

# MINUTES

## Mill Seat Landfill Citizen Advisory Board

January 17, 2023 6:00pm | Meeting called to order by Peg Steffan

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### In Attendance

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Peg Steffan	Vern Rivers
Jeff Richardson	Mike Brown
David Muoio	Al Turcotte
Paul Robinson	Erik Grimm via Zoom
Yasmin Guevara	David Cross
Michael Garland	Nicole Simonetti
Ken Kuter	Tim Rowe
Ed Fraser	Barbara Zinter, Secretary

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### Approval of Minutes

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Peg Steffan asked for any additions or corrections of the October 18, 2022 minutes. There were none. Minutes accepted as written.

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### Operations Report-Jeff Richardson

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Mr. Richardson first discussed the change in the permits. We received our permit renewal from the DEC in 2022. Those come up for renewal every ten years. This renewal we asked for an increase in our RGC or BUD materials. We max those out every year and must divert 4<sup>th</sup> quarter volumes over to High Acres. We asked that instead of 30% we could increase it to 40% and designate 10% as road-based materials such as brick, block, aggregate, construction and demolition materials we could take in for road base. That was granted. This gives us the ability to take in another 59,700 tons of RGC road base. We can use it for construction of roads and other things to save on buying gravel and so forth. So now we still have 597,000 tons of MSW but we have 30% cover material and 10% road base. The cover material does go toward the revenue sharing. We report on what is taken in every month, so much against the permit and so much RGC material. Going forward you will see those adjustments reflected at the bottom of the report for 2023. There are also 308 operating days in 2023 as opposed to 307 in 2022. This means that we will also have another 1,945 tons which equates to 835,000 tons.

Mr. Richardson reviewed the 4th quarter figures for October, November, and December and then the annual totals. Report is attached. We came in at 595,783 tons of MSW/SPW/WWTP against the 597,115 tons permitted limit. We pushed out some of the volume to High Acres. They typically end the year at about 90% of their limit.

We do not anticipate increasing our power generating capacity, but not by our choice. We have seen some movement toward the recognition of antho gas as a renewable energy so there is a small victory if that happens.

Mr. Cross addressed the Capital Projects and Equipment. We are entering year three out of ten of the monitoring of the wetland's mitigation south of Bovee Road. Our partners, Environmental Science students from RIT help with the ongoing seeding and planting. The certification report for the Churchville Park Stream Restoration was done last year so we are in year one out of ten of monitoring. Cell 6-B was completed last year. Cell 6-A is 10.4 acres and Cell 6-B is 9.5 acres. That will take us another 24 to 30 months of air space before we need to do step liner. We will look at that map again in June when we do an annual flyover and get an idea of the volumes. Mr. Muoio said they moved in there last Monday.

Mr. Richardson discussed the four restrictions that were put on the expansion by the Town. It had to be contiguous, could be greater than 120% of the 96-acre footprint, could not be higher than what was previously permitted, and had to be the same capacity.

Mr. Cross said we are within 20 to 30 feet of permitted grade right now at the top and it is still settling. It settles a few feet each year. The tarping machine should be here by the end of the month and that will be used as the daily cover.

Mr. Kuter asked about the posted signs that were put up around the mitigation area. They say no hunting, but they also say no trespassing and it was thought that the public would be able to utilize it to go in and see the wetlands and walk around without disturbing anything. Mr. Garland thought maybe someone had posted them because of complaints they were getting but that the wetlands were meant for passive recreation, and it was public access all the time. Mr. Richardson and Mr. Garland will collaborate on the signage to clarify the situation.

Mr. Richardson discussed the Safety and Compliance areas of the report. Only one issue with a twisted ankle and there were no compliance issues or violations.

There was a discussion about the tarping machine. Mr. Richardson said the tarping would save on the amount of virgin soil used to cover the landfill which will also help in the communication of the gases and liquids within the mound. The life expectancy of the tarp is two to three years. The regulations require the trash to be covered every day to keep control of the vectors, gases, and odors. The tarp is a savings over what the foaming process would have cost. It won't be used every day for every application but there is a place for it.

Mr. Richardson discussed Environmental Monitoring. The monitoring program continues to demonstrate that we are not having an impact on water quality in the surrounding areas.

Ms. Simonetti discussed Community Involvement. This year's Open house on Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup> and Scout Day on Columbus Day will be held at High Acres. There will be an Earth Day activity at Churchville Park. Volunteers will do some planting and invasive species control there. We are waiting on dates for some of the other community events. We are going to submit for our Wildlife Habitat Council recertification for Mill Seat in July. Recertification is every three years.

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## Committee Reports

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- Budget-Cindy Jessop
  - Mr. Kuter mentioned that the budget at the Town has been approved.
- Environmental Monitoring-Mark McAnany
- Safety-Mark McAnany
- Property Protection-Ken Kuter
  - Mr. Kuter mentioned that more than a couple of properties within that protection area have sold. Mr. Richardson said that over time they have had people initiate the process for the program, but they have always sold their house for what they asked for it.

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## Monroe County Update-Michael Garland

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Mr. Garland provided a handout of talking points. The Title V air permit renewal is still in process at the DEC. They have been asking for extensions. It has not created any operational impact.

Payments for the Town of Riga and the Town of Bergen have been processed. We received a \$100,000 grant from the Climate Smart Communities program in New York State to develop an organics management plan. It would be an addendum to the Solid Waste Management Plan but for organic waste. We recognize at the County level that we have to plan for it and we want to be thoughtful in developing policy and in recommending any changes with in the County. The plan will probably not be ready to be presented until next year. We have some capital improvements going on at the Monroe County Recycling Center and the Resource Recovery Facility. Ms. Guevara sent out links to some videos. One is on how to use our new Alexa feature that allows you to ask Alexa to open "Monroe County Recycling" and get your recycling questions answered easier.

Ms. Guevara talked about the Education and Outreach events. She also mentioned that Mr. Garland was the recipient of the 2022 NYS Association for Reduce, Reuse and Recycling's Public Sector Recycling Leadership Award. Mr. Garland thought it was a testament to the partnership with Waste Management and a reflection of the hard work and longstanding collaboration between the County and Waste Management, particularly working closely with Mr. Richardson and his team.

Ms. Guevara discussed the Carpet EPR Bill that Governor Hochul signed. After 2026, any producer or company that wants to sell carpet in New York State has to be part of a group that collects carpets and then they can be recycled as much as possible instead of going into landfills.

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## Old Business

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None

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## New Business

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None

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## Community Comments

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Mr. Kuter has visited the Monroe County Treasurers webpage and followed some links which brought him to the webpage for Environmental Services. He found it to be very user friendly with a lot of information, especially pertaining to Mill Seat. He also wanted to discuss the email everyone received from Legislator Brew regarding the findings of the Monroe County Climate Advisory Committee. Mr. Garland provided some insight on the Climate Action Plan and the role Mill Seat may have in it but will follow up with Legislator Brew as well. As the County advances its Climate Action Plan, it will be in a very impartial, technical manner that is consistent with the standards.

Mr. Kuter also commented on the changes in electronics recycling in New York State. It was agreed that it was nice that it was free now.

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## Adjournment

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Peg Steffan adjourned the meeting at 7:02pm

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## Next Meetings

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Tuesday, April 18, 2023 6pm

Tuesday, July 18, 2023 6pm

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 6pm

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 6pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara J. Zinter

Citizen's Advisory Board Secretary