

June 1, 2023

The June 1, 2023 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 at the Warren County Commissioners meeting room. SWAC members present were Ellen Nerbak, Emilio Lois, Thomas Fey, Gregory Gaertner, Linda Gabel, Lynn Rutkoski, Donald Niece, Jan M. Lee and Rob Colontrelle. Excused were Frank Van Horn and Debbie Pasquarelli. Also attending was David Dech. The Chair confirmed the presence of a quorum (9).

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. Niece to accept and approve the minutes of the April 6, 2023 meeting with no additions or corrections; seconded by Mr. Fey. With Ms. Nerbak abstaining, the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Solid Waste/Recycling

Mr. Dech reported a paper shredding event will be held June 24 from 8:00 to 11:00 at the Wayne Dumont building. The event is open to Warren County residents only and will be limited to four boxes per attendee.

Mr. Dech conducted a meeting of Recycling Coordinators; speakers at the event included a representative from Recycle Coach and the NJDEP. The deadline for municipal tonnage reports has been extended from June 15 to July 3 to accommodate the towns that have not yet responded. Questioned by Ms. Rutkoski, Mr. Dech said reminder e-mails have been sent to those towns lacking complete reports. Every town has a certified recycling coordinator to ensure this reporting. There will be a follow-up meeting with Recycle Coach to share information via the app.

A round of post cards will be mailed soon to county households to urge more recycling; they will contain information about recycling requirements, identification of haulers and links directing to the various websites for more details.

REHS

Mr. McCormick was absent.

PCFA

Mr. Knittel was absent.

DEP

Jill Aspinwall has been appointed as DEP representative; she was absent.

Warren County Commissioners

Mr. Sarnoski was absent.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Dech reported he sent a letter to the County Administrator and County Counsel summarizing the questions presented at the April 6, 2023 meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Council regarding the change in implementing agency from the PCFA to a County Utilities Authority (CUA); in particular, it questioned debt and obligation should financing be needed in the future. Mr. Gaertner asked if this is an open door to future overregulation because the statute for a CUA is very encompassing extending beyond solid waste to include water and sewer. Mr. Dech said the intent is to work within the Solid Waste statutes and Solid Waste Management Plan. Mr. Niece sees this as housekeeping because the original reason for the PCFA no longer exists since the resource recovery facility has closed; the landfill still exists, so this move makes sense.

It was MOVED by Mr. Niece to recommend moving from the Pollution Control Financing Authority (PCFA) to a County Utilities Authority (CUA) and to proceed with the proposed amendment. Ms. Nerbak noted the Solid Waste Management Plan would need to be amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gabel. All in favor with no additions or corrections. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

None

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Ms. Nerbak thanked Mr. Niece for taking charge of the April 6, 2023 meeting in her absence. She wished everyone a healthy summer.

Ms. Nerbak noted the next meeting of this Council will be September 7, 2023. A fourth meeting will probably be held in October or November.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Panté, Secretary

**Next meeting date:
September 7, 2023**