

**MINUTES OF MEETING
NORTH SUMTER COUNTY UTILITY
DEPENDENT DISTRICT**

A Meeting of the Board of Directors of North Sumter County Utility Dependent District was held on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at the Savannah Recreation Center, 1545 Buena Vista Blvd., The Villages, Florida, 32162.

Board members present and constituting a quorum:

Charlie Smith	Chairman
Dominic Berardi	Vice Chairman
Matt Friedland	Board Director
Richard Rademacher	Board Director
Jerry Watts	Board Director
Tom Hosken	Board Director
Diane Spencer	Board Director

Staff Present:

Richard Baier	District Manager
Kenny Blocker	Assistant District Manager
Anne Hochsprung	Finance Director
Brittany Wilson	Director of Technology and Board Support Services
Candice Harris	Deputy District Clerk

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS: Call to Order

A. Roll Call

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and stated for the record that all Board Directors were present representing a quorum.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Observation of Moment of Silence

The Chairman led the Board and residents in a moment of silence.

D. Welcome Meeting Attendees

The Board welcomed the meeting attendees present.

SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS: Solid Waste Plan Update

Richard Baier, District Manager, welcomed all residents in attendance and provided an overview of the previous Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) Meetings. Mr. Baier advised the Board had previously provided direction to review the contract to look for a more sustainable alternative as compared to the long haul transport, review the recyclables as to a secondary market, to ensure there is a contract that contemplated long-term solutions, and to review the white goods hauling program.

Kenny Blocker, Assistant District Manager, reviewed the purpose of the meeting advising the District is preparing a SWMP. The SWMP is being developed in a transparent manner, with input from the residents. Mr. Blocker stated the meeting will provide an update to the Board and residents regarding the solid waste and recycling program alternatives and advised Staff will prepare contracts based on the guidance received by the Board at the meeting today.

Mr. Blocker introduced John Wood of Integrated Water Solutions who was attending the meeting virtually via phone conference.

Mr. Wood began reviewing a PowerPoint advising the District is in process of preparing a SWMP and provided the following highlights of the previous meetings:

- June: The Board discussed the solid waste and recycling program in The Villages and provided an overview of the current trends for solid waste and recycling.
- August: A workshop was held with residents and the Board to collect information and identify preferences.
- October: A workshop was held providing a presentation of options for residents and comments were provided by the Board.
- November: Recommendations were provided to the Board.
- January – A project update was provided.

Mr. Wood advised the District has developed goals for the solid waste and recycling program, based on community input. The goals focus on maintaining a high level of satisfaction for collection of solid waste, recycling, yard trash and bulky waste; providing an education program to ensure that residents are aware of the current program and understand how to optimize the program and to provide recycling and disposal services, but allowing flexibility in the future to keep the program cost-effective. Mr. Wood reviewed a summary of the previous meeting held and provided the following review of the topics:

- Discussed existing solid waste and recyclables program in The Villages.
- Provided an overview of the current trends for solid waste and recycling (Globally, Nationally, Florida and The Villages).
- Discussed the difficulty in marketing recyclables due to policies and restrictions that Asian countries have placed on the import of recyclables.

Mr. Wood reviewed the following solid waste operations in The Villages:

- Amount of material collected in 2019
 - Residential Waste: 22,329 tons
 - Commercial Waste: 7,607 tons
 - Recyclables: 11,041 tons
 - Brush: 6,621 tons
 - Total: 47,598 tons
- Equipment
 - 11 Solid waste rear loading trucks
 - 6 Recycling rear loading trucks
 - 2 Commercial front loading trucks
 - 1 Bulk/White Goods truck

Additional information from the June workshop was provided at the August workshop based on the questions received. The audience had an opportunity to express their desires and preferences related to the program, followed by breakout sessions to discuss the program in greater detail.

Mr. Wood advised at the November meeting, topics were discussed regarding potential options for the Recycling Program and Solid Waste Disposal. The Board requested Staff examine options and develop final options based on the following:

- Improve Collections
- Preference of sustainable disposal methods compared to long-haul landfill disposal
- White goods disposal
- Education and public outreach consistent with the future program
- Preliminary negotiations for management of recyclables and solid waste with privately owned facilities

Mr. Wood stated there are various options for the Residential Recycling Program, such as improving recycling under the current program through education; stop recycling materials that have no market value (newspaper, mixed paper, mixed plastics and glass); increase recycling through education and additional materials and consideration of use of Energy from Waste (EfW) facility. The District's cost to recycle is higher than the cost to landfill, \$80 per ton cost to recycle and \$41 per ton for landfill disposal in Fiscal Year 2020/2021. The more material recycled, the higher the household assessment.

The following Solid Waste Management Options available were reviewed:

- Identify solid waste facilities within 75 miles
- Screen facilities that would accept material from The Villages
- Determine haul distance and tipping fee
- Determine total cost and household assessment

Mr. Wood advised in December 2012, North Sumter County Utility Dependent District (NSCUDD) issued \$54.6 M bonds for the purchase of Sumter Sanitation. NSCUDD recently reviewed the sufficiency of the Fund's revenues to meet its ten-year financial requirements. In Fiscal Year 2019, the minimum debt service coverage was not achieved; there was a shortfall of \$450,000. The Board approved an increase in the monthly Household Assessment from \$17.90 to \$19.38 for Fiscal Year 2020.

Mr. Wood reviewed the following Board direction provided at the November meeting:

- Direct Jacobs to continue to optimize truck routing based on proposed changes and evaluate truck size to provide a cost effective system

- Consider a fee for bulky waste/white goods pickup
- Review recycling options
- Enter into preliminary negotiations for long-term management of recyclables and solid waste with privately-owned facilities
- Preference of more sustainable disposal methods (local EfW) compared to long-haul landfill disposal
- Staff develop final options and report back to the Board

Mr. Wood advised Jacobs will implement various improvements to meet Board direction. Jacobs will continue to optimize routing using a GPS-based system; evaluate yard waste collection in the winter; and evaluate larger truck size to provide a cost effective system and continue to improve the bulk waste white goods program. The current system is an on-call service, operating five (5) days per week. In 2019 there were 10,879 pick-ups of material of bulk items including furniture, bicycles, lawn mowers, mattresses, toilets, carpeting, white goods, computers, and other electronic equipment. There is a potential fee of \$10 per pick up to recover some of the costs.

A review of the definitions of final options was provided advising the following:

- Waste Management, Inc. (WMI): No change from current plan; MSW, recycling and yard waste to WMI Transfer Station
- Covanta and Waste Management, Inc.: MSW to Covanta EfW; Recycling and yard waste to WMI Transfer Station
- Covanta: All material collected commingled and taken to EfW

Mr. Wood provided a review on the number of times a collection truck drives past a house, miles traveled, recycling rate and sanitation fee per household and requested direction from the Board regarding the following:

- Finalize the Solid Waste Management Plan
- Fee for bulky waste/white goods pickup
- Finalize negotiations for long-term of management of recyclables and solid waste with privately-owned facilities
- Report back to the Board at the June 18th Board meeting.

Board Director Rademacher advised the Board has previously held meetings regarding recycling and waste management and stated it is unfortunate the vote must occur during the Covid-19 pandemic where many residents are fearful to attend public meetings. Board Director Rademacher advised he has reviewed the audio of previous meetings where the vast majority of public comment has centered on consumer satisfaction with the current services and expanding the flow of recycling. Board Director Rademacher requested any audience suggestion or comments be provided to the NSCUDD Board via email.

Kenny Blocker, Assistant District Manager, responded to various inquiries made by Board Director Rademacher.

Board Director Hosken requested clarification on the June meeting date and inquired if Staff anticipates presenting an item on the SWMP to the Board at the May Board meeting. Richard Baier, District Manager, advised Staff would request direction at the current meeting, to allow time for a contract to be prepared and presented for approval at the June 18, 2020 meeting.

Board Director Spencer advised based on all the information reviewed she is in favor of proceeding with the Covanta only recycling plan.

Board Director Watts stated he concurred with the comments made by Board Director Spencer.

Vice Chairman Berardi advised he is in favor of the Covanta option as it is the cleanest way to dispose of the waste and turning the waste to energy is a plus.

Board Director Friedland concurred and stated there will be a cost savings with the Covanta option.

At this time, the Board received various comments from the audience. Mr. Wood and Staff responded to inquiries of the residents in attendance.

On MOTION by Dom Berardi, seconded by Matt Friedland, with six (6) Board Directors voting “Aye” and Richard Rademacher voting “Nay”, the Board concurred to proceed with the Covanta option presented by Staff.
--

Mr. Baier advised Staff would bring a contract back for consideration at the June 18, 2020 meeting. Mr. Blocker advised Staff will also be requesting advertisement for a public hearing regarding the rate rule.

THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS: District Manager Reports

There were no District Manager Reports.

FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS: District Counsel Reports

There were no District Counsel Reports.

FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS: Director Comments

There were no Board Director Comments.

SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS: Audience Comments

There were no Audience Comments.

SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS: Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

On MOTION by Dom Berardi, seconded by Jerry Watts, with all in favor, the Meeting was adjourned.

Richard J. Baier
Secretary

Charlie Smith
Chairman