



**RSWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**November 16, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority (RSWA) Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

**Board Members Present:** Mike Gaffney, Jeff Richardson, Dr. Liz Palmer, Lloyd Snook, Samuel Sanders, Jr. (arrived at 2:07 p.m.), Lance Stewart.

**Board Members Absent:** None.

**Rivanna Staff Present:** Bill Mawyer, Lonnie Wood, Katie McIlwee, Deborah Anama, Jennifer Whitaker, David Tungate, John Hull, Liz Coleman, Phil McKalips.

**Attorney(s) Present:** Carrie Stanton.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Gaffney convened the November 16, 2021, regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority at 2:01 p.m.

**2. STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**

Mr. Gaffney read the following statement aloud: “Notwithstanding any provision in our Bylaws to the contrary, as permitted under the City of Charlottesville’s Continuity of Government Ordinance adopted on March 25, 2020, Albemarle County’s Continuity of Government Ordinance adopted on April 15th, 2020, and revised effective October 1, 2020 and Chapter 1283 of the 2020 Acts of the Virginia Assembly effective April 24, 2020, we are holding this meeting by real time electronic means with no board member physically present at a single, central location.

“All board members are participating electronically. This meeting is being held pursuant to the second resolution of the City’s Continuity of Government Ordinance and Section 6 of the County’s revised Continuity of Government Ordinance. All board members will identify themselves and state their physical location by electronic means during the roll call which we will hold next.

“I note for the record that the public has real time audio-visual access to this meeting over Zoom as provided in the lawfully posted meeting notice and real time audio access over telephone, which is also contained in the notice. The public is always invited to send questions, comments, and suggestions to the Board through Bill Mawyer, the Authority’s Executive Director, at any time.”

Mr. Gaffney called the roll.

Dr. Liz Palmer stated she was located at 2958 Mechum Banks Drive in Albemarle County.

Mr. Jeff Richardson stated he was located at the County Office Building at 401 McIntire Road in Charlottesville, VA.

Mr. Sanders, Jr. had not yet joined the meeting and was absent from the roll call.

Mr. Lloyd Snook stated he was located at 408 East Market Street, Charlottesville, VA.

Mr. Stewart stated he was located at 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, VA.

Mr. Mike Gaffney stated he was located at 3180 Dundee Road in Earlysville, VA.

Mr. Gaffney stated the following Authority staff members were joining the meeting electronically: Bill Mawyer, Phil McKalips, Lonnie Wood, Jennifer Whitaker, John Hull, Liz Coleman, Katie McIlwee, and Deborah Anama.

Mr. Gaffney stated they were also joined electronically by Carrie Stanton, Counsel to the Authority.

### **3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING**

#### ***a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board on September 28, 2021.***

Ms. Stanton noted the same code section reference revisions as were made for the RWSA minutes from the prior month. She stated that in line 562, the code section should be Section 2.2-3711-A(1) of the Code of Virginia. She stated on line 578, it should be Section 2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia.

**Dr. Palmer moved that the board approve the minutes of the previous board meeting as amended. Mr. Stewart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (5-0). (Mr. Sanders, Jr. was absent from the vote.)**

### **4. RECOGNITION**

#### ***a. Resolution of Appreciation for Mr. Chip Boyles***

Mr. Gaffney read the following resolution:

“WHEREAS, Mr. Boyles has served as a member of the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority and Rivanna Solid Waste Authority Board of Directors since February of 2021; and

“WHEREAS, over that same period Mr. Boyles has demonstrated leadership in water and sewer, solid waste and recycling services; and has been a valuable member of the Boards of Directors and a resource to the Authorities; and

“WHEREAS, Mr. Boyles’s understanding of the water, sewer, solid waste and recycling operations of the City of Charlottesville, the Water & Sewer Authority and the Solid Waste Authority has supported a strategic decision-making process that provided benefits to the customers served by the City of Charlottesville as well as the community as a whole; and

“WHEREAS, the Water & Sewer Authority and Solid Waste Authority Boards of Directors are most grateful for the professional and personal contributions Mr. Boyles has provided to both Authorities and to the community.

“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority and the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority Boards of Directors recognize, thank, and commend Mr. Boyles for his distinguished service, efforts, and achievements as a member of the Rivanna Water & Sewer

Authority and the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority, and present this Resolution as a token of esteem, with their best wishes in his future endeavors.

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be entered upon both the permanent Minutes of the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority and the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority.”

**Mr. Snook moved to approve the Resolution of Appreciation. Dr. Palmer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (6-0).**

*b. Resolution of Appreciation for Dr. Liz Palmer*

Mr. Gaffney read the following resolution:

“WHEREAS, Dr. Palmer has served as a member of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority and the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority Boards of Directors since 2016; and

“WHEREAS, since 1998 Dr. Palmer has been an active and valuable contributor and has demonstrated leadership in solid waste, recycling, drinking water and wastewater services as a member of the community and as a member of the Boards of Directors; and

“WHEREAS, Dr. Palmer’s understanding of solid waste and recycling as well as drinking water and sewer operations of Albemarle County and the Rivanna Authorities has supported a strategic decision-making process that provided benefits to the customers served by Albemarle County as well as the community as a whole. During Dr. Palmer’s tenure and through her efforts, major projects were completed including:

- a modern refuse Transfer Station at the Ivy Material Utilization Center
- the first recycling and refuse Convenience Centers located at the Ivy MUC as well as in Keene
- a Community Water Supply Plan to ensure an adequate water supply for the next 50 years
- the regional “Wastewater Projects Cost Allocation Agreement”
- Odor Control Improvements at the Moores Creek Advanced Water Resource Recovery Facility
- Granular Activated Carbon Filters for the water treatment plants
- a Strategic Plan for both Authorities; and

“WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Authority and Water & Sewer Authority Boards of Directors are most grateful for the professional and personal contributions Dr. Palmer has provided to both Authorities and to the community.

“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority and Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority Boards of Directors recognize, thank, and commend Dr. Palmer for her distinguished service, efforts, and achievements and present this Resolution as a token of esteem, with their best wishes in her future endeavors.

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be entered upon both the permanent Minutes of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority and the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority.”

**Mr. Richardson moved to approve the Resolution of Appreciation. Mr. Stewart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (6-0).**

Mr. Gaffney offered his appreciation to Dr. Palmer.

Dr. Palmer asked if she could take some time to say a few words about the Solid Waste Authority. She stated Mr. Gaffney is the only person on the board who was present when there was an effort to go from privatizing solid waste in the County to having a municipally owned, modern transfer station. She stated she wanted to say a few words of importance of how this happened. She stated she particularly wanted to talk about the importance of the SWAAC Committee in that effort and how it can be equally as important going forward.

Dr. Palmer stated that prior to 2014, the Board of Supervisors was planning on privatizing solid waste. She stated her predecessor on the RSWA that was the representative on the Board of Supervisors thought it was very important to get the County out of solid waste. She stated he wanted to privatize it and was very clear about it. She stated they had a different viewpoint.

Dr. Palmer stated that when she got on the Board of Supervisors in 2014, she knew absolutely nothing about solid waste and was a blank slate. She stated she knew some things about the history, but she did not know anything about trash. She stated the rest of her board colleagues were likely equally in the dark about the business. She stated they resurrected what used to be the Citizens Advisory Board for Rivanna and made this a County committee. She stated they worked hard to populate it with people who understood the business such as a hauler, someone who ran a transfer station in the past, and people that understood the business.

Dr. Palmer stated that for a variety of reasons, there were many roadblocks thrown at the committee. She stated Mr. McKalips would recall explaining to her one of the roadblocks – that if they built the transfer station where they have it today, it would be so heavy that it would potentially push out toxic groundwater and contaminate the surrounding water. She stated she had expressed that this was crazy but that no one was going to listen to her. She stated Rivanna stepped in and wrote a letter to correct this misinformation. She stated Mr. McKalips explained to her how well they understood the landfill and how this would not happen.

Dr. Palmer stated there had been misconceptions about the permitting process on the side of the County staff, and she would note that all the County staff were different at the time. She stated there was a different County Executive and County Attorney, and it was a different world then. She stated the current County staff, in her opinion, has been wonderful, and she was incredibly appreciative of everyone on the County staff who has helped get to this point as well as everyone on the Rivanna staff.

Dr. Palmer stated this committee explained very clearly what was needed in a commercially viable transfer station. She stated that very early on, they had a spoke and wheel design where they would get the transfer station up and running and have it open six days a week, adding that she had always wanted it to be open seven days a week and had talked to Mr. McKalips in the past about how perhaps this would happen someday, that it would have competitive tipping fees, and that people had to be able to get in and out very fast. She stated this was all very common, and she remembers one hauler telling her, “Build it, and they will come. It will take approximately three years for the numbers to ramp up.” She stated this hauler was exactly right.

Dr. Palmer stated that currently, the committee has more recycling-oriented people on it, but at some point, as she has discussed with some County staff, the County will have to put a transfer station up Route 29 North, perhaps doing so with Greene County. She stated she would encourage anyone who is dealing with the committee to think about moving some of those commercial operators or retired operators on to the SWAAC Committee to get advice. She stated this was

197 incredibly helpful in getting herself and other Board members to understand what was required to  
198 make this work.

199  
200 Dr. Palmer stated she had one more thing to say which she felt was interesting. She stated in her  
201 incredible frustration those first couple of years, she finally called Graham Simmerman at the DEQ  
202 and asked to meet with him. She stated she drove to Harrisonburg and explained to him what was  
203 happening in Albemarle County. She stated she asked him to give her a bigger picture on what  
204 happens at the state level in other communities, as she was so cloistered in her own community and  
205 did not know who to believe.

206  
207 Dr. Palmer stated Mr. Simmerman was extremely helpful and told her, "You guys are the bad  
208 actors. There is only one other community that has an open-air transfer station like yours in the  
209 state." She stated Mr. Simmerman told her that this was a small, economically disadvantaged  
210 community, pointing out that Albemarle County is a wealthy one and asking her why the solution  
211 could not be supplied there. She stated she then asked Mr. Simmerman why the DEQ had not closed  
212 the transfer station if they had been out of compliance for 14-15 years, to which Mr. Simmerman  
213 replied, "Because I couldn't do that to the community. I couldn't do that to the people of the  
214 community because this is a core, essential service. You need to supply this for your community."

215  
216 Dr. Palmer stated she walked away from the conversation knowing that this was what they had to  
217 do. She stated this story is important, going forward, as they grow as a County and make sure that  
218 they provide this service to the community. She stated she never advocated getting into the trash  
219 collection business, but she thinks it is incredibly important that the County provides commercial  
220 and residential spaces for people to bring their trash. She stated as one hauler did say to her very  
221 early on, "The only thing you can depend on in life is death, taxes, and trash."

222  
223 Dr. Palmer stated the RSWA and the RWSA were the two organizations she would miss the most  
224 about being on the Board of Supervisors. She stated it had been a pleasure working with everyone  
225 over the years.

## 226 227 **5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

228 Mr. Mawyer stated that to follow up on Dr. Palmer's comments, he found it interesting that as he  
229 read the CAFR, the RSWA in the 12-month period of FY 21 handled about 100 million pounds of  
230 refuse and recycling materials. He stated they handled 14 million pounds of waste that was diverted  
231 into recycling and reuse programs and an additional 83 million pounds of refuse that they had  
232 transferred and disposed. He stated this was quite an accomplishment, and he would thank Dr.  
233 Palmer and the Board for all the leadership they provided through the years, as Dr. Palmer recanted,  
234 from the doldrums of the early 2000s up to where they currently are as a vibrant, progressive Solid  
235 Waste Authority. He stated this was reflected in the chart in his report.

236  
237 Mr. Mawyer stated there was a month in September where they had averaged 175 tons per day  
238 coming through the transfer station. He stated this is a significant gain from where they were three  
239 short years ago, when they were averaged 30 or 40 tons per day and 64 tons in January of 2019. He  
240 stated when the transfer station was built, the goal was to try to get this up to 89 tons per day, and  
241 they are far exceeding this objective. He stated RSWA has gone back to DEQ to request a permit  
242 increase so they can increase the maximum transfer from 300 tons per day to 450 tons per day  
243 through the transfer station.

Mr. Mawyer congratulated and thanked the board as well as the staff of 20 people at the landfill and those at McIntire who manage the Transfer and Paper Sort facilities. He reiterated that there was 100 million pounds of waste and recyclable materials processed in FY2021.

Mr. Mawyer stated there had been successful Household Hazardous Waste and Bulky Waste Amnesty Days that fall, with thousands of pounds of furniture, mattresses, appliances, and tires as well as household hazardous waste materials being properly disposed.

Mr. Mawyer stated the RSWA is continuing its design of the Keene Convenience Center and coordinating with the County site plan review process to get that project designed properly and ready for construction, with an opening date planned for the end of 2022.

Mr. Mawyer stated that as the newspaper reported, there was a solar project at the Ivy MUC that was approved by the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors for a special use permit. He stated this was a great thing for the Community Power Group, who is leasing the property at the Ivy MUC from Rivanna. He stated it was reported that the group expects to start construction of the solar arrays in 2023.

Mr. Mawyer stated Rivanna also celebrates that 100% of Solid Waste staff have been vaccinated against the COVID virus. He stated one staff member needs a second shot and then, they will be 100% fully vaccinated. He stated he would applaud that group, adding that there was a time that they had the lowest vaccination percentage in the Rivanna Authorities.

Mr. Mawyer stated he was working on the VDEQ Solid Waste Fee Study Committee where the General Assembly asked the DEQ to increase its permit fees to be a 100% recoverable expense. He stated Mr. McKalips pinch-hit for him in two meetings, which he appreciated. He stated that ultimately, it appeared that the group came up with the annual transfer station fee, which would stay relatively unchanged at \$6,500 per year, but that the post-closure annual fee will increase from about \$1,176 per year to about \$7,500 per year.

## **6. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Gaffney opened Items from the Public. He asked Mr. Hull if there was anyone from the public who wished to speak.

There were no public comments.

Mr. Gaffney closed Items from the Public.

## **7. RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENT**

As there were no items from the public, there were no responses.

## **8. CONSENT AGENDA**

*a. Staff Report on Finance*

*b. Staff Report on Ivy Material Utilization Center/Recycling Operations Update*

*c. Staff Report on the Control of Firearms and Ammunition – General Administrative Procedure #2*

*d. Staff Report on the Use of Credit Cards – General Administrative Procedure #3*

*e. Award of Contract for Vegetative Waste Grinding*

f. *Approval of Calendar Year 2022 Meeting Schedule*

**Dr. Palmer moved that the board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. That was seconded by Mr. Stewart and passed unanimously (6-0).**

**9. OTHER BUSINESS**

a. *Presentation: FY 21 CAFR and Audit Report; Matthew McLearen, Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates*

Mr. Matthew McLearen of Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates stated his firm performs the FY 2021 Financial Statement Audit. He stated he would briefly review the Annual Financial Report, which also contains the Independent Auditors Report, which is the firm's opinion on the financial statements.

Mr. McLearen stated that prior to doing this, he had issued a letter entitled "Communication with Those Charged with Governance," which is a required communication between an auditor and government body. He stated it can be a written document, and it can also be communicated orally in person to the board or those charged with governance. He stated this is a two-page letter that he believed was in the board's possession and authority, but he would briefly highlight the points from that letter.

Mr. McLearen stated he would start with responsibilities. He stated that under the audit, management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, including the Annual Financial Report. He stated management is also responsible for the design and implementation of internal controls. He stated the auditor is responsible for testing those controls, evaluating accounting principles, and conducting tests to substantiate the figures and amounts reported in the financial statements as presented by management.

Mr. McLearen stated the second item was Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit. He stated the firm is required by professional standards to disclose any difficulties they had, which could include incomplete records, inability to access certain records they would necessarily need to opine on financial statements. He stated he was pleased to report that they had no such difficulties.

Mr. McLearen stated the third item described in the letter was Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements. He stated that as with most audits, the firm proposes audit adjustments and if those audit adjustments are included in the financial statements, they are considered corrected misstatements. He stated uncorrected misstatements are those that are proposed and not included in the financial statement, and the firm is required by professional standards to disclose any uncorrected misstatements. He stated he was pleased to report that there were no uncorrected misstatements.

Mr. McLearen stated the next item was Applying Accounting Principles, which was a summary overview of any accounting principles that may have applied to the FY 21 audit. He stated there was a significant accounting principle that was enacted for all governmental entities and did not apply to the Authority. He stated this was GASB Reporting Standard #84 and was not included in the financial statements. He stated that in the future, the accounting standards coming up were GASB Reporting Standard #87, which has been talked about for quite a few years and is the government's mirror of the GASB or financial reporting standards for for-profit entities regarding lease

accounting. He stated this will be implemented in FY 22, assuming that the GASB does not delay it again.

Mr. McLearen stated lastly, in the letter, one will find any mention of significant audit findings. He stated an auditor is required to disclose any audit findings that they found during the course of the audit field work. He stated he was pleased to report that there were no significant audit findings disclosed for FY 21.

Mr. McLearen stated the Annual Financial Report contains a wealth of information. He stated this report also includes the Independent Auditors Report, which is included under the Financial section. He stated his review of the Financial Report would focus solely on the Financial section and the Compliance section, which also includes a report from the independent auditors.

Mr. McLearen stated that in the Annual Financial Report, on page 13 (or PDF pages 19 and 20), this was the Independent Auditors Report, which is the opinion of the Annual Financial Statement and the material accuracy of the numbers as presented. He stated the firm has issued an unmodified, clean report, dated October 25, 2021.

Mr. McLearen stated that immediately following the Independent Auditors Report is a section entitled "Management's Discussion and Analysis." He stated this section (commonly referred to as the MD&A) is a narrative overview of the financial statements where management presents the increases or decreases, along with a comparative analysis of the significant financial information included in the financial statements as presented. He stated this is very similar to an executive summary of the financial report.

Mr. McLearen stated that immediately following the MD&A are the three core financial statements, starting with Exhibit 1 (found on page 24 of the bound document, or on PDF pages 30 and 31). He stated the statement in that position is similar to a balance sheet for a for-profit entity. He stated it spans the course of two pages. He stated the second page of this exhibit reports the net position, which is the term for equity in a governmental setting, and there are total net equities of \$7.4 million as of June 30, 2021.

Mr. McLearen stated the second of the three exhibits is the Statement of Revenue Expenses and Changes in that Position (found on page 26, or page 32 of the PDF). He stated this is similar to an income statement for a for-profit entity and reports the increase or decrease in the equity, including the total revenues and expenses of the Authority for the year ending June 30, 2021. He stated one would see that the change in that position is the third number from the bottom when looking at the statement and is a decrease of approximately \$214,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. He stated the analysis of the information presented on the statement can be found in the MD&A section, which speaks to the increase or decrease in that position.

Mr. McLearen stated finally, the third financial statement is the Statement of Cash Flows, which is Exhibit 3 (page 27, or page 33 of the PDF). He stated this reports the ending cash position of the Authority, and it also presents the increases or decreases and provides a summary of how that increase or decrease was comprised. He stated about halfway down the page, one would see that the Authority had a past position of \$3.2 million on June 30, 2021, which represented a decrease of \$523,000 for the fiscal year. He stated there is a lot of information on that page, and a large part of that decrease can be found in the capital assets under the cash flow related activities.

Mr. McLearen stated he wanted to briefly review the Compliance section, found at the rear of the audit document report. He stated this was found on pages 83 and 84, or on pages 89 and 90 of the PDF. He stated this is the Report on Internal Controls Over Financial Reporting, where an auditor would describe any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses that are found in the financial reporting structure. He stated the firm reported no significant deficiencies nor material weaknesses for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

Mr. McLearen stated this concluded his remarks and offered to take questions from the board.

Dr. Palmer stated this was another good job.

Mr. Gaffney stated he appreciated the thoroughness of the report. He asked Ms. Stanton if the board needed to accept the report in the presentation.

Ms. Stanton replied that the board could accept the report.

**At 2:35 p.m., Dr. Palmer moved to recess the RSWA Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stewart and passed unanimously (6-0).**

At 3:02 p.m., Mr. Gaffney called to order the joint session of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority and Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority.

(See RWSA Board minutes for the joint presentation on safety program updates.)

The joint session concluded at 3:09 p.m. with the RWSA Board adjournment and the RSWA Board meeting continuing.

*b. Presentation: Buffer Management Update; Director of Solid Waste, Phil McKalips*

Mr. Phil McKalips, Director of Solid Waste, stated he had previously brought to the board the Buffer Management Plan, and at the end of the presentation, he wanted the board to approve the plan he would present.

Mr. McKalips stated to recap, in 2019, the Department of Forestry helped Rivanna prepare a Forestry Stewardship Plan, and the idea behind this was to help the buffers (which are at the Ivy site and located around the landfill cells) stay healthy, vibrant, and effective for many years to come.

Mr. McKalips stated that in May of 2020, Rivanna hired a consulting forester to help them implement this strategy. He stated that in December of 2020, they signed a contract with a local logging company to harvest a portion of the timber. He stated in that area, it was a pine stand that was part of an old pine plantation. He stated Rivanna is now looking around at the remaining borders of the landfill at what are primarily hardwoods.

Mr. McKalips stated the reason they are doing this is to help keep a vibrant, wooded buffer around the facility. He stated they are currently focusing on the hardwood stands that most people see as they drive around the facility. He stated the foresters helped Rivanna come up with a strategy called a "shelterwood harvest".

Mr. McKalips stated the board has probably heard of clear cuts, where everything is cut down, but a shelterwood harvest is not that strategy. He stated the idea with a shelterwood harvest is to identify the healthiest select species of trees and leave them, although they are probably the most valuable timber wood in the stand. He stated these trees function as shade and seed producers for the future regrowth of the forest. He stated they will leave 25 to 35 of these select trees per acre. He stated these will be the parents of the future growth of the forest.

Mr. McKalips stated to give the board an idea of the sense of scale, it takes about 50 to 70 years to complete this cycle, so when they kick off the shelterwood harvest plan, they will harvest many trees. He stated these trees will reseed and grow, and 20 or 30 years from now, they will take out these select parent trees. He stated the buffer will grow back where it is now with a diverse forest in about 50 to 70 years. He stated the slide on the screen showed a simplified graphic of how the process works.

Mr. McKalips stated the reason he was presenting this was that he wanted the board to have a visual idea of what this will look like. He stated as seen in the picture on the slide, this was a normal Eastern Hardwood forest stand. He stated on the right, one could still see a lot of trees, but one could also see that some of the trees left are significantly large trees. He stated they still have a lot of broken shade into the forest floor, but those trees will then be the seed trees for the nursery area.

Mr. McKalips presented another picture of the same concept, noting that one could see (especially due to the skylight) how this has thinned out the forest in this area, with still a lot of trees left.

Mr. McKalips stated there are other considerations at Ivy, which he has seen since he began working there in 2002. He stated "assault" may be a strong word, but it feels that way when walking around parts of the site. He stated there are some invasive species, primarily Autumn Olive and Oriental Bittersweet, which are making inroads into parts of the forest. He stated one of the reasons he was bringing this up was that with the strategy of doing something with the forest buffer, they will need to think about doing it reasonably soon before these invasive species truly do take over the whole understory of the forest.

Mr. McKalips presented some pictures of what he meant. He stated the left-most picture showed an open, mature forest area. He stated the center picture showed a couple of stems of the Autumn Olive, and the right-most picture showed how the Autumn Olive was starting to dominate the forest floor. He stated if they do not get the next generation of trees coming, the parent trees (larger trees) could drop all the seed they want on the forest floor, and none of them will grow past 2 feet tall because they will be shaded out and outcompeted by the Autumn Olive. He stated this is one thing that was pushing his request to take action in the near term.

Mr. McKalips stated in terms of this all working together so they can achieve their goals, he thinks the shelterwood strategy is a viable way to move forward. He stated they will specifically segregate out and keep the good trees they want to have in the future. He stated they will need to do some prep work once they harvest out the remaining trees, including some chemical treatments to help control the Autumn Olives, until the other trees can come back.

Mr. McKalips stated if the board approves this, the next step will be to prepare an RFP, much like they did with the pine clear cut, and put it out on the market to enter into a timber sales agreement. He stated like with the pine cut, it will probably be a two-year term for the contractor to actually implement the harvest.

Mr. McKalips stated that in about 20 years, they can consider harvesting the remaining trees out of the area and thinning out the next-generation trees to select the best of those.

Mr. McKalips concluded his presentation and asked if there were any questions.

Dr. Palmer asked who will be removing and treating the invasive species.

Mr. McKalips replied that they would hire a company to do it, and they would get help with this through the consulting forester. He stated there are different strategies, and in the area where the pine clear cut is (where it will be one large 42-acre area), they can contract with a helicopter to come in and spray it en-masse. He stated in places like in some of the pictures he showed with the select Autumn Olive growing, there are people who can come in with backpack sprayers and machetes, which is called "squirt and slash." He stated they go through and either spray, slash, or do both to the trees or bushes that are left in order to control those, but it is a very select roaming treatment by a contractor.

Dr. Palmer stated she did not know if this was planned to be done or possible, but as someone who spends a lot of time removing invasive species from her own property, she knows that the timing is extremely important, and this is one of the best times of year to slash and spray. She stated there is a group in the area of volunteer invasive species specialists, and it may be helpful to have a conversation with them if Mr. McKalips had not already and cared to do that.

Mr. McKalips stated that he would definitely like to get in touch with the group. He stated there are people who are adamant about not using chemicals that will run goats through.

Dr. Palmer stated there are, but her opinion was that they must use chemicals.

Mr. McKalips stated this was something he could look at in terms of cost.

Dr. Palmer stated if there is only a little Autumn Olive, it can be dug up, but this was not practical here, and she was not suggesting that they not use chemical sprays. She stated one could use a lot less chemical spray, though, if it is done in certain ways and if timing is appropriate. She stated she could email the contact information to Mr. McKalips. She added that goats are great, and she was not belittling them, but this is not always effective in the long term for getting rid of the invasive species, and it can also take several years to get this under control. She stated attacking it aggressively for a couple of years is typically what is needed.

Dr. Palmer stated she wholeheartedly approved the plan and believed it was a great idea.

Mr. Mawyer stated staff would like the board to approve the plan for the shelterwood.

**Dr. Palmer moved that the board approve the request for the shelterwood harvesting plan for the IMUC vegetative buffer. Mr. Snook seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0).**

#### ***10. OTHER ITEMS FROM BOARD/STAFF NOT ON AGENDA***

Mr. Gaffney asked if there were any other items from Board or staff not on the agenda.

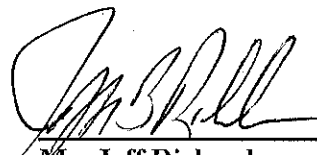
There were no other items.

599 **12. ADJOURNMENT**

600 At 4:09 p.m., Dr. Palmer moved to adjourn the meeting of the Rivanna Solid Waste  
601 Authority. Mr. Richardson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (7-0).

602  
603 Respectfully submitted,

604  
605  
606  
607  
608

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Richardson", is written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Jeff Richardson  
Secretary - Treasurer