

## **A Report of the Operations and Planning Committee Meeting July 13, 2022**

A meeting of the Operations and Planning Committee was held on Wednesday, July 13, 2022, at 9:00 A.M. at the Authority's Administrative Office in Conway, South Carolina. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, notices setting forth the date, time, and place of the meeting were mailed to the news media.

Present were Committee Chairman Amos Berry, Committee Member Michael Hughes, and Committee Member Robert Kemp.

The following were also in attendance: Board Member Carl Schwartzkopf, Danny Knight, Executive Director, Ed Marr, Assistant Executive Director, Jan Bitting, Director, Esther Murphy, Director, Mike Bessant, Director, Stephanie Todd, Assistant Director, staff members Monica Collier, Katherine Bell, Wayne Martin, Rodney Cannon, Richie Stetter and Cindy Keith. There were no members of the public or media in attendance.

Mr. Berry called the meeting to order and Mr. Hughes rendered the invocation. Mr. Kemp led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Mr. Berry asked for a Motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Mr. Hughes moved to approve the Agenda. There was second by Mr. Kemp and the Motion was carried.**

### **FY23 Budgeted Equipment Purchase and Funding**

Mr. Berry asked Mr. Bessant to begin the meeting by explaining the first item on the Agenda, FY23 Budgeted Equipment Purchases and Funding. Mr. Bessant stated all of the equipment discussed was included in the FY23 SWA budget. He explained equipment included in the capital budget was often not replaced in the year in which it's budgeted and many pieces of equipment have been carried over several years after they were due to be replaced. He stated bids received for the equipment discussed were higher than the amount budgeted for those items. Mr. Bessant explained staff was asking for approval to use funds designated in FY23 for the trommel screen which was not going to be replaced this fiscal year. Mr. Kemp asked if Mr. Bessant was referring to the \$600,000 designated for the trommel screen in the FY23 capital budget. Mr. Bessant replied affirmatively but said only \$150,000 of the \$600,000 was needed. Mr. Hughes asked if the trommel screen would eventually need to be replaced. Mr. Bessant explained it would be included in next year's budget, but would probably not need to be replaced next year. He stated staff was seeking approval to use funds allocated for the trommel screen for the following items:

**Finger Screen** - Mr. Bessant explained that staff wanted to purchase a finger screen for the SW6 building. He said a finger screen is better suited for the environment at SW6 than the

existing trommel screen. He stated the rubber belts on the trommel screen are constantly damaged by dirt, steel, and concrete. Mr. Bessant explained the finger screen is made of metal and is used in most C&D facilities. He said staff wanted a finger screen when the facility was built, but the funds were not available. Mr. Bessant said the bid for the finger screen is \$453,858 and will cost approximately \$135,000 to install bringing the total to \$588,858. He stated there is \$500,000 in the FY23 budget for the finger screen, so an additional \$100,000 is needed since the installation cost was estimated. Mr. Bessant explained staff wanted to take \$100,000 from the amount budgeted for the trommel screen to fund the purchase of the finger screen. Mr. Hughes asked if staff was confident funds would be available to replace the trommel screen next year. Ms. Bitting said additional funds were transferred into the equipment replacement fund at the end of the fiscal year and she was confident the funds would be available. Mr. Bessant said it may be several years before the trommel screen would be replaced. Mr. Bessant said the SWA has two trommel screens, one at SW6 and one in the compost area. He said the trommel screen currently at SW6 will be relocated to the root mat area since the volume of material processed there was much less. Mr. Bessant said the trommel screen at SW6 processes approximately 8 or 9 tons per hour, but the finger screen could process up to 25 tons per hour and would enable the facility to process more material and allow for future growth. Mr. Kemp asked if it would ever be necessary to replace the trommel screen since the finger screen was more efficient. Mr. Bessant explained the trommel screen will be moved to the root mat area and used as a backup. Mr. Kemp asked if it would be beneficial to take the funds needed from the contingency fund rather than divert money from the amount budgeted for the trommel screen. Ms. Bitting replied that she and Mr. Bessant discussed it and decided that since the trommel screen was not going to be replaced this fiscal year and she felt confident the funds would be available next year, it was preferable not to take the money from the contingency fund. She explained not using the contingency fund was a precautionary measure since the fiscal year just began and there may be a larger expense later in the year. Mr. Hughes stated he thought it was best not to take the money from the contingency fund. Mr. Kemp expressed his concern regarding using the money from the trommel screen budget, but said if staff thought it was best he was in agreement. Mr. Knight explained the capital budget is a five year budget and the trommel screen replacement date has probably been pushed forward at least four years. He said since the SW6 facility was being redesigned, it would be beneficial to install the finger screen now rather than designing around a trommel screen that does not work efficiently. Mr. Knight explained the \$1,000,000 will remain in the contingency fund and the Board must still approve any transfer made from it. Mr. Bessant remarked once it's moved the trommel screen would run much less than it currently does at the SW6 building and may last another five or six years.

**Mr. Hughes moved to recommend to the full Board the use \$100,000 from the FY23 budgeted trommel screen equipment #390 in order for the finger screen to be fully**

**funded and to give SWA staff approval to move forward. There was a second by Mr. Kemp and the Motion was carried.**

**MRF Overhead Shelter** – Mr. Bessant explained a shelter was needed over the glass crusher at the MRF. He said when rainwater falls into the glass crusher, the glass turns pasty and cannot be ground. Mr. Bessant stated the FY22 budget for the shelter was not enough so it was increased to \$200,000 in FY23. Mr. Bessant remarked prices have increased more than anticipated and an additional \$31,991 was needed to complete the project. He said the builder has agreed to hold the price until the end of the month. Mr. Hughes asked what the total price of the project would be. Mr. Bessant responded the project would cost \$231,991. He explained he was asking for approval to use \$31,991 from the amount budgeted for the trommel screen for the shelter purchase. Mr. Hughes asked if staff already had a bid. Mr. Bessant replied that Homewood Metal submitted a bid and the SWA worked with them in the past. He said Homewood Metal constructed a building at The Store as well as the electronics building at the MRF and the SWA has a good relationship with them.

**Mr. Kemp moved to recommend to the full Board the use of \$31,991 from the FY23 amount budgeted for the trommel screen #390 in order for the MRF Overhead Shelter to be fully funded and to give SWA staff approval to move forward. There was a second by Mr. Hughes and the Motion was carried.**

**Front Load Cardboard Containers** – Mr. Bessant remarked there was a net of 55 new cardboard containers installed last fiscal year. Mr. Cannon explained containers were purchased for approximately \$800 each over the last seven or eight years. Mr. Bessant said the containers now cost approximately \$1881 each. He stated the FY23 budget included \$43,200 for 27 containers, but the current replacement cost is \$54,489.96. Mr. Bessant said the SWA has approximately 20 containers that can be repaired, but expressed concern about accommodating the volume of new customers. He stated staff was seeking an additional \$11,289.96 for the purchase of 27 new containers from the funds allocated for the trommel screen. Mr. Bessant remarked staff could purchase fewer containers, but would probably have to ask the Board for additional funds for more containers later in the year. Mr. Knight said the containers facilitate using less landfill space by encouraging cardboard recycling.

**Mr. Kemp moved to recommend to the full Board the use \$11,289.96 from the FY23 amount budgeted for the trommel screen #390 to fund the purchase of the front load cardboard containers and give SWA staff approval to move forward. There was a second by Mr. Hughes and the Motion carried.**

**Wheel Loader** – Mr. Bessant stated the bid for the wheel loader was \$3,454.72 higher than the FY23 budget of \$325,000. He explained staff wanted to allocate the additional funds needed from the amount budgeted for the trommel screen.

**Mr. Hughes moved to recommend to the full Board the use \$3,454.72 from the FY23 budgeted trommel screen #390 in order for the purchase to be fully funded and to give SWA staff approval to move forward. There was a second by Mr. Kemp and the Motion carried.**

### **Green Sea Property Discussion**

Ms. Todd said the Lessee of the Green Sea property, Squires Brothers Farms, contacted her on July 5, 2022 regarding nuisance animals destroying their crops. She stated they were inquiring about obtaining a 30 day depredation permit through the SC Department of Natural Resources to control nuisance animals. Mr. Bessant explained that because SWA policy states no hunting was allowed on SWA property, the Board's permission to proceed was required. Mr. Knight said the SWA purchased the property as a storm debris site. He stated the SWA used to maintain the land, but previously sought Board approval to lease it so the SWA would not have to continue to mow it. Mr. Knight said staff wants to allow Squires Brothers Farms to protect what they have planted as long as they have DNR's permission. Mr. Bessant stated Squires Brothers Farms pays a lease payment to the SWA. He said the agreement states that in the event of a destructive storm or hurricane, the SWA would utilize the property for storm debris. Mr. Hughes asked how much the lease was. Ms. Todd responded the lease was approximately \$11,000 annually. Mr. Bessant said the land leased for slightly more than \$100 per farmable acre. He stated the property consists of over 200 acres, but it was not all farmable land.

**Mr. Hughes moved to recommend to the full Board to allow Squires Brothers Farms to contact SC Department of Natural Resources to obtain a 30 day depredation permit. There was a second by Mr. Kemp and the Motion carried.**

### **Roundtable Discussion**

Mr. Kemp asked for an update of the status of the Solid Waste Management Plan. Mr. Bessant replied the next meeting was scheduled for 9:00 A.M. on July 28, 2022 at the SWA.

Mr. Bessant stated the SWA's engineering firm is preparing a landfill gas analysis in order to make recommendations on how to proceed once Santee Cooper's contract expires in December 2022.

Mr. Bessant said DHEC had the permit for the Piggyback Phase 3 construction, but they have a backlog, so it may take some time to issue. He stated the SWA does not need the permit until 2038-2040, so it was not urgent. Mr. Bessant said DHEC will hold a public hearing once the

permitting process begins. Mr. Bessant also told the Committee that a teleconference with DHEC was scheduled for July 21, 2022 regarding electronic waste disposal.

Ms. Bitting said the Solid Waste Characterization study begins in August.

Mr. Hughes asked if there had been any complaints about landfill odor lately. Mr. Bessant said it had been a long time since there had been a complaint. He explained odor was constantly monitored and the flares on the C&D hill helped resolve most of the issue.

Mr. Hughes said the litter on Highway 90 seems to have gotten worse. Mr. Bessant said the SWA was still picking up litter regularly when labor was available. He stated a fine was issued if a truck arrives at the landfill and trash was seen on top of the truck. Mr. Kemp asked why inmates no longer pick up trash. Mr. Knight replied he had called the sheriff who explained the sentenced inmates are responsible for maintenance of J. Reuben Long's grounds and building and there was no one available to pick up litter.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:46 A.M.