

## Saline County Regional Solid Waste Management District

### Board Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2011

Board Members Present: Judge Lanny Fite, Mr. J.R. Walters, Mayor Jeff Arey, Dr. Don Brashears, Mr. Jim Erwin, and Mr. Bob McKeon

Others Present: Mr. Michael Grappe', Executive Director; Mr. Sam Ed Gibson, Attorney for SCRSWMD; Mr. Jim Goble, Inter-District Tire Program; Mr. Gary Beck, New Focus of Benton; Ms. Connie LeBlanc, citizen

Mayor Arey called the meeting to order. Mayor Arey recognized all six Board members present in person. Mayor Arey asked everyone to sign in on the sign in sheet.

**Reading of Minutes:** Mayor Arey stated the first order of business was the reading of the minutes. Mr. J. R. Walters made a motion to approve the July meeting minutes. Mr. Bob McKeon seconded the motion. Motion passed with no opposition.

**Financial Statement and Financial Position:** Mr. Grappe' stated that the District has approximately 4.5 million dollars in the bank. Mr. Grappe' went over the expenditures from July for \$26,000. Mr. Grappe' stated the District isn't making any money in recycling – the little bit that gets sold doesn't make up for what is spent in the servicing. Mayor Arey asked for any questions or comments. Mr. Erwin asked about C.A.F.H. and Mr. Grappe' stated that would be addressed in the Credit/Debit Report. Mr. J.R. Walters made a motion to approve the financial statement and position report. Mr. Jim Erwin seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

**Inter-District Tire Update-Jim Goble:** Mr. Goble provided tire reports and discussed. Mr. Goble stated that overall program is doing fine. Mr. Goble stated that Pulaski District is running lower numbers than usual. Mr. Grappe' asked how the tire trailer at New Focus was doing. Mr. Beck said tires are coming in slowly. Mr. Goble stated because this is a new location, it will take a little bit for people to get used to and bring more numbers there, however, it's always good to have a second option, because most of the tires are being taken to the landfill.

**Environmental Officer Update:** Mr. Grappe' stated that the new GPS software and computer have been set up. Mr. Grappe' stated last week they were working on a buried trash site in Alexander off of Midland Rd., but have run into a problem of how to write the ticket, make sure the fine is paid, and that the problem is corrected. Mr. Grappe' stated that he is working with ADEQ on this situation. Mr. Grappe' stated that this coming Monday, he and the E.O. would be taking a boat ride around Lake Norel to identify a site there. Mr. Grappe' stated that Officer Maher will be taking an Environmental Officer Training class in Texas next month. Mr. McKeon asked who owned Lake Norel and would they not want to register the boat docks. Mr. Grappe' stated the City of Benton owns Lake Norel. Judge Fite stated that last year some people were running four-wheelers up and down the levy and the City of Benton had to spend about \$20,000 in repairs to fix this and then the city started addressing the situation of

partying at the Lake and other rules and trying to reach a program with the land owners out there that is susceptible for all. Judge Fite stated that a couple of years ago the boat dock issue came about with a tax appeal because of a boat dock that had sunk and this lessened the property value and the City of Benton wasn't willing to do it.

### **Executive Director Update**

**Office Location Update:** Mr. Grappe' stated that progress is being made. Renovations have started and will be completed hopefully within a month.

**Credit/Debit Report:** Mr. Grappe' stated that currently the District still has 12 companies that owe. Mr. Grappe' stated that two of these owe most of the money and have already been turned over to our attorney.

**Recycle Update:** Mr. Grappe' stated that we still have Allied Waste servicing our recycling containers in 4 locations. Mr. Grappe' stated he had a meeting today with Republic, and they are losing money on the trailers, so the District will have to start making modifications to the program. Mr. Grappe' stated that he has been meeting with several groups on how to get recycling on a larger scale for Saline County. Mr. Grappe' stated he is also discussing the property beside the jail in Benton. Mr. Grappe' stated that we are working on collecting paper, plastic, and metal with a compacting system located beside the jail and the drop off facility would be manned seven days per week. Mr. Grappe' explained the way this process would work and expenses involved with this idea. Mr. Grappe' stated that we are trying to make this as cost efficient and productive as possible. Mr. Grappe' stated that paper is the biggest item we receive right now. Mr. Grappe' stated that he met with Republic's Recycling Leaders today, and if the District wanted to offer curbside recycling, we would have to have a murf or recycling transfer station that the recyclables would be packaged and then sent to a location with a murf. Mr. Grappe' stated that there are lots of ideas in the air but no final decisions have been made, because he is still trying to find the best solution possible. Mr. Grappe' stated that October 1<sup>st</sup> the District will host a county wide E-Waste collection day at two locations, one in Benton and one in Bryant. Mr. Grappe' stated that we will have two billboards on the I-30 between Benton and Bryant advertising this. Judge Fite provided an aerial shot to the Board to explain where the property is that the District is considering purchasing. Mr. Wilson Jones told Judge Fite that he would sale the property to the District for about \$73,000 for about ½ acre lot (210 sq. ft.) Judge Fite said that the District will need to discuss with the sheriff about getting 309's to run the facility. Mayor Arey asked who would be responsible for supervising the 309's. Judge Fite stated the sheriff's department would supervise these workers. Mr. Walters asked about fencing the location off. Judge Fite stated that wouldn't be a bad idea to have it locked at night. There was some discussion. Mr. Erwin made a motion for Mr. Grappe' to get the lot we are considering for a recycling transfer station appraised. Mr. Gibson stated that there is no need to have a motion because the Board authorizes the Director to spend up to \$5,000 dollars without the motion and approval by the Board. Mr. Erwin withdrew his motion. Mr. Grappe' asked for any questions or comments. Mr. Erwin asked if it would be a good idea to have an incentive to get people to bring E-Waste in by offering a gift certificate or coupon for those that come and recycle- some type of thank you. Mr. Grappe' replied that might not be a bad idea and if anyone had any names of businesses

that might participate and we could get these in time for the event, that would be great. There was discussion. Mayor Arey asked what the status was with Republic currently about keeping the recycling warehouse for a short period of time. Mr. Grappe' stated that they have no problem with us staying out there for a short time. Mr. Grappe' stated that he has a meeting with Mr. Linker, Chief Parsons of Bauxite P.D., to discuss security at the landfill. Mr. Grappe' also stated that we have a new company in town, Bin There Dump That who provide special sized dump containers that have been featured on HGTV for households and businesses. Mr. Grappe' stated that he would be introducing them to the landfill. Mr. Walters asked who owns Junk It. Mr. Grappe' stated that he was unsure of the actual owner's name.

**By-Laws Status:** Mr. Grappe' stated that he went before the Bureau of Legislative on Monday, accompanied by Mr. Roger Lawrence. Mr. Grappe' stated the he was number 19 on docket of 20. Mr. Grappe' stated that anytime the Board is changing a rule or legislation, we need to go before that Committee before it is enacted. Mr. Grappe' stated that he was very fortunate that they were not as hard on him as they could have been. Mr. Grappe' stated the By Laws are now completely in place. Mr. Erwin asked how long it takes once you submit it to the committee. Mr. Grappe' stated that it depends on the issue. Mr. Grappe' stated that a usual 30-45 days and then you go before the committee and they review and approve/disapprove. Mr. Grappe' stated that the District followed every step we are required to except we didn't let the legislative committee review the amendment before we voted to enact it. Mayor Arey asked for any questions or comments. There were none.

### **Old Business**

**Interlocal Agreement:** Mr. Grappe' stated that when we started this process of consideration, the District had no fees coming in or out of our landfill. Mr. Grappe' stated that Pulaski County passed an agreement that has affected the landfill gate fee by \$.70, and Republic is responsible for handling this fee and sending it back to Pulaski County. Mr. Grappe' contacted Pulaski County and has decided not to enter into an Interlocal Agreement at this time. Mr. Grappe' stated that this would hurt us more than help us at this time. Mr. Gibson stated that the Board never drew up a resolution so this point needs not action from the Board. Mayor Arey asked for any questions or comments. Mr. Grappe' stated that Republic has bid on getting the waste from Southwest Central and if Republic wins this bid, the Board will consider this point again.

**ARC Conference:** Mr. Grappe' stated that he has sent in the applications for himself and three Board members (Judge Fite, Mr. Erwin, and Dr. Brashears). Mr. Grappe' stated that the conference is September 19-22 and the press has also been notified.

Judge Fite stated that Mayor McMahan from Bauxite told him that they have a bid in for \$98,000 to repave the end of West Sardis Rd. Judge Fite also stated that he would like to discuss with Mr. Linker from the landfill about having County Clean Up days. Mr. Grappe' stated that Lake Norel has asked for a clean up day on October 22. Judge Fite stated that the County has twelve dumpsters that can be used out in the community for this. There was some discussion on this. Mr. Gibson stated that he believes

that there wasn't any pro-rating for the first year and it could be reasonable to suggest 2 clean up days since the sale occurred so early in the year.

### **New Business**

**Review Proxy:** Mr. Grappe' asked everyone to look at their copies of the proxy rules. Mr. Gibson stated Resolution 1 of 2003 was adopted to provide proxy in absence of a Board member. Mr. Gibson stated that this form is given in advance of the meeting then signed. Mr. Gibson stated that proxy does not have to be a Board member, it can be anyone. Mr. Gibson stated that the Board member can tell their proxy how to vote. Mr. Gibson also stated that the Board member can assign no limitation for the voting as well. Mr. Gibson stated that the Board wasn't emailing much in 2003 and the resolution states that the proxy can also be sent to the office by fax or email, but still provide a signed original within five business days. Mr. Gibson stated that this Board is a little unusual in that a majority of the Board constitutes a quorum and a majority of those present is all that is necessary to act. Mr. Gibson stated this Board is one of the few that can function off of majority vote.

**Other new business:** Mr. Erwin asked what the status of the District is in cleaning Reynolds Rd. clean from trash that is coming off of trucks, residential or commercial. Mr. Grappe' stated that Officer Maher has been working with Benton, Bryant, Bauxite, and Alexander about keeping the road way cleaned. Mr. Grappe' stated that Bauxite has actually made several stops in the last month against those violating the tarp law – individuals and trash haulers. Mr. Grappe' stated that if trash is being taken to the landfill, by a resident or business, the waste load must be tarped. Mr. McKeon stated that he got behind a Waste Management truck and the load was tarped but trash was still flying out the sides. Mr. Grappe' stated that is still considered littering. Mr. Walters stated that he had complained to BFI about trash flying out, and they have actually gone back and modified their trucks to prevent this problem from reoccurring. Mr. Erwin asked if there has been a lot of feedback from the haulers since the sale. Mr. Grappe' stated no, but we have all 32 of our haulers licensed. Mr. Grappe' stated that when the District starts discussing more about curbside recycling; there will be lots of hauler feedback on that point. Mayor Arey asked for any questions or comments. There was none.

**Public Comments:** Ms. Connie LeBlanc asked if there is no money in recycling why the District is trying to do it. Mayor Arey stated that it is required by ADEQ, and Mr. Walters stated that sometimes you just have to do. Mr. Erwin asked if he knew how much commercial cardboard/paper there is being picked up within the County currently. Mr. Grappe' stated that he does not know those figures yet, but is working on it. Mr. Grappe' stated that his concern is how much we are not picking up. Mr. Grappe' stated that he had his hard drive replaced on his computer the other day and the computer techs threw the old drive in the trash. Mr. Grappe' asked them why they were not recycling their electronics and they replied that the usually can't make it to the landfill except on Saturdays, which is when the recycling center is closed. Mr. Grappe' said that he then later saw a man cutting up cardboard and placing it in the trash can. Mr. Grappe' stated that he is concerned that there is a large amount of recyclables being placed in the landfill that could be prevented. Mr. Grappe' replied to Mr. Erwin that is the same question the recycling companies are asking, because they need to know how much is being generated so that they can help us. Mr. Erwin asked if the individual business recycle providers would

provide our District with the amount of what they pick up per month. Mr. Grappe' stated that he is trying to find that out, but we need to know who picks up where. Mayor Arey asked about grant money and Mr. Grappe' replied that we still have lots of grant money left. Mr. Grappe' stated that ADEQ has suggested we hire an Education/Recycling Coordinator that would be responsible for retrieving that information. Mr. Grappe' stated that the City of Little Rock picks up 600 tons per month of cardboard. Mr. Grappe' stated that we picked up 180 tons last month. Mr. Grappe' stated that a lot of businesses in the county, such as Ashley's, Home Depot, Wal-Mart, etc. broker vendors who come by and pick up the business's baled cardboard. Mr. Erwin asked if we have the information of how much they are picking up. Mr. Grappe' stated we don't have that information yet, but he is working on that. Mr. Grappe' stated that he hopes to put in place a recycling information retrieval system that would require each business that recycles to have a license and provide their numbers to the district for recording purposes. There was more general discussion on this subject.

Judge Fite made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Walters seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned.