

October 7, 2021

The October 7, 2021 meeting of the Warren County Solid Waste Advisory Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chair Ellen Nerbak and was conducted virtually by Webex. Present were Donald Sherman, Linda Gabel, Lynne Rutkowski, Joseph Watters, Robert Finke and Ellen Nerbak; also participating were David Dech, JoAnn Fascenelli and Jake Little who will soon be appointed to represent Allamuchy. Excused was Kevin Cavotta. The Chair confirmed the presence of a quorum (6).

Notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by forwarding a schedule of regular meetings of the Warren County Solid Waste Advisory Council to the Warren County Clerk and The Star-Ledger and by posting a copy thereof on the bulletin board in the office of the Board of Commissioners. Formal action may be taken by the Warren County Solid Waste Advisory Council at this meeting. Public participation is encouraged. In order to assure public participation, those individuals with disabilities who wish to attend the meeting should submit any requests for special accommodations one week in advance.

MINUTES

It was MOVED by Mr. Finke to accept and approve the minutes of the September 2, 2021 meeting, seconded by Mr. Watters. With no corrections or abstentions, all were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Solid Waste / Recycling

Mr. Dech reported the Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment was forwarded to the NJDEP after the September 8 Commissioners' meeting. The DEP now has a 150 day period to review and certify the amendment.

A paper shredding event was held on September 25 which was a record breaker for weight since 2017 (12,470 pounds). There were approximately 355 cars; the cost for two trucks to run the event was \$1,170 and Absolute Shredding was the provider; only one truck was used.

Mr. Dech attended the Association of NJ Recyclers webinar which focused on recycling batteries. He learned it is vital now to get the word out for proper disposal of batteries. Lithium batteries are being tossed into recycling or trash containers where they can overheat and cause fires. Fires caused by Lithium batteries burn hot and quickly. Collection boxes are at Home Depot and Lowe's. "Call to Recycling" is available for towns to use for collection of batteries; recycling coordinators will be notified.

REHS: Mr. Cavotta was excused.

NJDEP: No one was present.

Warren County Commissioners: No one was present.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Nerbak received an e-mail from Jim Smith saying Covanta has been sold; Mr. Dech said that Warren County and PCFA are aware. Covanta is responsible for clean-up obligations at the site.

Mr. Finke said he visited Harmony Township where LMR plans to expand their recycling. County Planning Board approvals are still pending..

Ms. Rutkoski asked if anything is being done to support County employers that are seeking new and qualified employees. Mr. Dech said the County is aware of activity in support. Ms. Rutkoski questioned the "help wanted" signs in the area, suggesting placing signs in other areas might increase visibility.

Mr. Watters asked about Mansfield's responsibilities if a food recycling facility is sought on Blau Road. He questioned county and state requirements. Mr. Dech said approval is needed from the Commissioners. A SWAC application is required along with a narrative to show the intent, source, truck routes, etc. as well as a public hearing to add composting to the SWMP. SWAC would review the proposal for inclusion in the SWMP. Then the application goes to the DEP after a public hearing of the County Board of Commissioners. A letter or resolution of support or no objection would be required from Mansfield. There is no expedited way to get through the process.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

None.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Panté, Clerk

Next meeting date:

November 4, 2021