible for funding.

E. 2019 County Budget

Ms. Meeks indicated that due to the market volatility of our recyclable materials and the change in staffing schedules at the Jail, which affects our staffing as it relates to baling paper materials on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, she submitted a revised budget to the County, as per the recommendation of the Finance Committee. She indicated that she had previously met with the Budget office to review our request to increase the County contribution from \$250,000 to \$278,000 for 2019. They appeared responsive to this request and requested a five year budget history of the Authority to support this request, which was provided to them on August 29, 2018, immediately following our meeting. Attached is a copy of that information that was provided to the County Budget office.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. Meeks indicated that 111,500 residents have used our electronic recycling center since opening in July of 2010. Over 15,000 residents have used the site already this year and 5,000 in July and August alone. Nearly 10 million pounds have been recycled at this site since opening.

Ms. Meeks indicated that she is continuing to assist our municipalities with filing their 904 Performance Grants, which are due September 28, 2018.

Ms. Meeks reported that the Major Permit Modification submitted by the Rolling Hills Landfill for an expansion has been withdrawn, with the intention to resubmit a revised application later this month.

Ms. Meeks indicated that she was contacted by the County IS Department regarding the County's new Policy as it relates to outside agencies utilizing County computer equipment. She indicated that the meeting went very well and that we may need to obtain our own e-mail account, but no other changes will be made to our operation. She indicated that she is waiting for a determination from them and will update the Board on any changes that might be needed.

Ms. Meeks indicated that most of the other items outlined in her report have been discussed throughout today's meeting and offered to answer any questions that members may have, regarding her report.

Next Meeting Date

Mr. Mowbray indicated that the next Authority meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at 3:00 PM in the Commissioners' meeting room.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:55 p.m., upon a motion by Ms. Kircher, seconded by Mr. Pagerly the Board unanimously resolved to adjourn.