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February 4, 2021

The February 4, 2021 meeting of the Warren County Solid Waste Advisory Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chair Ellen Nerbak; the meeting was conducted virtually by Webex. A roll call vote was taken; attending were Ellen Nerbak, Linda Gabel, Lynne Rutkoski, Joseph Watters, Robert Finke, James Smith; also attending were David Dech, Commissioner Jason Sarnoski, JoAnn Fascenelli and Brendan Bowers. The Chair confirmed the presence of a quorum.

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

Members attending had no corrections or discussion of minutes of the November 5, 2020 meeting. It was MOVED by Mr. Watters to accept and approve the minutes of the November 5, 2020 meeting, seconded by Linda Gabel; all in favor.

#### Correspondence

Mr. Dech reported receipt of a letter of resignation from Steven Haydu, the former representative from Allamuchy Township who served as a good and faithful member. Ms. Nerbak asked that a letter of appreciation be sent to him.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### Solid Waste/Recycling

Mr. Dech reported the Atlantic Coast Recycling Plant in Passaic County has burned down. This will have an impact on the recycling market. It was rumored the fire was caused by a lithium battery that was damaged and overheated. Mr. Dech reminded the importance of disposing of batteries in a proper way; fire danger is very real.

Tonnage reports from facilities are coming in at this time and will be forwarded to municipal coordinators.

Reporting on the County Enhancement Grant, Mr. Dech said recycling containers may be purchased with grant funds and distributed to municipalities and schools; e-mails will be sent to schools and municipalities with this news. Warren County could receive \$162,000.

PCFA held no household hazardous waste events last year but plans to hold HHW events April 18 and October 3, 2021. Mr. Dech spoke with Jim Williams who was unable to join this meeting. PCFA has changed carriers to NewTech. PCFA has reported the landfill will be ready to accept waste in late 2021 or early 2022. Mr. Smith questioned the extent the landfill will be opened. Work is progressing on Cell 7. Asked if this is a measured or long-term solution, Mr.

Bowers commented there is no interim solution for ID-10 waste until we know how and when the County can accept it; we need to amend the Solid Waste Management Plan to reflect where our waste will go with approval of the DEP. Mr. Bowers said the plan continues the intake of ID-13 for now; there have been lost opportunities to expand in prior years. Mr. Smith suggested that with a new Commissioner Board, there could be new vision, new direction for moving forward.

Mr. Bowers said Sanico has always participated in SWAC, and they are Warren County haulers. At this time the disposal site is reduced, and they are using Pennsylvania sites while awaiting a resolution; he is not hopeful that resolution will come this year. Mr. Smith said it would be important to speak with the Commissioner board to get their input. Expansion will take time; he is working diligently to resolve concerns. A waste disposal facility would benefit Warren County as discussed with DEP and Covanta; space and expansion are limited. If Sanico created its own transfer station it would be expensive. Commissioner Sarnoski said that the Commissioners continue to work on issues, they are not dropping the issue. Mr. Bowers said that the PCFA is accepting waste from out of county, ID-13 and ID-27. Why continue accepting waste from out of county while unable to handle Warren County disposal? Mr. Bowers questioned the long-term possibility of a transfer station and learned it would not be profitable at all so we are now stuck without options, a position of desperation.

#### OLD BUSINESS

A question from Ms. Rutkowski arose regarding tonnage reports, whether there is a list of coordinators or if they should be submitted to the NJDEP through Mr. Dech. Mr. Dech will provide an updated list of municipal coordinators to her. Mr. Dech will write to municipalities to confirm membership; the list is probably outdated.

#### Reorganization

Presently Ms. Nerbak is Chair, Mr. Niece is Vice Chair, Mr. Tersigni is Secretary. Mr. Watters MOVED to maintain the same officers for the next year, seconded by Mr. Finke; all in favor. With no opposition and no abstentions, the motion carried.

Mr. Dech presented the meeting dates for the year: April 1, June 3, September 2, October 7, November 4, 2021 and February 3, 2022. Mr. Smith MOVED to approve the dates, seconded by Ms. Gabel; all in favor with no opposition.

#### REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Dech said SWAC will continue with web meetings until they can be opened to the public.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Panté, Clerk

**Next meeting date:  
April 1, 2021**