

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

Present:

Chairman Jim Erwin, Ms. Sheryl Childs, Tiffany Dunn-Executive Director, Attorney Sam Ed Gibson, Ms. Leslie Morris, Jordan Woolbright and Mayor Paul Mitchell.

Absent: Judge Jeff Arey-Proxy

Mr. J. R. Walters

1. Call to Order and Sign In

The Saline County Regional Solid Waste Management District Regular Board meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairman Jim Erwin.

2. Review and Approval of Minutes from December 11, 2019 Meeting

Chairman Erwin ask for a motion for approval of December 11, 2019 minutes and Attorney Gibson interjects for the record, there are three members first and present, one member present by proxy, so there are four members present of your six member Board, which constitutes a quorum. Attorney Gibson relays that a majority of those present to vote and voting would pass any matter that you might have before you today. Chairman Erwin ask if there is any discussion on the minutes from December 11,2019 and Mayor Mitchell makes a motion for approval of the minutes and seconded by Ms. Sheryl Childs. Motion passed.

3. Review of Financials from December 2019 and January 2020: Jordan Woolbright

Mr. Jordan Woolbright reports that Page 1 of the December 2019 Financial Report begins with the Bank Account Summary with a balance of \$4,661,144.71. There was a transfer of \$300,000.00 from the Revenue Account to the Operating Account to reload the account for the operations for the upcoming year which has been routine for the past few years, since it is run so leanly. The Bank Account Summary ends the month of December 2019 with a total of \$4,619,557.11. Mr. Woolbright goes forward to Page 2 of the December financials for the Operations Detail Report which shows the last three months of the year and the year to date totals are for the entire year of 2019. Mr. Woolbright draws attention to the Budget numbers for a total of \$433,763.00 and the actual spending for the year with a total of \$319,790.29 that created an overage of \$113,972.71. Mr. Woolbright relays that the December numbers for Operations was \$41,826.29, which was due to the Household Hazardous Waste Event cost of \$17,916.62. Mr. Woolbright refers to Page Three for the breakdown of the Operating Account Transactions for the month of December 2019. Mr. Woolbright notes to the Board that Page Four and Page Five work together with Page Four being the summary of the Grant Monies. For the month of December, \$12,301.00 was paid out of the 2019-2020 Act 1333 Grant and \$1,297.00 was paid out of 2017-2018 E-waste Grant money which was a total of \$13,598.00. A listing of those transactions are listed on Page Five and you will notice the payout for the YEA! Team Leaders during the month of December. Mr. Woolbright relays that the ending balance for the Recycling Account is \$353,009.70 for the month of December 2019. Mr. Woolbright relays that moving on to the January 2020, the first month of the fiscal year, the beginning balance is \$4,619,557.11. You will notice the ins and outs of the

different accounts and the inflow for the Revenue Account of \$145,327.52 is the receipt of the quarterly royalty payment from Republic Services for January, with the month ending balance of \$4,720,891.58. Mr. Woolbright relays to the Board that all the information we have at this time on Page 2 of the 2020 Operations Detail Report are the Budget figures of \$420,856.00 and the Operational totals of \$24,654.15 for the month of January. Page 3 is the breakdown of the Operational Account Transactions and Ms. Dunn relays to the Board that the Budget number from the last meeting was \$425,000.00 which was a mistake in our Salaries as far as the percentage increase, and the Budget figures now reflect the corrected figures for 2020. Ms. Childs ask if the figures on Page three is where the correction is located and Ms. Dunn relays the figures on Page Two are the corrected figures under the Budget. Mr. Woolbright relays that the beginning balances for the 2020 Grant Monies is \$353,009.00 on Page 4. The totals spent for the month of January 2020 out of the Grant Monies is \$25,594.00 with the details of the Recycling Account Transactions on Page 5. Chairman Erwin ask how many Grants we are getting at this time and Ms. Dunn relays that we get money for E-Waste and Act 1333. Ms. Dunn relays that the E-Waste Grant Program will end in December 2020 and Chairman Erwin relays that after that time there will only be Act 1333 going forward. Motion for approval of the Financials for December 2019 and January 2020 is made by Mayor Mitchell and seconded by Ms. Childs. Motion is approved.

4. Inter-District Tire Update: Leslie Morris

Leslie Morris reports that the Board has the financials and if anyone has questions, please ask. Ms. Morris relays that the Inter-District Tire Program for 2019 collected 888,458 tires out of the nine-county district and for the month of January 2020, the Tire District collected 68,408 tires with Saline County collecting 7,057 tires. Ms. Morris relays that there has been a consistent amount of tires collected over the past two years and the tire volume does not look like it will reduce, but what has changed in December 2019 is there will now be one collection center for Saline County at the Saline County Landfill. Tire Engineers that had been a public drop off will now rent a trailer from the Inter-District Tire Program and Britt's relayed they will use the Saline County Landfill. Ms. Morris reports Davis Rubber is taking care of the rentals for the trailers and the transportation and the District is paying for processing and the transportation of the tires coming from the collection centers into Davis Rubber. Ms. Morris relays that the Tire District has done what it was asked to do for the 10% reduction from DEQ. There has been a lot of discussion with County Judges and Legislators which ask the Tire District to appear before a committee the first of March to discuss the operation of the Tire District, how the funding was originally established, and change in funding and why it has not covered the program. Between Desi, Craig and myself, there is a lot of knowledge to present to this committee. Ms. Morris relays to the Board that the Tire Program is ever changing. Chairman Erwin ask Ms. Morris how the program has changed by the 10% and Ms. Morris relayed that disbursements can be decreased by 10% according to the Regulation through DEQ. Ms. Morris relays that the Inter-District Tire Program has had many meetings with Jarrod Zweifel, who is over the Land Division of DEQ, and Tammy's boss, and is committed to getting the Tire Program to a better place. The 10% was to be set aside, 5% for abatement and large tires and 5% for marketing per Ms. Morris. Ms. Morris relays if the 5% was set aside for the large tires then that will benefit all the Districts because there are a lot of tires that come out of Monroe and Prairie Counties. Chairman Erwin ask what has been done with the tire trailers from the different locations and Ms. Morris relays that there will be multiple trailers at the designated locations and that some businesses are renting the trailers. Ms. Morris also relays that the clean ups for the counties have been paid for by the District and at this time will continue, but that costs could be put back on the Solid

Waste Districts. Davis Rubber and the Tire District are looking at ways of making the Tire District more efficient by possibly buying an 18-wheeler that could carry 1200 tires and make the trips to pick up tires less costly. Ms. Morris relays that this program is cleaning up tires and making a difference in the District.

5. Executive Director Update: Tiffany Dunn

a.) Marketing & Education Report:

Ms. Dunn reports to the Board that we participated with Benton Matters in the day of service in the Ralph Bunche community where we had 75 volunteers come out for the event. There was a donation from Keep Arkansas Beautiful that provided the safety vest and trash bags for that event and there were 4 schools from our YEA! Team Program that participated and most of the volunteers were the kids from our schools. We have also had our first Re-Fashion Bash Mentor Week in 5 schools and at this time we have 104 kids taking part with 67 designs, with some kids partnering up to create the designs. Ms. Dunn relays that is the most kids that have participated in any year and they will not all get to the end. We did receive the Grant from DEQ to partner with Regional Recycling for the TV and Monitor Collection this Saturday at Saline County Fairgrounds from 8 to Noon. In March, we will have another Benton Matters Serve Day and after Spring Break, there will be a Mentor Week for Re-Fashion Bash to wrap up the designs for the kids. Ms. Dunn relays that a mandatory fashion show meeting for Re-Fashion Bash will be to finalize the designs and see who will actually be in the show.

Ms. Dunn relays that because the E-Waste money will not be available after 2020, we will not be able to host Recycling Events in Lake Norrell and smaller communities but will extend the events at the Saline County Fairgrounds and First Southern Baptist Church for all the residents in Saline County. Chairman Erwin ask if the April 18, 2020, shredding event will be available for individuals and Ms. Dunn relays that this event is for residential participation only. Ms. Dunn reports that there will be an event on April 4, 2020, hosted by Keep Bryant Beautiful and the possibility is there for businesses to participate.

Ms. Dunn relays that Carmen Haynes has decided not to return to work, so we are advertising for the EEO position and there have been 30 applications and resumes that have been submitted. Ms. Dunn will interview 8 applicants and narrow that down to the top 3 and do a second round of interviews with those 3. Chairman Erwin responds that is quite a few applications and Ms. Dunn relays that she feels that a lot did not read the job description and just submitted the resume. There were accountants and nurses that submitted a resume and those would not qualify. Ms. Childs ask when did Carmen resign and Ms. Dunn relays January 21, 2020, and we immediately started advertising.

Ms. Dunn relays to the Board that the 2020 Waste Hauler packets have been completed. There are 26 Haulers permitted for 2020 and 21 Haulers are permitted for residential and commercial. Ms. Dunn relays that there were 2 Haulers that were not in good standing with DF&A and they have been contacted. One of the Haulers has contacted the office and provided information for a good standing and 1 Hauler has a meeting with DF&A and should be setting up a payment plan for the taxes to be paid and as of last week, that is the last contact. Chairman Erwin ask if they set up a plan, they can continue to pick up garbage and Ms. Dunn relays that is correct and they are in good standing as long as they pay their taxes. Attorney Gibson relays to the Board that DF&A has to provide the District with a good standing letter and DF&A will provide a good standing letter for the

Hauler to the District office. Ms. Dunn relays that the District does not see any of the personal or tax information of the Hauler, it is only a statement for good standing in a letter form from DF&A. Chairman Erwin ask if we get a letter and Ms. Dunn relays that we submit a form to DF&A for the Hauler and the letter is sent back to the District stating the position of the Hauler, good standing or poor standing, and from there we will contact the Business or Hauler. Ms. Childs ask how the shredding event went at the Library and Ms. Dunn responds that was the event for America Recycles Day in November 2019, that went alright since there was not a lot of advertising. Ms. Dunn relays that the shredding events will be included with the E-Waste events for the rest of the year. There is a company named Central Shredding & Recycling, that has a warehouse on River Street in Benton, and they are very happy to work with us and are doing this at no charge to the District.

b.) 2019 Landfill Coupon Program

Ms. Dunn reports that on the first sheet, this closes out the 2019 coupon program and for this year, we issued 6,903 coupons with homes receiving coupons in the amount of 3,451.5 and the half is selling one coupon to someone. There were 4,073 coupons redeemed and that was 59% of what was sold for the year, so the program ended 2019 with \$34,525.00 received for the program. Ms. Dunn relays that the next page begins the 2020 coupon program and so far this year, there have been 527 homes that have received coupons and that is about 25 to 30 people each day since January 2, 2020. Ms. Dunn relays that this year seems busier and there have been 227 coupons redeemed or 22% of the coupons sold this year. Ms. Dunn ask the Board to look at the report under the households receiving coupons and the totals have fallen a little in 2018 and then increased in 2019. Chairman Erwin ask if there are issues with people not having trash service and Ms. Dunn said we don't turn anyone away, they have service, but don't have the information with them when they come to the office, so we work with them. Chairman Erwin relays that he hopes it is working and Ms. Dunn relays that the program is working for the people that come to get the coupons. Attorney Gibson relays that Mr. Walters would know the numbers of the program, but we are probably getting close to the penetration for those that participated in the free clean up days. Attorney Gibson relays that it would be a madhouse, but when the District had the Landfill and threw the gates open for 2 days and another 2 days for the smaller communities, it overwhelmed the scale house to know who was to be free and who should pay, but I would propose that the numbers are getting close to the projection now. Mayor Mitchell relays that the coupon program allows there to be much better flow of traffic and not overwhelming the Landfill.

c.) Recycling Report

Ms. Dunn relays that the first sheet closes out the year 2019 in which we collected collectively 218,581 pounds of Recycled materials with the largest material recycled being the e-waste and the second largest being the paper and cardboard from the schools and the non-profits. The next page shows the 2020 Recycling Report with the collection of 1,140 pounds of paper and cardboard from our non-profits and 3,300 pounds of paper and cardboard from our schools for the month of January. Our E-Waste collection for the month of January alone is 6,967 pounds that has been recycled from the items left at Habitat for Humanity-RESTORE. Chairman Erwin relays that he does not understand why the program is not going past 2020 because everything is electronic. Ms. Dunn relays that when that Grant was written into Law, it had a sunset date. Ms. Childs ask if the non-profits included churches and Ms. Dunn responds no. Ms. Dunn relays that there are very few non-profits left that we pick up and the ones that are picked up are Civitan, Benton Senior Center, Helping Hands, Habitat for Humanity for the E-Waste, the Courthouse, and our office. The schools that we pick up are the Benton Alternative School, Bryant Alternative School, Caldwell Elementary,

Benton Middle School and Howard Perrin and the reason we have Bin There Dump That pick them up, is because they have no place for a recycling dumpster. Chairman Erwin ask if the other schools have dumpsters that get picked up for the recycling and Ms. Dunn says yes; they are picked up by Republic once a week and Chairman Erwin ask if that is working out well. Ms. Dunn replies that the program is working out great since the pickup is once a week. Before the program was twice a month and the schools were recycling so much, it was too much of an overflow, so the fee was not much more to go to once a week pick up and it has been less chaotic for the schools. Ms. Dunn relays she would like the three schools to be put with the Republic contract, but that can not happen at the present time due to space. Chairman Erwin ask if that is what we pay Bin There Dump That for and Ms. Dunn said yes and the non-profits. Chairman Erwin relays that he took a tube tv to Habitat and it was relayed that the City of Benton picks up the TV and Ms. Dunn relays that Bin There Dump That picks up from Habitat for the District.

d.) **New Business**

No new business to report.

e.) **Old Business**

No old business to report.

f.) **Public Comments**

Chairman Erwin asks what the status of the operations of the Environmental Enforcement Officer at this time? Ms. Dunn relays that she has taken on most of the duties as far as the tire Program, permitting and Sue has helped with that and we have one person coming in 2 days a week for 8 hours. Ms. Dunn relayed that she has been monitoring how many calls we get for the Officer position. Based on this time period, we have not received a lot of calls on the anonymous tip line, we have gotten 1 complaint a week through the website, and we have had several complaints that have come from DEQ. Kim Davenport from DEQ, who is an inspector has been helpful to come in during this time. About two weeks ago, Kim came to the office and while she was at the office, a call came in from an area toward Sardis that she had been already investigating and she took the information found that it was in Pulaski County and forwarded it to their EEO for investigation. Chairman Erwin said that she is stepping in to help when she can and Ms. Dunn responds that she is. Ms. Dunn relays that we have 2 deputies that Ms. Dunn met with from the Sheriff's Office that have helped with three complaints that they checked out. Ms. Dunn relays that we have not been advertising the tip line because that sometimes creates calls. Chairman Erwin ask what the time frame is once the new officer has been selected. Ms. Dunn relays that her plan is to interview Thursday and Friday and the selection of the three to come back the following week for the second interview and make a decision for the second week in March to start work in the office. They have to be certified and the class is at the end of March through the second of April and if it is not in this time, the next class is in August. Ms. Childs ask if there is enough volume in that job for full time, and Ms. Dunn says that she needs a third full time person because she cannot always go to a school and take them something and that position is usually out and it is just a phone call for the school to be taken care of. Ms. Childs also ask if the officer could do an Excel Spread Sheet to be able to see the progress of the enforcement.

Motion made by Ms. Childs to adjourn the meeting and motion passed.