

**NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING
Tuesday, November 11, 2025, 6:30PM – via ZOOM and
Lyndon Public Safety Building, 316 Main Street, Lyndonville, VT 05851**

The Board meeting was called to order @ 6:47 p.m. by Walter McNeil, Board Vice Chair

Present: Paulette Routhier (Bloomfield, Brunswick, Maidstone); Bruce Rumball (Brighton); Walter McNeil (Danville); Irene Dagesse (Derby); Kirwin Flanders (East Haven); Ken Johnston (Greensboro); Darrell Martin (Holland); Steve Gray (Lyndon); Jan Clausing (Newark); Gina Vigneault (Norton); Amber Lowell (Peacham); Gene Perkins (Ryegate); Jack Smith (Sheffield & Wheelock); Jake Thompson (Topsham); Barb Nolan (UTG); Richard Stodola (Waterford); Jacques Couture (Westfield); Miriam Simonds (Westmore); William Douglas (Barnet).

Absent: Albany, Brownington, Cabot, Charleston, Concord, Corinth, Danville, Glover, Granby, Groton, Guildhall, Irasburg, Jay, Kirby, Lunenburg, Maidstone, Marshfield, Morgan, Newbury, Newport Town, Stannard, Sutton, Troy, Victory.

Staff present- Christian Thompson, Executive Director

Visitors –Shannon Choquette, minutes clerk. Paul Hayes, Caledonian Record

Updates to Agenda – Composting (other business).

Approval of Minutes – Vote to approve of minutes from October 14, 2025, as submitted. Motion 2nd. Motion approved.

SWIP Approval – Final board approval is required for final submission of SWIP to ANR. As an update to hauler exemption, it is the position of the District that we do not want to force smaller haulers to take on additional burden of providing recycling services with trash, which would likely result in smaller haulers leaving the business, a reduction in haulers for residents to choose from, and likely price increases from reduced competition in the District. The District submitted a Hauler Exemption Request to ANR and received a preliminary approval with added stipulations, including: updating District website with hauler list detailing services provided by the hauler, continue annual tracking of diversion rate (how much recycling is diverted from waste stream currently at 48%, ANR would like to see that gradually increase over time), and conduct outreach to all haulers over the next few years to encourage them to offer recycling services to customers. District held two public comment periods with no comments submitted.

Vote to submit final SWIP application to ANR. Motion 2nd.

The SWIP being considered tonight for the District - Does it cover the multiple facilities located in the towns so that all towns in the District will have a SWIP?

- Yes.

With the hauler exemption, what are they being exempted from?

- They are being exempted from providing recycling services. This is a benefit for smaller haulers who do not have additional trucks and the labor required to offer this service. For Westmore, haulers have been willing to offer recycling services in their conversations about contracting services for the municipality.

Motion approved.

Skid-steer payment- This would be the 2nd of 3 payments to Passumpsic Bank. Payment is \$17,380.08.

Motion to approve payment of \$17,308.08. Motion 2nd. Motion approved.

Annual renewal of Line of Credit w/ Passumpsic Bank- These funds are a line of credit for an emergency. Current line of credit is 5.03% interest and will expire in January.

Motion to renew annual line of credit with Passumpsic Bank for \$40,000 at 5.07% -. Motion 2nd. Motion approved.

Financial and Operations Update

Programs –

1. Chris asked for suggestions for monthly notes.
2. Chris provided the final copy of the tire disposal policy for non-profits in the notes.
3. Final household hazardous waste shipment of the year recently occurred.
4. The District is back up and running with foam processing and has processed about 60% of the backlog of material. The electrician updated the surge protection on the main facility electrical panel. Employees were retrained on the machine and the District will be requesting attendants in member-town facilities to look over the foam before accepting it and sending it to the District. The company which repaired the machine removed a bunch of foreign items (metal and plastic non-foam items) which were in the machine. The machine had an electrical issue which was covered by insurance.
5. Chris requested that people check in with their facilities and let him know what backlog of foam they have. The District may need to phase in foam collection from towns, likely in December.
6. The District was approached about accepting agricultural film. There is an end market for the material. We experimented with baling the material in the baler last year and it is capable of doing so. Now we need to consider how much capacity we have to commit to adding another processing of material. With the way that it is baled, other products need to be pushed behind it, so this needs to happen thoughtfully. There is a grant that CT River Watershed Alliance has which would enable the Alliance to pay the District for this processing. We want to accommodate them but not have this be a financial burden nor a staff burden, therefore starting two days a month seems feasible. The clean and dry ag film will be delivered directly to Lyndon by someone who is stockpiling the material until

they have 2-3 bales of material to process at once. This person will also be ensuring farmers provide clean, dry material.

Financial –

1. Held first public meeting for budget, the next will be before the December meeting. At the December meeting the budget will be voted upon.
2. Revenues and expenses are both a little higher than expected for the year. Currently there is a surplus of \$34,000. Last month, there was an unexpected forklift repair and preventative maintenance which included replacement of worn hoses and chains.
3. Prices for commodities are trending lower. This is a long-term common theme in the region. The District nearly had to pay for mixed paper disposal with the last shipment to PA.
4. Currently the District has a somewhat pricey IT contract for assistance with computers. This runs about \$500 per month plus per call basis. After discussions with a local vendor, the District is looking to transition away from the current IT contract in early 2026 and getting service locally. Met with the vendor last week and this will allow significant cost savings to District with no impact on services provided.
5. Some staymat was delivered and we filled into the worst of the holes in the parking lot. More will be added next week if time allows.
6. The overhead door was looked at and is not ready for replacement. It is aging and will need to be addressed within 3-5 years.
7. One of the trucks that the District owns needed work on the air brake system. The mechanic noted there is condensation building up in the air brake system at an unusually fast rate. A new air dryer was added.

Other Business –

- Composting- A Supervisor noted that The Town of Lyndon gets billed for quite a few totes of compost. In 2023, the town of Lyndon paid for 623 totes. In 2024, there were 459 totes. This year, it is 364 through September. Could there be a policy developed for people who use the service at the Lyndon facility to pay a small fee? Lyndon currently pays 75% of the fee of composting totes generated at the Lyndon facility, as some residents who use the facility are not from Lyndon.
 - One supervisor feels that composting is something the state wants everyone to do. If recycling is not an expense to the people, composting should also not be an expense to the people. A suggestion was made that charging for compost may encourage people to dispose of it in the trash, and it would be difficult to set fees for larger volumes of material. It was decided that additional discussion could occur after the compost tote numbers are finalized at the end of the year.
- Tires - Back in October, NEKCA had a collection event for decent used tires for people who have limited funds for purchasing tires. One supervisor brought 4 snow tires which were useable. At the event they disposed of unusable, unwanted tires for \$5 per tire.

Should we consider changing how much the tire fee is? The District is currently breaking even financially on tire collection/disposal, but there are other expenses associated with scrap tire management at the facility. Chris can consider a proposal for a new fee structure for tire disposal in early 2026.

Motion to adjourn, 2nd, approved @ 7:52pm.
Respectfully submitted, Shannon Choquette