



RSWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes of Regular Meeting
January 28, 2025

A regular meeting of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority (RSWA) Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at the Rivanna Administration Building, (2nd Floor Conference Room), 695 Moores Creek Lane, Charlottesville, VA 22902.

Board Members Present: Mike Gaffney (attending remotely), Brian Pinkston, Jim Andrews, Jeff Richardson, Sam Sanders

Board Members Absent: Steven Hicks

Rivanna Staff Present: Bill Mawyer, Phil McKalips, Betsy Nemeth, Lonnie Wood, David Tungate, Deborah Anama, Jacob Woodson, Katie McIlwee, Annie West.

Attorney(s) Present: Valerie Long

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Sam Sanders convened the January 28, 2025 regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority at 2:02 p.m.

Mr. Mawyer stated that Chair Mike Gaffney requested permission to participate remotely.

Mr. Gaffney stated that with the Board's approval, he would like to participate remotely. He stated that he was located in Cape Coral, Florida.

Mr. Richardson moved the Board to allow Mr. Gaffney to participate remotely in today's meeting. Mr. Pinkston seconded the motion.

Valerie Long asked Mr. Gaffney to clearly state the reason for his request, as this was a requirement of the state code.

Mr. Gaffney stated that his reason for remote participation was because he was currently on vacation.

The motion carried unanimously (4-0). (Mr. Hicks was absent and Mr. Gaffney did not participate in the vote)

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Mr. Andrews moved the Board to approve the agenda. Mr. Pinkston seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0). (Mr. Hicks was absent)

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING

a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board on November 19, 2024

Mr. Richardson moved the Board to approve the minutes from the meeting held on November 19, 2024. Mr. Pinkston seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0). (Mr. Hicks was absent)

4. *RECOGNITION*

There was none.

5. *EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT*

Mr. Mawyer welcomed everyone to the January 2025 Rivanna Solid Waste Authority meeting. He stated that they were looking forward to an exciting year, and they started with some positive news. He stated that firstly, they would like to congratulate Mike Gaffney, who had been reappointed jointly by the City and the County for his 23rd and 24th years to serve on the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority. He stated that they also wanted to extend their congratulations to Jim Andrews, their Board member, who had been recently re-elected as Chair of the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Mawyer stated that another piece of good news they had to share was the successful bid for the new Recycled Materials Baling Facility. He stated that bids came in slightly under budget, and they were thrilled with this outcome. He stated that in contrast, they had received some bids recently for water and sewer projects that exceeded the budget, so they were pleased that this project came in under budget. He stated that R2Build, Inc. from Vienna, Virginia, was the low bidder. He stated that the contractor's website indicated they had experience with government and municipal work, as well as commercial work. Mr. Mawyer stated that they had done their due diligence and felt confident that R2Build was a responsible and responsive bidder, and this item was part of the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Mawyer stated that tonnage through the transfer station had almost doubled over the last four years, from 111 tons per day in 2020 to 206 tons per day in calendar 2024 and showed a graph that illustrated that growth. He stated that the tonnage for 2023 and 2024 were similar, with a slight increase from 2022.

Mr. Mawyer stated that they had received the Environmental Protection Agency's risk assessment, which addressed per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in wastewater treatment plants. He stated that while it may seem unrelated to solid waste, this assessment was relevant because of the landfill leachate, which was the water that ran through the land where they had three lined landfill cells at Ivy. The water that passed through those cells was captured at the bottom liner and pumped into the Ivy leachate pond. He stated that in the photo, the green color on top of the leachate pond was algae growing and was not the color of leachate. He stated that they pumped approximately 5,000 gallons a day of leachate into a trailer and transported it to Moore's Creek for treatment. He stated that as they discussed wastewater treatment and land application of biosolids with the Water and Sewer Board, leachate was a component of that product.

Mr. Mawyer stated that he wanted to provide a brief overview of their leachate history. He stated that the draft health risk threshold for PFOS and PFOA was 1,000 parts per trillion. He stated that their biosolids sampled in December exceeded that amount for PFOS, while those for PFOA were below. He stated that the biosolids PFOS level was 87 parts per trillion (ppt) in 2024, compared to 95 and 47 ppt in 2020.

Mr. Mawyer stated that this report was to offer information about the recommendations of the risk assessment, which were not yet EPA regulations. He stated that if the biosolid levels of PFOS were high, they would investigate the source including landfill leachate.

Mr. Mawyer stated that the General Assembly was currently in session, and staff were watching closely the legislation being proposed, including Senate Bill 1319, which focused on PFAS monitoring and identifying industrial waste contributing to PFAS in wastewater streams, including landfills, so this connected the investigation to solid waste. He stated there was House Bill 2482 which required construction projects exceeding \$250,000 to include 12.5% of the total labor hours from an approved apprenticeship program. He stated that they would monitor these bills.

Mr. Mawyer stated that additionally, they had planned the spring e-waste special collection event for April 19, 2025, at Ivy, where residents could bring e-waste. He stated that reservations were required due to limited capacity. He stated that on the Consent Agenda, another item was a special tire collection event at the Southern Albemarle Convenience Center, scheduled for March 8, 2025. He stated that this event was primarily for Albemarle County residents in the Esmont and Keene area, and it would be funded by the County.

Mr. Mawyer stated that they had diversity awareness training before the holidays, which included a consultant discussing diversity, gender equity, mentoring, and human resources issues. He stated that this meeting was productive, and they continued to engage with the community. He stated that the Monticello Garden Club visited Ivy, and Phil McKalips, their Director of Solid Waste, spoke at the Yancey Community Center in November about recycling. He stated that the community expressed interest in hosting a tire collection event at the Southern Albemarle Convenience Center.

Mr. Mawyer stated that another item on the Consent Agenda was regarding a proposal made by Dr. Liz Palmer in November about establishing a long-range planning committee. He stated that they currently had numerous planning committees functioning within the County and City, as well as regionally through the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC). He stated that TJPDC managed the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan, which was due for an update in 2026. A Climate Protection Manager position was established within the County government to provide continued direction and management of these activities. The City of Charlottesville has undertaken many of the same activities including development of a climate action plan and establishment of a staffed Office of Sustainability. He stated that also regionally, they had the Land Use and Environmental Planning Committee, comprising of representatives from the City, County, University of Virginia, UVA Foundation, and Rivanna.

Mr. Mawyer stated that the committee was proposed to continue the efforts of the Long-Range Solid Waste Solutions Advisory Committee established in 2014. He stated that their review indicated that the County and City had made significant progress in solid waste planning since 2014, and Rivanna had also been actively making progress. He stated that the County still maintained the Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee, which met monthly and was attended by Mr. McKalips. He stated that therefore, the Consent Agenda asked for comments from the Board but recommended continuing only those existing committees.

Mr. Andrews stated that there was a statewide solid waste management plan was being developed. He asked if Mr. Mawyer had any information on that topic.

Mr. Mawyer stated not yet. He stated that Ms. Mallek had sent over the advertisement, and they would monitor that process as it unfolded. He stated that they would participate as they were able. He

148 stated that this was a statewide solid waste management plan, which aligned with the regional effort
149 that TJPDC undertook, and it fit within the broader sustainability, climate action, and facility
150 planning initiatives that the County and City had in place. He stated that they would continue to
151 monitor the situation.

152
153 Mr. Pinkston stated that in response to Dr. Palmer's request for suggestions, they had crafted a long-
154 range planning committee in 2014. He asked if this aligned with the ideas that were on the horizon at
155 that time, which had since been carried forward by the collective efforts of the various organizations.

156
157 Mr. Mawyer stated that was correct. He stated that the report from the Long Range Solid Waste
158 Solutions Advisory Committee was excellent, well-organized, and effectively presented. He stated
159 that many of the projects and programs recommended by the committee had already been
160 implemented or were in the process of being implemented. He stated that given the growth within the
161 County, City, and region, he believed that they could continue to plan for solid waste management
162 through existing committees.

163
164 Mr. Pinkston stated that the Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee in the County was, in
165 effect, the direct heir to the responsibilities of the previous committee.

166
167 Mr. Mawyer stated yes; it was a direct offshoot of the Solutions Advisory Committee of 2014.

168
169 Mr. Pinkston stated that he would like to know how the residents of the County felt about this
170 situation. He asked if they felt that this approach was necessary to achieve their goals.

171
172 Mr. Andrews stated that this was an offshoot of their work, focusing primarily on alternatives to
173 landfills, solid waste disposal at the Ivy facility or elsewhere. He stated that while it was not a
174 complete overlap, it did address a specific aspect, including composting and recycling. He stated that
175 he understood that they had previously examined this issue and possessed the necessary expertise to
176 continue moving forward with it.

177
178 Mr. Mawyer stated that if the Board wanted them to form another committee, they would be happy to
179 do so; however, that they felt that they already had a significant number of committees they were
180 working within the City and the County, and collectively, they had a substantial amount of resources
181 that would enable them to make those efforts a success.

182
183 Mr. Richardson stated that to respond to Mr. Pinkston, one of the things that he had observed during
184 his seven and a half years on this Board was Rivanna's exceptional strategic planning capabilities. He
185 stated that they consistently did a good job, and he attributed this to the Director and his key staff. He
186 stated that they excelled in their work. He stated that he believed that both Rivanna Boards had been
187 very supportive of strategic planning efforts. He thought this was a testament to the quality of their
188 work, which included looking ahead five, seven, and ten years into the future. He stated that he was
189 proud to have been part of a Board that already had momentum and was moving forward. He stated
190 that the work of Ms. Palmer in 2014 was instrumental in shaping the future direction of their
191 organizations.

192
193 Mr. Pinkston stated that it was an integral part of their overall strategic planning efforts.

194
195 Mr. Andrews stated that it was clear that they believed solid long-range planning was very important.
196 He stated that the question was whether they needed an additional committee to support this
197 approach.

Mr. Mawyer stated that the Consent Agenda item was available for discussion and the Board was welcome to pull it when they had that discussion.

6. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were none.

7. RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public, therefore, there were no responses.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. *Staff Report on Finance*
- b. *Staff Report on Ivy Solid Waste and Recycling Center/Recycling Operations Update*
- c. *Staff Report on Administration and Communications*
- d. *Approval of Construction Contract Award; Recycled Materials Baling Facility – R2Build, Inc.*
- e. *Approval of Special Tire Collection Event at Southern Albemarle Convenience Center*
- f. *Consideration of a Long-Range Planning Committee*

Mr. Pinkston stated that the item Mr. Mawyer just mentioned related to what they had previously discussed, specifically item F. He clarified that if they voted for this as part of the Consent Agenda, they were essentially affirming the current process.

Mr. Lunsford confirmed that was correct.

Mr. Pinkston moved the Board to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Andrews seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0). (Mr. Hicks was absent)

(Motion and vote to Recess the RSWA Board Meeting)

Mr. Andrews moved the Board to recess the RSWA Board of Directors and reconvene in a joint meeting with RSWA Board of Directors. Mr. Pinkston seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0). (Mr. Hicks was absent)

(Motion and vote to Reconvene the RSWA in a Combined Session with the RWSA)

Mr. Sanders moved the Board to reconvene the RSWA for a combined session with the RWSA. Mr. Andrews seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0). (Mr. Hicks was absent)

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. *Presentation: Rivanna Authorities Strategic Plan Update*

Betsy Nemeth, Director of Administration and Communications, stated this was a six-month update on their strategic plan. She stated that she was approaching it in a different way this time. She stated that in the past, she had provided a comprehensive overview of each goal, but she thought this time she would focus on one key aspect per goal, allowing them to gain a deeper understanding.

Ms. Nemeth stated that the strategic framework was the foundation of their plan, and it was essential to their vision, mission, and values. She stated that their vision, mission, and values were outlined, including the definitions of integrity, teamwork, respect, and equality. She stated that moving forward, she would like to highlight their Communication and Collaboration team. She stated that she was particularly excited about this initiative, as she would be leading it. She stated that their first project was already underway, and she was eager to share its progress with them. She stated that Rivanna.org is the only website they have, but they are about to expand to three separate sites: Rivanna.org, RivannaSolidWaste.org, and RivannaWater.org.

Ms. Nemeth stated that one of the reasons they decided to do this was because they analyzed their website metrics. She stated that they found that about 90% of their website traffic was related to solid waste and basic services, such as collection and special collections. She stated that on their current Rivanna.org, they would notice a picture of a dam, which had no relation to solid waste. She stated that they thought it would be a good idea to reorganize and make it more user-friendly.

Ms. Nemeth stated that Rivanna.org would be a landing page, allowing users to easily access the specific site they were interested in. She stated they would see a link to either RivannaWater.org or RivannaSolidWaste.org. She stated that she was also excited about the new RivannaWater.org, which will feature a video of the Sugar Hollow Reservoir drone flyover, a stunning visual and she would like to give credit to Rob Woodside from their IT department for creating it.

Ms. Nemeth stated that additionally, the RivannaWater.org website will include a section on construction projects, which will be updated frequently as they have several projects underway in a short period of time. She stated that they will be able to access a list of their specific construction projects that are underway. She stated that for example, if they were working on the Central Water Line in Charlottesville, they would be able to see information about that project. She stated this was an ongoing project scheduled for this spring.

Ms. Nemeth stated that she had been sitting in on calls with the Environmental Stewardship Committee, during which they discussed ways to engage employees in environmental stewardship. One idea that stood out was the Found Object Ornament Contest. She stated that as part of the contest, employees were invited to create ornaments using items found around the house. She stated that the winner was a spigot, which was transformed into a unique ornament by Kenny Lawhorne, one of their Maintenance Mechanics. She stated that she found his spigot ornament to be quite interesting. Ms. Nemeth stated that everyone's work made it a neat contest. She stated that the ornaments were featured in the office throughout the holiday season.

She stated that the next slide was about Workforce Development and an ongoing process to increase staff credentials, and she wanted to share a few things that she thought were really important. Ms. Nemeth stated that the slide showed many of the certificates earned by staff. She stated that there was at least one person from solid waste who had taken courses at Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) for Commercial Drivers Licenses (CDL) and Valley Vo-Tech. She stated that she thought at least half of their maintenance team was taking courses there every semester. She stated that the second item in the middle showed their college tuition reimbursement program, which was currently being used by several employees. She stated that they had seen a few degrees come out of the program, including an associate's degree for Brian Haney, a bachelor's degree for David Rhoades, and a certificate for Leah Beard. She stated that Duane Houchens was due to receive an associate's degree later this year.

Ms. Nemeth stated that they had a diversity awareness training workshop for all management staff

and the workforce development team. She stated that her point here was the last row, which highlighted their internal promotions in 2024. She stated that given that they were a relatively small authority, this was a significant number of people who had grown within the organization. She stated that they were very proud of this team's accomplishments.

Ms. Nemeth stated that regarding Optimization and Resiliency, the Moores Creek Advanced Water Resource Recovery Facility aeration basin operations was a notable example of their success. She stated that the cost savings from this project were evident, particularly in the reductions in the use of electricity to run the blowers. She stated that the aeration basins required air to remove ammonia, and they had five blowers in the blower building. She stated that they had previously maintained a minimum airflow into the basins to remove ammonia, and they had added a sensor to track when air was needed. She stated that this had resulted in savings of \$17,000 on their annual electric bill.

Ms. Nemeth stated that the second component of this optimization involved caustic, a chemical that adjusted the pH and added alkalinity to the basins. She stated that in essence, it made the microorganisms in the basins happy and allowed them to function properly. She stated that by lowering the minimum alkalinity settings, the staff had reduced the required amount of caustic, resulting in a cost savings of over \$180,000 last year. She stated that she believed Rob Haacke, the now retired Wastewater Manager, was the driving force behind this initiative.

Ms. Nemeth stated that regarding Planning and Infrastructure, more detail would be shared by Katie McIlwee about asset management and Cityworks in the next presentation, and one of the goals of their strategic plan was to continue adding assets to Cityworks. She stated that in 2024, they had added over 1,000 new assets to the system. She stated that horizontal assets were pipes and vertical assets were above ground. She stated that she also found it impressive that their work orders were being managed through Cityworks, with a total of over 4,000 completed work orders for the entire year. She stated that their maintenance team was enthusiastic about showing her how the system worked, and she was particularly impressed by the ability to access and view specific asset information, such as manuals, inspection documents, and safety information like Arc Flash documents. She stated that the team was also working to upload lockout/tagout information, and they were able to see firsthand how they were using iPads to complete work orders and access these documents.

b. Presentation: Asset Management Update

Katie McIlwee, Asset Management Coordinator, stated that she was providing an update on the Asset Management Program. She stated that their asset management program was guided by the asset management policy, which emphasized the commitment to implementing the program and providing established levels of service while minimizing lifecycle costs and managing risks. She stated that this program is linked to their strategic plan, strategic framework, and goals for asset-related investments, and maintenance.

Ms. McIlwee stated that asset management was a long-term program aimed at attaining and sustaining the chosen level of service for the life cycle of an asset at the most cost-effective manner. She stated that their program consisted of three major components: the computerized maintenance management software (CMMS), the asset register and Geographic Information System (GIS), and the decision support software (DSS).

Ms. McIlwee stated that the Government Accounting Office had identified six key characteristics

to define an effective asset management framework which they are implementing. She stated that they had established formal policies and plans through their strategic and tactical asset management plans, and they were working to maximize asset portfolio's values using decision support tools. She stated that they maintained leadership support by obtaining authority-wide buy-in for the program. She stated that they utilized quality data through tools such as the new asset workflow procedure, promoted a collaborative organizational culture by coordinating with maintenance, water, wastewater lab, and engineering staff, and continually evaluated and improved their processes through the health check report and user feedback.

Ms. McIlwee stated they made significant progress in 2024 utilizing their CMMS, Cityworks. They completed over 4,000 work orders, with 3,700 being preventive maintenance work orders and 375 being corrective maintenance work orders. She stated that they had also added approximately 1,000 assets to their vertical asset inventory.

Ms. McIlwee stated that within the Cityworks program, they had several key data integrations, EKOS, their fuel management system, and DocLink, their document management system. When fleet vehicles refilled at the fuel pumps, the vehicle mileage was registered by the EKOS system, which was then integrated with Cityworks. She stated that as a result, the fuel mileage was used to automatically generate certain types of preventative maintenance work orders based on mileage within the system. She stated that this meant they did not have to manually track every 7,500-mile service.

Ms. McIlwee stated that DocLink housed their lock-out/tag-out procedures, operational manuals, warranty information, and other records. Through this integration they could access these records by following a link provided directly on the work order in Cityworks. She stated that Cityworks was also directly integrated with ESRI GIS, their spatial management system. She stated that the two systems work together, and it was impossible for Cityworks to function without using data from GIS. She stated that the next slide would demonstrate this integration. This slide provided a video demonstration of how to navigate to a building within the GIS map using Cityworks. She stated that to do this, she would select the building, and the building would appear along with its asset details. She stated that she could also view open or complete work orders.

Ms. McIlwee stated that she would pull up a work order, which was for a pump. She stated that if a mechanic or operator needed to know something about the asset from a safety or operational manual standpoint, she could click on the DocLink link, which would bring up the relevant information, which could include lock-out/tag-out procedures, as mentioned earlier, and this example also included an Arc Flash report. She stated that warranty information, operational manuals, and other relevant documents could also be accessed in the field.

Ms. McIlwee stated that to ensure accurate data quality, they had multiple ways to obtain assets information for their inventory. She stated that one method was through the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) process, which at the end of a project the contractor would compile a list of assets and work with her to ensure the correct hierarchy and information. She stated that they would conduct a QA/QC process to verify the accuracy of the data, and the contractors would submit it to her when finalized. From the contractor-provided information, they would then create preventative maintenance work orders within Cityworks and integrate the asset into their formal asset register.

Ms. McIlwee stated that additionally, they had an internal asset process for on-site repairs, such as pump replacements, or when a mechanic or operator discovered a piece of equipment not previously accounted for. She stated that they could fill out a form, which would submit to her,

398 providing required information, including preventative maintenance details, installation date, hour
399 meter readings, manufacturer, model, serial number, cost, and condition. She stated that this
400 process ensured accurate asset information, as it came directly from the operator or mechanic
401 involved in the process.

402
403 Ms. McIlwee stated that in 2024, one of the action items that came out of the malfunctioning of
404 the Rivanna pump station was ensuring that all their assets were accurately listed in their asset
405 inventory and receiving the proper preventative maintenance. She stated that as a result, they
406 launched the valve inventory program in March 2024, which was completed by December 2024.
407 She stated that she visited every facility, along with water, wastewater, and maintenance staff, to
408 verify and add any valves that were not currently in their register. Ms. McIlwee stated that they
409 added approximately 428 valves through this process. She stated they created preventative
410 maintenance work orders based on manufacturer recommendations or best practices from those
411 who operated valves, specifically operations and maintenance staff.

412
413 She stated that they used condition assessments as one tool to assess their assets for replacement
414 or repair. First, they conducted a Level 1 desktop assessment, where maintenance, water,
415 wastewater, and engineering staff gave each asset a standard one to five condition score, with one
416 being very good and five being very poor. Ms. McIlwee stated that this was done by reviewing an
417 Excel spreadsheet and providing a one through five score based on their best knowledge. She
418 stated that the next step was the Level 2 Field Condition Assessment, which involved a hands-on
419 evaluation of the asset to obtain a real-time, accurate assessment of its condition. She stated that
420 initially, this would be conducted on the top 10% of their vertical assets, which were determined
421 by their business risk exposure or criticality. She stated that these assets included not only the
422 most expensive assets, but also those with the highest impact to service, for their customers and
423 the community.

424
425 Ms. McIlwee stated that Level 2 Field Condition Assessments were more in-depth and included a
426 specific one-to-five rating scale, rather than the general one used for the desktop assessment. She
427 stated the rating scale uses asset-specific questions to determine the condition, using the same 1
428 (very good) to 5 (very bad) scale, gauged to asset specific criteria. She stated that the example on
429 the slide illustrated the rating scale for assessing the condition of a building roof.

430
431 Ms. McIlwee stated that lifecycle was another key performance indicator that helped determine
432 when assets needed to be replaced. She stated that the two columns in the chart demonstrated that
433 sometimes the percent life consumed based on install date and percent life consumed based on
434 condition did not align. She stated that lifecycle consumed based on condition was based on the
435 level one condition assessment, which is a best estimate of the asset's condition, and that the
436 lifecycle consumed based on install date was based on the management strategy group that the
437 asset belonged to which is an estimate of an asset's lifespan.

438
439 Ms. McIlwee stated, for example a pump that is in perfect condition with no real-life variables
440 factored in, could result in a maximum potential lifespan of 30 years. She stated that the actual
441 lifespan can vary due to operating conditions, so it was essential not to rely on a single key
442 performance indicator for replacement decisions, it is important to take all factors: lifecycle, level
443 1 condition, and level 2 condition into account when deciding on an asset's replacement needs.
444 She stated that once level two condition assessments are completed, they can use a combination of
445 install date, level one condition, level two condition, business risk exposure, and criticality to
446 determine the best replacement cycle for their assets.

Ms. McIlwee stated that their next steps include completing level two condition assessments and implementing a decision support tool to perform funding projections for assets and repair/replacement costs in different scenarios. She stated that they will continue to refine their usage and tools within Cityworks. She stated that they are also working to bring the Solid Waste Authority into Cityworks, so they can utilize more formalized tools for their asset management needs.

Mr. Lunsford asked if they had selected a decision tool for this matter.

Ms. McIlwee stated not yet. She stated that the screen shot on the slide was taken from a tool called Predictor, which would be able to tie directly into GIS utilizing the same information as Cityworks to produce accurate asset assessments.

Ms. Mallek stated that a little knowledge can be a dangerous thing. She stated that to her, it would be helpful if there was a clear indication of potential hazards, such as a flag or alert, to warn the person that they were about to engage in a high-risk activity. She stated that it would be great to have access to the information. She stated that she was also impressed with the work Ms. McIlwee was doing here, as it was not just the big-ticket items, but also the smaller components, like \$3 gaskets, that could sometimes cause issues with the \$10 million machine. She stated that she appreciated the effort Ms. McIlwee was putting into pulling everything together.

Mr. Pinkston stated that he would appreciate it if staff could elaborate on the decision support system (DSS).

Ms. McIlwee stated that the DSS will allow staff to consider all key performance indicators; the criticality of the asset, the lifecycle, the installation date of the asset, and the condition they have placed on it to determine replacement. Ms. McIlwee stated that the DSS will allow them to model different scenarios to assess what the future will look using at various funding levels. This will help to determine the optimal funding level for maintaining or replacing assets, to ensure the best use of funds in the long term. For example, deciding whether an asset should be allowed to deteriorate over the course of 10 years, to the point where significant funding is requested for replacement, versus if it is more fiscally responsible to maintain that same asset over the cost of the same timeframe.

c. Presentation: Grant Applications Update

Annie West, Sustainability and Grants Coordinator, stated that she would like to provide an update on the grant funding, awards, and processes. She stated that this presentation would cover the current capital project and operational project grants, as well as those that were pending and those the organization was currently applying for. She stated that she would also provide a brief overview of how they had been seeking out these funding opportunities.

Ms. West stated that she would begin with the capital grants funding projects. She stated that from Albemarle County, they received \$750,000 in 2022 for the Red Hill Water Treatment Plant upgrade and Scottsville Lagoon Liners. She stated there was a photograph of the lagoon liners shown on the slide. She stated that in 2024, they received the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which had been beneficial for them as it allowed them to conduct flood protection and resiliency studies and designs on their critical infrastructure. She stated that this program helped them identify ways to make their infrastructure more resilient in response to 100-year flood elevation studies.

Ms. West stated they had received grant awards from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Virginia Department of Health's emerging contaminants program since 2022. They had been awarded over \$6 million for the Crozet Water Treatment Plant granular activated carbon (GAC) treatment. In 2023, they received \$1 million in funding from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) through the Dam Safety and Rehabilitation Program, which allowed them to conduct an environmental assessment of the Beaver Creek Dam and a preliminary design. Ms. West stated that the slide shows a proposed spillway, which was similar to what they proposed for the Beaver Creek Dam.

She stated that she would next discuss more recent capital project funding. In December 2024, they were awarded an additional \$1 million for fiscal year 2025 for the Emerging Contaminants Funding, which would be allocated towards the Crozet Water Treatment Plant GAC expansion. She stated that this would bring the total grant funding for that project to \$7.2 million.

Ms. West stated that in December 2024, they received funding from the federally declared disaster 4644, which was related to the severe winter storm weather in 2022. They also received an award to help replace the Scottsville Wastewater Facility Generator. She stated that this brought the total funding for capital improvement projects to just over \$10.5 million.

She stated that moving forward, she would like to discuss operational maintenance grants and projects. She stated that in 2020, they applied through the Virginia Department of Health's set-asides program for water signage at some of their reservoirs and received approximately \$14,000 for that project. Ms. West stated that they had also had success with annual grants, such as from the Virginia Risk Sharing Association. She stated that in addition, they had applied to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality for both competitive and non-competitive litter grants. She stated that the competitive funding this year allowed them to purchase reusable cooler bags and donate them to the Blue Ridge Food Bank. She stated that Mr. McKalips and she visited the Blue Ridge Food Bank just before Thanksgiving to make this donation. Ms. West stated that the non-competitive funding went towards the cost of the recycling center, which was allocated between the City and the County. She stated that this brought their total grant funding for operational projects to just over \$87,000.

She stated that next, she would share some of the projects they had been able to accomplish with Virginia Risk Sharing Association funding. She stated that on the solid waste side, they built the gate at the Ivy Transfer Station, which helped keep customers outside the transfer station while equipment was moving refuse. She stated that on the Water Authority side, they obtained new gas monitors and safety vests.

Ms. West stated that to summarize, since 2018, they had applied for 21 total grants and received 15 of them, with a total of nearly \$10.6 million in funding. She stated that they were still waiting on two funding opportunities this year, which she would discuss in a separate section. She would also like to discuss the grants they had not received since 2018. She stated that the majority of these were the BRIC grants that she had previously mentioned. She stated that they were unsuccessful in obtaining a grant for the new baling facility on the solid waste side in previous years.

Ms. West stated they also applied for a grant to support the Central Water Line project, as well as the South Rivanna Reservoir to Ragged Mountain Reservoir pipeline project. She stated that additionally, in 2021, they applied for a Homeland Security program grant to install a control

548 system at the Moores Creek facility, which was not awarded.

549
550 She stated that she would like to discuss the pending grants for this year. This year, they applied to
551 our senators for Congressionally Directed Spending Fiscal Year 2024 for the South Rivanna
552 powder-activated carbon replacement at the water treatment plant, requesting \$880,000 for that
553 project. Ms. West stated that this request was awarded, but funding was still pending.

554
555 Ms. West stated that they were able to qualify for assistance for storm damage because of
556 Hurricane Helene in September of 2024. She stated that the disaster was declared by FEMA, and
557 they were able to apply for reimbursement through the public assistance program. She stated that
558 their estimated cost of damages from the hurricane was \$560,000 and were working closely with
559 the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and FEMA to address that.

560
561 Ms. West stated that the Sugar Hollow raw water line pipe had been in place since the 1920s and
562 carried raw water from Sugar Hollow to Ragged Mountain Reservoir. She stated that during the
563 flooding event, a piece of the pipe broke, requiring their organization to repair the pipe and create
564 a new pier support. She stated that the repair had been completed, and the new pier support had
565 been installed.

566
567 Ms. West stated that she had another image of the damage caused by Hurricane Helene. She stated
568 that at Ivy Creek, the bank had eroded significantly, posing a risk to the Stillhouse water line,
569 which was located between these two markers. She stated that the erosion was concerning because
570 the pipe could become damaged or fall into the creek. She stated that to stabilize the area
571 temporarily, they had sandbagged the site, which would remain in place until they worked with the
572 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop a more permanent solution. She stated that they had
573 been working with FEMA since September to gather the necessary documents and had both
574 projects categorized as urgent or high priority. Ms. West stated that as a result, Rivanna was
575 working to submit applications to establish a reimbursement fund.

576
577 She stated that she would like to provide an overview of her grant application process. She stated
578 that Grants.gov was the website where federal funding opportunities were located, and she
579 consistently checked for updates. She stated that Rivanna was part of a network of state and
580 federal agencies, including FEMA, the Department of Health, and the Department of
581 Environmental Quality, which sent out notifications about upcoming grant opportunities and
582 deadlines. She stated that they also had a third-party grant consultant who helped organize their
583 applications, which could be lengthy.

584
585 Ms. West stated that additionally, they monitor federally declared disasters like Hurricane Helene
586 to apply for public assistance. She stated that she would like to discuss the upcoming grants and
587 what they would be looking for in the next couple of years. She stated that they would be focusing
588 on grants that funded solar power installation, electric vehicles, and electric vehicle charging
589 stations. She stated that they had been working with local organizations, such as Tiger Solar and
590 ChargePoint, to explore these opportunities.

591
592 Ms. West stated that in June or July they would be applying for funding for the Beaver Creek Dam
593 construction through the NRCS program. She stated that later in the summer, they would apply for
594 the annual grants with the Virginia Risk Sharing Association and Department of Environmental
595 Quality programs. She stated that they would also apply for the Virginia Department of Health and
596 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Emerging Contaminants Application for the Fiscal Year of 2026.
597 Currently, she was focused on FEMA's flood mitigation assistance and BRIC applications, which

had recently been announced.

Ms. West stated that for the flood mitigation assistance program, they would be applying for their flood resiliency project at the Moores Creek Pump Station, as they had received results from the flood elevation studies and were hoping to secure funding. She stated that for the BRIC program this year, they were reapplying with the South Rivanna Reservoir to the Ragged Mountain Reservoir Pipeline. Ms. West stated that this was one of the projects they had not received funding for before, but they were hopeful that this year they would secure some funding.

Regarding dam safety, she stated that they would be applying for the Department of Conservation Resources Dam Safety Program. She stated that the installation of blanket drains at the Ragged Mountain Dam, as part of the Dam Raising Water project, would help prevent seepage and ensure adequate drainage. She stated that they were continuing to work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the decommissioning of the North Rivanna Dam which had been funded by them.

Mr. Mawyer stated that the \$50 M BRIC grant they were currently applying for would support the South Rivanna to Ragged Pipeline and Pump Station Project.

9. OTHER ITEMS FROM BOARD/STAFF NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were none.

10. CLOSED MEETING

There was none.

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 3:57 p.m., Mr. Pinkston moved to adjourn the meeting of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority. Mr. Andrews seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0). (Mr. Hicks was absent)

Respectfully submitted,



Mr. Jeff Richardson
Secretary - Treasurer

