

Ottawa-Sandusky-Seneca Joint Solid Waste District

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes 4/12/23

The meeting of the OSS JSWMD Board of Directors was called to order by the Commissioner Coppeler at 11:32 A.M., held in person at the OSS Main Office, 1875, E. State St., Fremont. Present were Ottawa County Commissioners Mark Coppeler, Don Douglas, and Mark Stahl, Sandusky County Commissioners Scott Miller and Russ Zimmerman, as well as Seneca County Commissioners Tony Paradiso and Tyler Shuff.

Also present were the following OSS SWD staff: Community Outreach Specialist Tim Hassinger and Director Gary Baty.

Jimmy Flint of the Seneca County Commissioners staff

Ben Nutter of Sunny Farms Landfill

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The draft of the minutes from the 2/1/2023 Board of Directors Meeting was presented. Motion to approve the meeting minutes was made by Commissioner Paradiso and was seconded by Commissioner Miller. Unanimous approval of those present was recorded. Motion approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Director Gary Baty presented the financial report for January and February. The beginning balance in January was \$3,856,422.55 with a total revenue of \$196,787.91 and the total expense for the month being \$187,587.61. This makes the end of month balance for January \$3,889,662.25. This includes funds in the balance totaling \$9,039.40 from an EPA Grant the District had received. February's financial report has a total revenue of \$199,673.62 and a total expense of \$173,421.78. This leaves the ending balance for February, 2023 at \$3,915,914.09 Director Baty showed the YTD for 2023 Expenses/Revenues with the beginning balance for 2023 at \$3,865,461.95 and the ending cash balance in February of \$3,915,914.09 shows a net profit so far this year of \$50,452.14. Commissioner Zimmerman motioned to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Commissioner Douglas. All commissioners present unanimously chose to approve of the financial report. Motion approved.

WORDS FROM COMMISSIONER PARADISO: Commissioner Paradiso asked for a moment to bring something to the Board of Directors. The Seneca County Commissioners had hired an outside attorney to take a look at the ordinances and Ohio Solid Waste District bylaws as well as that of the Health Department to see what possible oversight the OSS Solid Waste District has in regulating and overseeing waste with in-district landfills in relation to the Sunny Farms Landfill. Commissioner Paradiso presented a memorandum from their attorney on whether Ohio law allows the Ottawa Sandusky Seneca Solid Waste District to allocate disposal fees to a county for reimbursement of its expenses for inspections and other activities to regulate Sunny Farms Landfill and other purposes. Some key points from the memorandum that Commissioner Paradiso highlighted stemming from RC 3734.57(G) that the solid waste district is authorized to fund the following activities by local governments: Enforcement of Ohio EPA's solid waste regulations and permits at Sunny Farms Landfill or any other (in district) solid waste facility or transfer stations; Inspections of SFL or any other in district SW facility; Inspections of solid waste arriving from outside of Ohio; Collecting samples from water wells adjacent to SFL or any other in-district SW facility; enforcing littering laws; training and certifying inspectors.

Commissioner Paradiso mentioned that now is the time to bring this up as the Policy Plan for the District is in the resolution phase, and that the Sunny Farms Landfill is currently seeking an expansion.

The Seneca County Health Department will be getting back with what types of financial needs they would request if the Board would choose to budget additional funds on landfill inspection and oversight in the case of the landfill expanding. Commissioner Miller mentioned that himself and the other commissioners may need a bit of time to “digest” the information on this memorandum and do their due diligence as this is a new avenue the District has not ventured before.

5th GRADE BILLBOARD WINNERS 2023: Ottawa, Sandusky and Seneca County 5th grade students had the opportunity to participate in the OSS Solid Waste District’s Billboard Contest. The contest is run annually and the billboards will be posted throughout the month of April in Celebration of Earth Day on April 22nd. Students were encouraged to create a design with a recycling or litter prevention theme. The District staff voted for their favorite designs. The top three winners from each county will have their winning designs displayed on billboards within their respective counties. This year, a total of 871 entries from 26 schools across the District were submitted.

Winning designs from Ottawa County include the following students and their school:

Carlee Pelfrey –Danbury Local School District

Lacey Baker– Oak Harbor Middle School

Meredith Cooper– Put-in-Bay School District

Winning designs from Sandusky County include the following students and their school:

Grace Freitag –Immaculate Conception School – Bellevue

Hadyn Pickerel – Hilfiker Elementary School

Josie Harkness– Immaculate Conception School – Bellevue

Winning designs from Seneca County include the following students and their school:

Addyson Dailey – New Riegel Elementary School

Avery May – Hopewell-Loudon School District

Evangeline Cook Arnold – Calvert Catholic Schools

2023 CFG GRANTS: The Grant Committee came together and graded all the grant submissions for the January round of the CFG. Below are the grant applicants that scored the highest by the grant committee and were suggested for approval of the grant funding.

The Put-in-Bay Township Park District requested \$4,760.00 in funds for a project to provide additional waste containers for the new preserves on Put-In-Bay – Morrison and Duff Woods. The containers would be made of 100% recycled plastic.

Luther Home of Mercy, one of the largest care facilities for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Ohio requested \$5,526.00 through the grant for outside seating in the garden area with furniture made from 100% recycled poly lumber.

\$5,620.00 in grant funds were awarded to Danbury Township for 3 picnic tables made of 90% recycled material to be used at the new shelter house at Meadowbrook Marsh Preserve. In the grant, Danbury Township also requested 4 recycled material waste containers for Sackett Cemetery.

Village of Gibsonburg requested \$4,433.10 for the purchase of 8 park benches made of 100% recycled plastic to be placed in Williams Park, home of the Veterans Memorial.

Bellevue City Schools requested \$10,000.00 to help fund a recycled steel shade structure for the school playground. The structure can withstand 105 MPH winds and will reduce temperatures under it by as much as 30 degrees F.

The Ottawa County Ag Society received \$3,163.00 as a two part project at the Ottawa County Fairgrounds; first will be expanding the current recycling program to add 20 recycling containers to the grounds. The second part of the project is to update and fix failed landscaping with 98% recycled landscape logs.

\$7,369.41 was won by the Village of Marblehead requesting (7) 100% recycled picnic tables to replace aged wooden tables. Each new table consists of 2,475 recycled milk jugs.

Sandco Industries requested \$1,221.00 for (1) 100% recycled wheelchair accessible picnic table for their Senior Day Programming which is outdoors.

For the Village of Oak Harbor their request of \$5,929.65 was provided for a request of (12) 100% recycled benches for its active living projects at Veterans Park fitness trail and Friendship Park along the Portage River.

The motion to approve the January 2023 Competitive Grant winners was made by Commissioner Paradiso and seconded by Commissioner Miller. All commissioners present unanimously approved the CFG winners. Motion approved.

POLICY PLAN RESOLUTIONS: Director Baty brought up that the Policy Plan is out for all Townships Cities and Villages to vote on the resolution. This includes votes from the County Commissioners to resolve the OSS Policy Plan. The deadline for resolutions on the Plan is due by June 3rd and the next Policy Committee meeting is June 13.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Ben Nutter of Sunny Farms mentioned that he welcomes the inspections, testing, and oversight as it confirms the landfill is working in compliance with the law. Nutter asks that with the testing, that the commissioners and officials correct misleading information from others saying otherwise in the community.

NEW BUSINESS: Gary mentioned that he has goals to work with GoZero, a waste reduction organization to work with the county fairs in the District to try and achieve a zero waste fair event. This would be the first of any county in the area to achieve. Gary hopes in partnering with GoZero for the county fairs, that other community events might look to follow that path as well.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Stahl moved to adjourn at 12:13 P.M., seconded by Commissioner Shuff. Unanimous approval of those present was recorded. Motion approved.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

June 7th at 11:30 A.M. Location: OSS District Office, 1875 E. State Street, Fremont.