RIVANNA SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY  
695 Moores Creek Lane • Charlottesville, Virginia 22902 • (434) 977-2970

RSWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
June 26, 2018

A regular meeting of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority (RSWA) Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, June 26, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in the 2nd floor conference room, Administration Building, 695 Moores Creek Lane, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Board Members Present: Mr. Mike Gaffney – presiding, Ms. Kathy Galvin, Mr. Trevor Henry, Mr. Maurice Jones, Mr. Paul Oberdorfer, Dr. Liz Palmer and Mr. Jeff Richardson.

Board Members Absent: None.

Ms. Galvin arrived at 2:09 p.m. Mr. Gaffney left the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Staff Present: Mr. Mark Brownlee, Mr. Tim Castillo, Mr. Kenny Lawhorne, Mr. Bill Mawyer, Ms. Katie McIlwae, Mr. Philip McKalips, Mr. Bill Morris, Ms. Teresa Napier, Ms. Betsy Nemeth, Mr. David Rhodes, Ms. Michelle Simpson, Ms. Andrea Terry, Mr. David Tungate, Ms. Jennifer Whitaker, and Mr. Lonnie Wood.

Also Present: Mr. Kurt Krueger – RSWA Counsel, members of the public, and media representatives.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Gaffney called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING
   a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of May 22, 2018

There were no changes to the minutes.

Dr. Palmer moved to approve the minutes of the RSWA May 22, 2018 meeting as presented. Mr. Henry seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-1. Mr. Jones abstained from the vote as he was not present at the May 22, 2018 meeting. Ms. Galvin had not yet arrived and was absent from the vote.

3. RECOGNITION
Mr. Mawyer reported that Philip McKalips had been selected as the new Director of Solid Waste, having served for three years as Rivanna’s safety and environmental manager.

4. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Mr. Mawyer reported that Rivanna was making good progress on the transfer and recycling station and was hopeful for an August or September opening. He reported that the electronic waste recycling day had been advertised on June 24, with instructions for the public to make reservations with Rivanna beginning June 25; as of noon on June 26, there were 178 reservations of the 350 available slots.

Mr. Mawyer noted that at the County’s request, Rivanna had participated in accepting storm-related debris at the landfill and taken in about 76 tons of vegetative debris from 181 customers, who disposed of an average of 840 pounds each.

5. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Gaffney invited items from the public.

There being none offered, the agenda item was closed.

6. **RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no responses to public comments for this month.

7. **CONSENT AGENDA**

   a. Staff Report on Finance
   
   b. Staff Report on Ivy Material Utilization
   
   c. Staff Report on Ivy Landfill Environmental
   
   d. Staff Report on Ongoing Projects

Mr. Jones moved to adopt the resolution as presented. Dr. Palmer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (7-0).

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

   a. Presentation: Recycling at the McIntire Recycling Center

Mr. McKalips reported that at the February board meeting, the RSWA Board had authorized staff to enter into a contract with Arcadis to develop a master plan for the Ivy MUC, and part of that plan would include looking at recyclables and making recommendations as to what could be recycled and how it might be done differently. He stated that to help inform this approach, staff felt it was helpful to consider what was happening at McIntire today.
Mr. McKalips stated that there had been a lot of interest in this locally, stating that China has been a big player in recycling in the U.S. – having received about a third of America’s recycling each year. He noted that this had been decreasing, and China had set up legislation in 2013 to reduce the receipt of recycling under “Greenfence,” which they began implementing in Fall 2017. Mr. McKalips stated that they banned some materials and put very stringent limits on contamination of others, and all of this combined had created a glut in the recyclables market.

Mr. McKalips explained that most people recycled because they felt it was the good environmental thing to do, but if you picture them as products it provides a different perspective. He stated that there are good relationships locally with manufacturers in the Mid-Atlantic, which allowed Rivanna to continue having a source for things to go – although the global market was impacting the price offered for those materials. Mr. McKalips stated that McIntire accepts aluminum beverage cans, which were separated from regular cans because of their value; #2 and #4 plastic bags, including grocery bags but also Ziploc bags; and compostable food waste.

Mr. McKalips reported that metal products went to Gerda, which had a local office, and then onto their sort facility to break it down into steel, aluminum, etc. Sonoco accepts corrugated products and other products. Plastic materials 1-7 went to a sort and material recovery facility in Raleigh, and glass bottles and jars were not particular sought after but were accepted by Strategic Materials of North Carolina, which ran them through an optical sorter and turned them back into containers. He stated that office paper products went to a mill in Virginia, where they were turned into paper towels and toilet papers; newsprint went to a mill in North Carolina, along with telephone books and hard and softbound books.

Mr. McKalips stated that there was a good demand for #1 and #2 plastics domestically in the U.S.; #3 through #7 plastics did not have a good established market, so they needed to consider whether they should be collected if they weren’t being recycled. He noted they also needed to focus on value, which can be done by reducing contamination – as many people dispose of things into the wrong containers. Mr. McKalips noted that he had read a study that indicated that 87% of people did “wish cycling” whereby they put unrecyclable items in a bin in hopes they would get recycled – but that could spoil an entire load of recycling. He presented an image showing a mixed plastics compactor, noting the presence of bubble wrap and blue storage containers in the container. Mr. McKalips also noted the presence of plastic bags and aluminum foil trays in the aluminum bin, which reduced the value of the load.

Ms. Galvin asked if there was signage around the bins.

Mr. McKalips responded that there were lots of signs, which had been changed periodically in an attempt to inform people, but the solution to the mistakes was going to be education.

Dr. Palmer commented that a lot of different signage had been tried, and the sign that included everything that could go in the bins had been replaced.

Mr. McKalips reported that staff was working towards a master plan, which would be preliminarily presented to the board in August, with plans for Ivy included, and hopefully would be finalized as a plan in November. He stated that he would like to work on commercial interests.
with recycling products to make them cleaner and add value to them, such as bailing cardboard and trucking to make it easy on the commercial buyer.

Dr. Palmer noted that the County had a solid waste committee, which was charged with education, and they had recently been paid to do a public service announcement (PSA) that informed the public as to what they could do but did not address the contamination issue. She stated that she was interested in moving that committee and its educational aspects to be a Rivanna committee, because the City and County needed to be involved – particularly with recycling. Dr. Palmer noted there was a big debate in the recycling community as to whether to continue to pick things up if they weren’t being recycling, but her feeling was that they should continue picking up things that could be totally recycled. She added that the solid waste committee had been instrumental in informing the Board of Supervisors as to the needs of the community to get the new transfer station funded, and the City’s representatives could inform City Council to have this become a collaborative effort.

Ms. Galvin noted that Paul Oberdorfer was the City’s representative on the committee.

Mr. Oberdorder stated that his perspective was that with the good things happening in regional collection, there should be alignment with education – either in the City or outside of it – and it was important to have a unified message rather than having it broken down by audience.

Mr. Mawyer noted that the Rivanna charter talked about having a technical advisory committee comprised of representatives from both, to provide feedback, education, etc. – and going back to that TAC committee might be something to consider.

Dr. Palmer commented that the TAC committee in the County was highly professional, comprised of people who knew a lot about recycling.

Ms. Galvin noted that the TAC would work out the logistics of an aligned public education campaign and would include City and County representatives, with Rivanna board members returning to Council and the Board with that information.

Dr. Palmer stated that the County’s committee provided reports every six months to the Board of Supervisors and came before the Board about once a year.

Mr. Jones commented that this made a lot of sense, and he would like to see who comprised that committee in the past.

Mr. Krueger pointed out that it was a Citizens Advisory Committee, not a Technical Advisory Committee, and the RSWA’s charter provided for the committee’s appointment. He noted that because it is a committee of the authority, it would be a public body and would have to keep minutes, be subject to FOIA, advertise its meetings, etc.

Mr. Jones asked if it made sense to put this on an upcoming agenda for consideration.
Dr. Palmer noted that she would like to, and in the meantime they could have more discussion. She stated that they would also want to see how the County’s Solid Waste Advisory Committee would dovetail into this, as that committee had worked hard on getting things going and getting the Board comfortable with their recommendations.

Ms. Galvin stated that she would like to know how the City would get members on this.

Mr. Krueger noted that the purpose of the County’s committee was much broader than the limited purpose as discussed for the new committee, and the question would be whether to morph them together or keep them on parallel tracks, with Rivanna’s focus being education.

Dr. Palmer pointed out that the County SWAC’s primary purpose was intended to be education, and they were trying to evolve.

Mr. McKalips commented that whatever they did, they would want to keep those valuable people in the mix.

Mr. Mawyer noted the charter indicated that there would be three members from the City, three members from the County, and two from the University – all appointed – as well as a ninth member to be appointed; and they would all serve two-year terms.

Mr. Krueger noted that the Board had the power to broaden or reduce the scope as they saw fit.

Ms. Galvin stated that she had been receiving questions about the Chinese pulling out of the recycling market, so this was a timely discussion.

Mr. McKalips noted that if a big pile of unrecycled material that was going unused, someone would figure out how to use it and create a business around it.

9. OTHER ITEMS FROM BOARD/STAFF NOT ON AGENDA

There were none presented.

10. CLOSED MEETING

At 2:31 p.m., Mr. Jones moved to recess the RSWA meeting. Mr. Oberdorfer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (7-0).

At 3:55 p.m., Mr. Jones moved to reconvene the RSWA meeting. Ms. Galvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (7-0).

There was a joint closed meeting held with the Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority.

Mr. Krueger read the following resolution into the record:
RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority enter into a joint closed meeting with the Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority Board to discuss confidential personnel matters as permitted by Section 2.2-3711.A.1 of the Code of Virginia.

Mr. Jones moved to adopt a resolution to enter the joint closed session. Mr. Oberdorfer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (7-0).

The board entered a closed meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Mr. Krueger read the following resolution into the record:

WHEREAS, the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority has convened a joint closed meeting with the Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712.D of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies, (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority.

Mr. Jones moved to adopt a resolution for the RSWA to reenter an open meeting. Mr. Henry seconded the motion, which passed 6-0. Mr. Gaffney had left the meeting and was not present for the vote.

The board reentered into an open meeting at 4:36 p.m.

Dr. Palmer moved for the RSWA to authorize a 5% raise for Mr. Mawyer, bringing his annual salary from $183,712 to $192,897.60, and will also reimburse $1,950 for taxes imposed on a prior moving expense reimbursement. Ms. Galvin seconded the motion, which passed 6-0. Mr. Gaffney had left the meeting and was not present for the vote.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Jones moved to adjourn the RSWA Board meeting. Ms. Galvin seconded the motion, which passed 6-0. Mr. Gaffney had left the meeting and was not present for the vote.

The RSWA Board adjourned its meeting at 4:40 p.m.

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1 Editors Note: Mr. Mawyer’s entire salary is paid by the Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority, and the portion of his time allocated to RSWA is reimbursed by RSWA to RWSA.
Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Mike Murphy
Secretary - Treasurer