

MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
March 20, 2025

Chair Steve Fijalkowski called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Authority's Recycling Center Building and declared the existence of a quorum. Those present were Authority Board members Mr. Steve Fijalkowski, Mr. Barry Helms, Ms. Sharon Scott, Mr. John Boyer, and Mr. Dwyn Taylor. Also present were Mr. Alan Cummins, MRSWA Executive Director, Joe Levine, NRRA Executive Director, Glenn Stowers, MRSWA Solid Waste Supervisor, and Ms. Kim Stafford, MRSWA Administrative Coordinator.

Mr. Cummins recognized Mr. Stowers for his 15 years of service to MRSWA and presented him with a service bonus. He commended Mr. Stowers on his hard work through the years. Mr. Cummins also presented a video of the brush operation (collection, grinding, loading) running efficiently and safely. Mr. Stowers thanked the Board and said it was a team effort. Mr. Cummins said the Authority has been averaging 90 tons of brush a day. The Board thanked Mr. Stowers for his service.

Consent items were reviewed. Mr. Cummins requested Item D under Administration: MRSWA Pay Scales be removed from the agenda. There were no changes made to the February 20, 2025, MRSWA Board meeting minutes or the February 24, 2025, MRSWA Budget Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Cummins reported expenses were 4.94% below projections and no transfer was made into reserve funds. He did not have any invoices to note. February financials were presented for informational purposes. Mr. Helms made a motion to approve the consent items with the change to the agenda. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Solid Waste and Recycling Tonnage Reports were reviewed. Mr. Cummins said solid waste tonnage in February totaled 6,749 tons bringing the fiscal year total to 54,636. This is 250 tons less than last year but 2,649 tons ahead of tonnage projections. Brush tonnages increased significantly due to the ice storm that hit the area mid-February. Mr. Cummins added that Meridian brought in 610 tons in February. Of this amount, 576 tons was municipal solid waste and 34 tons was construction debris.

Recycling tonnages in February were 467 tons bringing the fiscal year total to 4,095. This is 69 tons less than last year but 29 tons ahead of tonnage projections. The monthly rejection rate was .0%, bringing the fiscal year rejection rate to .06%. Mr. Cummins said single stream commodity pricing increased to \$96.80 per ton.

Revenues for February were discussed. Mr. Cummins stated revenues were 5.57% above projections and a transfer of \$140,273 was made. \$10,491 was for the monthly front loader payment and \$129,782 was for closed landfill expenses that Mr. Cummins calculated, submitted to DEQ and DEQ approved. The recycling profit loss report showed expenses exceeded revenues by \$16,916. Fiscal year to date expenses are more than revenues by \$12,502 and the recycling position is \$62,856.

Next on the agenda was the Preliminary FY 25/26 Budget Discussion. Mr. Cummins gave an overview of the draft budget that was discussed in detail at the budget committee meeting. He covered rates, expense projections, income projections, and gave a budget recap. Based on this information, Mr. Cummins is proposing rate increases in solid waste and recycling. Solid waste rates affected by a \$4.00 per ton increase include clean brush and wood, dead animals, industrial waste, leaves, municipal solid waste (jurisdictional), member clean-up events, and sludge. An \$8.00 per ton rate increase is proposed for commercial municipal solid waste. Construction waste disposal is proposed to increase \$3.00 per ton. Single stream recycling rates would increase by \$4.00 per ton with contaminated/rejected single stream loads

also increasing by \$4.00 per ton. The proposed budget reflects a 9% increase in health insurance, a 4% merit increase and 0% COLA. Mr. Cummins presented a balanced budget of \$6,545,547. This is a \$632,770 increase from the FY 24/25 budget. Chair Mr. Fijalkowski asked if anyone had questions, but the Board said no since this was discussed in the budget committee meeting.

As part of the budget process, the Board reviewed a resolution setting forth a preliminary rate schedule and discussed setting a public hearing on the rates. Ms. Scott moved the Board to approve the resolution that adopts the preliminary rates and sets a public hearing for April 17, 2025, at 1:30 pm. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Cummins stated the public hearing and preliminary rate schedule will be advertised in the newspaper, at the Authority building, and on the Authority website.

The July Board Meeting Date was discussed. Mr. Cummins requested the July date be changed from July 17 to July 15. There was a Board consensus to make this change. Mr. Fijalkowski said he would be unable to attend so Vice Chair Ms. Scott will run the July MRSWA Board meeting.

Mr. Levine gave the NRRRA report. He said NRRRA will be the site for solid waste operator classes in April to be taught by LaBella. On April 5, the facility will conduct a clean up event on their property to pick up litter. Mr. Levine also stated a \$800,000 expansion is planned for the gas-to-energy project.

There were no public comments.

During Board comments, Mr. Taylor said the recognition of Mr. Stowers and the brush grinding video were nice presentations.

The next item on the agenda was a Closed Meeting. On motion of Ms. Scott, seconded by Mr. Taylor, the Board unanimously approved going into Closed Meeting to discuss Personnel Matters (Executive Director's Evaluation)– (pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711 A.1) – discussion of assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, discipline, salary, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public office. A roll call vote was taken to go into Closed Meeting. Mr. Boyer, Aye; Mr. Fijalkowski, Aye; Mr. Helms, Aye; Ms. Scott, Aye, and Mr. Taylor, Aye.

The Board then went into Closed Meeting. Mr. Boyer, Mr. Fijalkowski, Mr. Helms, Ms. Scott, and Mr. Taylor were present at the closed meeting. At the end of the Closed Meeting, Ms. Scott moved that the Board return to Open Meeting and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken to approve reconvening in Open Meeting. Mr. Boyer, Aye; Mr. Fijalkowski, Aye; Mr. Helms, Aye; Ms. Scott, Aye; and Mr. Taylor, Aye. All Board members present each individually approved the following certification resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of the Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board of the Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of the Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting to which this certification applies; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

Before the roll call vote was taken on this certification resolution Mr. Fijalkowski asked if there was any member of the Board who believed there was a departure from the requirements of number (1) or number (2) above, and no member made any such statement. A roll call vote was taken as follows to certify the resolution. Mr. Boyer, Aye; Mr. Fijalkowski, Aye; Mr. Helms, Aye; Ms. Scott, Aye, and Mr. Taylor, Aye. The certification resolution passed.

Once back in Open Meeting, Mr. Taylor moved approval of a 7% merit increase for Mr. Cummins. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. There was also a Board consensus the Authority work with PRM Consulting on performing a salary/benefit study specifically targeting Executive Directors for next year. Mr. Fijalkowski told Mr. Cummins he would meet with him after the Board meeting.


Board members unanimously agreed that the next regular monthly meeting of the Authority Board would take place on April 17, 2025, at 1:30 pm at the Authority's Recycling Center Building conference room. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Accepted:



MRSWA Chair

May 15, 2025
Date



MRSWA Secretary