



1 **RSWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
2 **Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
3 **Tuesday, September 26, 2023**  
4

5 A regular meeting of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority (RSWA) Board of Directors was held  
6 on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.  
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8 **Board Members Present:** Mike Gaffney, Jeff Richardson, Sam Sanders, Brian Pinkston, Jim  
9 Andrews, Stacey Smalls, Lance Stewart.  
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11 **Board Members Absent:** None.  
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13 **Rivanna Staff Present:** Bill Mawyer, Phil McKalips, Lonnie Wood, Jennifer Whitaker,  
14 Deborah Anama, Jacob Woodson, Betsy Nemeth.  
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16 **Attorney(s) Present:** Valerie Long.  
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18 ***1. CALL TO ORDER***

19 Mr. Gaffney convened the September 26, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the  
20 Rivanna Solid Waste Authority at 2:00 p.m.  
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22 ***2. STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR***

23 Mr. Gaffney read the following statement aloud:  
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25 “This is Mike Gaffney, Chair of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority.  
26

27 “I would like to call the September 26, 2023 meeting of the Board of Directors to order.  
28

29 “This virtual meeting today is being held pursuant to and in compliance with Virginia Code 2.2-  
30 3708.3. The opportunities for the public to access and participate in the electronic meeting are  
31 posted on the Rivanna Authority’s website. Participation will include the opportunity to comment  
32 on those matters not listed for public hearing on the agenda. All Board members are participating  
33 electronically. All Board members will identify themselves and state their physical location via  
34 electronic means during the roll call, which we will hold next.”  
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36 Ms. Anama called the roll.  
37

38 Mr. Richardson stated that he was located at the County Administration Building in downtown  
39 Charlottesville.  
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41 Mr. Pinkston stated that he was located at 575 Alderman Road in Charlottesville.  
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43 Mr. Gaffney stated that he was at 3180 Dundee Road, Earlysville, Virginia.  
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45 Mr. Stewart stated that he was at the County Office Building located at 401 McIntire Road.  
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47 Mr. Smalls stated that he was located at 305 4th Street Northwest in Charlottesville, Virginia.

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Mr. Sanders stated that he was located in the City Hall Building, City of Charlottesville, 605 East Main Street.

Mr. Andrews stated that he was at 2055 Spoon Hill Farm in Charlottesville.

### **3. AGENDA APPROVAL**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**Mr. Andrews moved that the Board approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sanders and passed unanimously (7-0).**

### **4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING ON JULY 25, 2023**

There were no amendments to the minutes.

**Mr. Pinkston moved that the Board approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sanders and passed unanimously (7-0).**

### **5. ELECTION OF SECRETARY-TREASURER**

*Mr. Gaffney is currently the Chair and Mr. Richardson is the Vice Chair. The position of Secretary-Treasurer has been vacant since the departure of Mr. Rogers on July 31, 2023.*

*A motion, second and vote would be in order to elect a new Secretary-Treasurer effective immediately for the term ending on April 30, 2024.*

**Mr. Pinkston moved to nominate Board Member Sam Sanders to the position of Secretary-Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Richardson and passed unanimously (7-0).**

### **6. RECOGNITION**

Mr. Gaffney presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Board Member, Mr. Stacey Smalls.

#### ***Resolution of Appreciation for Mr. Stacey Smalls***

**WHEREAS**, *Mr. Smalls has served as a member of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority Board of Directors since January 2022; and*

**WHEREAS**, *over that same period Mr. Smalls has demonstrated leadership in solid waste and recycling services and has been a valuable member of the Board of Directors and a resource to the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority; and*

**WHEREAS**, *Mr. Smalls' understanding of the solid waste and recycling operations of the City of Charlottesville and the Solid Waste Authority has supported a strategic decision-making process that provided benefits to the customers served by the City of Charlottesville as well as the community as a whole. During Mr. Smalls' tenure, major initiatives and projects were completed for the Authority including:*

- *a 5-year Strategic Plan*
- *implementation of a vegetative buffer management program at the Ivy Material Utilization Center*
- *construction of the Southern Albemarle Convenience Center for collection of recyclable materials and household refuse*

94 - and planning for a new recyclable materials Baling Facility  
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96 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority Board  
97 of Directors recognize, thank, and commend Mr. Smalls for his distinguished service, efforts, and  
98 achievements as a member of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority, and present this Resolution as a  
99 token of esteem with best wishes in his future endeavors.  
100

101 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution be entered upon both the permanent  
102 Minutes of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority.  
103

104 **Mr. Andrews moved to adopt the Resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pinkston and**  
105 **passed unanimously (7-0).**  
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## 107 **7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

108 Mr. Mawyer stated that the Ivy MUC continued to receive a lot of refuse, MSW and CDD, that  
109 came through for transfer to another landfill in 2023. He stated that each year, from 2019 through  
110 2023, they have had an increasing amount of refuse for various reasons. He noted that the Board  
111 lowered the tipping fee in 2019, from \$66 per ton to \$52 per ton. He stated that was a purposeful  
112 action to increase the tonnage through the new transfer station. He stated the only challenge was that  
113 on certain Mondays, they were now receiving over 325 tons per day, which was getting closer to  
114 their permit allowance of 450 tons per day.  
115

116 Mr. Mawyer stated they planned to contact some of the large commercial haulers to see if they can  
117 work with them on a peak shaving approach to reduce the deliveries on Mondays and increase  
118 deliveries on other days. He stated they will look at how they can address the issue and whether that  
119 would mean different or longer operating days and hours at the landfill.  
120

121 Mr. Mawyer stated they learned that GFL at Zion Crossroads had raised its fees, and some of the  
122 larger commercial haulers were now bringing more tonnage to Ivy. He stated there had been a large  
123 renovation at the Omni Hotel which generated some MSW/CDD products. He stated that they will  
124 complete another market survey, and may recommend an increase in the tipping fees for July of  
125 next year.  
126

127 Mr. Mawyer stated they planned to consider an increase in tip fees in the proposed FY 25 budget to  
128 be reviewed with the Board in the spring. He stated they planned to get some assistance from one of  
129 their consultants to assess what may be happening in the market and what the future could be of  
130 transfer operations at Ivy. He stated they would assess trends over time, and project those factors  
131 into the future. He stated that they will come up with alternatives and cost estimates to expand the  
132 transfer operation in the future.  
133

134 Mr. Gaffney asked what GFL had raised the tipping fee to at Zion Crossing.  
135

136 Mr. Mawyer stated that GFL was not open to the public, but had accounts with different vendors.  
137 He stated he was not aware of the charges associated with these vendors, but believed the charges  
138 were around \$64 per ton, which made it encouraging for trucks working in the western area of the  
139 county to bring their loads to Ivy and pay \$54 per ton.  
140

141 Mr. Gaffney asked whether or not the trucks were lined up when they opened on Mondays. He  
142 asked if this was one of the reasons for the significant increase in traffic on Mondays.  
143

144 Mr. McKalips stated that they always had a few trucks lined up. He noted the early birds want to get  
145 in, get dumped, and get moving. He stated it was not unusual for trucks to be in line on Monday  
146 mornings.

147  
148 Mr. Andrews stated that he wanted to know the consequences of exceeding the permit limit with  
149 respect to DEQ. He asked how soon planning might need to start.

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151 Mr. Mawyer stated that if they had a day or two in the year that they exceeded the 450 ton per day  
152 permit limit, there would be no consequence. He stated if they were exceeding the permit limit  
153 multiple days per month or week, then DEQ would expect them to address the issue with more  
154 infrastructure or a different plan. He stated that it would be a violation of their permit. He stated he  
155 assumed they would be fined for exceeding their permit limitation.

156  
157 Mr. McKalips stated that they were willing to work with this on a limited basis and opportunity. He  
158 stated they were aware of people operating within their permit limitations due to social impacts.

159  
160 Mr. Mawyer stated that if they have any success with the commercial haulers and peak shaving  
161 reductions on Mondays, they would see what additional steps may be necessary to remain below the  
162 permit limits. He stated that if they could reduce those peaks, then they could assess a timeline of  
163 when they were going to need more capacity. He stated that when they looked at five years of data,  
164 it was clear that they were on a steady incline, and additional facilities would be required in the  
165 future.

166  
167 Mr. Richardson asked if any of the spike in disposals at the MUC was associated with the work that  
168 was going on at the UVA grounds.

169  
170 Mr. McKalips stated that they were certain that some of the material was being received from UVA  
171 contractors. He stated there was one large project where the demolition was being done by Cox in  
172 Richmond, but Cox actually owned disposal facilities. He stated Cox was hauling the material back  
173 to Richmond. He stated they were not seeing tractor-trailer loads come from specific UVA projects.  
174 He stated it was quite possible that they were getting loads from the normal roll-off hauler  
175 companies, but they were not seeing any dramatic increase.

176  
177 Mr. Stewart stated that he and Mr. Mawyer had a quick email exchange in the morning about the  
178 concept of a study that was recommended. He stated it would be appropriate for Rivanna and  
179 County staff to work together to scope it out. He stated Mr. Mawyer proposed funding it with the  
180 FY23 year-end balance primarily from the new clean-fill program expansion. He stated that they did  
181 not know the dollar figures yet. He stated that the use of these carryover funds was appropriate. He  
182 asked whether approval from the Board was required for initiating the contract.

183  
184 Mr. Mawyer stated that for procurement, it depended on the cost of the contract. He stated he had  
185 authority up to \$200,000 to award contracts, and over that amount, they were required to come to  
186 the Board. He stated they were not expecting the study to be nearly that expensive. He stated that he  
187 and Mr. McKalips had a philosophical discussion this morning about the growing demand in their  
188 County, state, and country. He stated landfill expansion was becoming increasingly difficult, and  
189 not many communities were willing to support new landfills.

190  
191 Mr. Mawyer stated he did not know specifically what was happening to them, but the principle  
192 remained true that the growth of population, recycling, and MSW/CDD products were increasing.  
193 He stated they shipped refuse to Henrico County, which was chosen by their low bid trucking

194 vendor. He stated the vendor decided where to take the refuse for transfer operations. He stated the  
195 vendor decided that Henrico was more appropriate than going to the landfill in Amelia County, our  
196 prior disposal locatoin. He stated that landfill capacity was finite, and it was becoming increasingly  
197 difficult to get these facilities approved through DEQ and local communities.  
198

199 Mr. Pinkston asked what the aim of the study was.  
200

201 Mr. Mawyer stated that they would consider their disposal data as well as future market trends and  
202 assess alternatives for those trends in the future. He stated they would have to address a growing  
203 tonnage, and alternatives which could include additional infrastructure, for example another  
204 building at Ivy. He stated they would review appropriate market disposal rates in the future.  
205

206 Mr. Pinkston asked what the absolute limit of the landfill was.  
207

208 Mr. Mawyer stated that one of their most limiting factors was how quickly they can get the trailer  
209 loads of refuse out of the transfer station. He stated they pushed the refuse through a hole in the  
210 transfer floor into trucks, and when the trucks were full, they pulled them out and put another trailer  
211 in. He stated they shipped 10 to 12 trailer loads a day, so each one took a certain amount of time  
212 within the same operating hours. He stated that DEQ does not allow them to leave refuse on the  
213 floor overnight; they want it all in the trucks and gone by the end of the day. He stated that it was a  
214 physical operational limitation factor. He stated if they were to close at eight o'clock instead of four,  
215 they could get more trailers in and out. He stated it may be more affordable to increase operating  
216 days, hours and staff than to build more infrastructure.  
217

218 Mr. Andrews stated that in addition to managing the load by different days, there might be a  
219 possibility to address this issue by looking for ways to separate and divert the loads. He stated that  
220 this would require the loads to be managed in terms of their content.  
221

222 Mr. Mawyer stated they could look into that. He stated that Van der Linde Recycling had a CDD  
223 separating facility at Zion Crossroads where they processed construction debris.  
224

225 Mr. Mawyer stated that he was not certain why haulers brought CDDs to Ivy, other than the cost  
226 and logistics associated with working in the western part of the County. It was a longer distance to  
227 haul refuse to Zion Crossroads.  
228

229 Mr. McKalips stated that van der Linde Recycling was charging \$55 a ton, and we were charging  
230 \$54. He stated if haulers were closer to Ivy, there were trucking and disposal savings.  
231

232 Mr. Smalls stated that since it was both development and construction waste, they could look at how  
233 they can target some of the main contributors. He stated if they were pro-development given their  
234 relationship with the County and the City, they want to support development. He stated it would  
235 result in an increase in construction waste going to the landfill. He stated that they needed to study  
236 how they can address this issue.  
237

238 Mr. Mawyer stated that they looked at the tonnage they were getting now, the split between MSW  
239 and CDD, and both seemed to be growing in a parallel way. He stated it was not just one that had  
240 increased significantly than the other. Both types of refuse were growing at the same rate. He  
241 indicated they would check on Mondays if the CDD haulers were bringing all of the refuse collected  
242 over the weekend. He stated that was some of the discussions they hoped to have with the larger  
243 commercial haulers. He stated they did not necessarily know the smaller hauling operations, but

244 they could hand-out some flyers and encourage them to come a different day. He stated that one  
245 idea would be for another day of the weeks to be a reduced fee day, so they could reduce the  
246 Monday peaks. He stated these were the type of things they would explore with the consultant, with  
247 the Board, and with the County. He stated if they wanted to change the MSW/CDD charges, they  
248 started with the County Board of Supervisors to do that.

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250 Mr. Mawyer stated that they were fortunate to invite Virginia Senator Creigh Deeds and his  
251 legislative director, Tracy Eppert, to visit their facility last month. He stated they provided a  
252 presentation in the conference room, and then gave them a windshield tour of South Rivanna Water  
253 Treatment Plant, Observatory Water Treatment Plant, and the Ivy MUC. He stated that Amy Laufer,  
254 a Delegate candidate, requested a tour of Rivanna facilities, and they gave her a similar one.

255  
256 Mr. Mawyer stated that VRSA was the Virginia Risk Sharing Association, which provided  
257 insurance liability services. He explained that each year they offered grants for safety devices. He  
258 stated that this year, for solid waste, they received \$2,000 to purchase heated winter coats for staff.  
259 He stated they purchased 20 battery-operated jackets. He stated for their strategic plan priority of  
260 workforce development, they had a team building event last month called “Breakfast on the Beach”.  
261 He stated that they encouraged staff to sit with and talk to other staff members that they did not  
262 normally see. He stated that their water operators and their wastewater operators, while they sound  
263 the same, were in totally different facilities. He stated it was a good time for staff to share  
264 experiences, keep morale high, and help their team.

265  
266 Mr. Mawyer stated that they participated in the United Way Day of Caring. He stated that S&P  
267 Global worked with staff from RSWA and RWSA out at the Ivy MUC. He stated that was where  
268 they stored oyster shells collected in the McIntire Recycling Center. He explained businesses and  
269 individuals can bring oyster shells to McIntire where they were transported to Ivy to dry out and  
270 cure. He stated that for the Day of Caring event, they bagged over 300 bags of shells. He stated that  
271 by June of next year, they will take the bagged shells to the VCU Rice Center, which was east of  
272 Williamsburg.

273  
274 Mr. Mawyer stated that VCU had a program where they reseeded the oyster shells and put them  
275 back into the Chesapeake Bay. He stated the oysters were very efficient at filtering water and taking  
276 out pollutants. Oysters filter billions of gallons of water annually, and they are a big benefit to the  
277 environment. He stated they had an e-waste special collection event on September 16. He stated  
278 they paid a vendor to take those products and recycle them. He stated that last weekend, they had  
279 household hazardous waste collection at Ivy. He stated this coming weekend, they had a disposal  
280 event for mattresses and household appliances. He stated that on October 14, they would have tire  
281 collection. He stated these were all programs that the City and the County sponsored. Staff noted  
282 what customers brought and allocated the charges for those to the City and the County accordingly.

283  
284 Mr. Gaffney stated that he wanted to know if there was any new information about the baling  
285 facility.

286  
287 Mr. Mawyer stated that the baling facility was under design. They expect to start construction next  
288 summer. He stated that they received less than positive feedback from U.S. EPA. He stated they had  
289 applied for a \$4 million grant as a part of the solid waste infrastructure recycling program, but  
290 unfortunately, they were not selected for that grant. He stated only one community in Virginia was  
291 chosen. He stated they would continue to look for grants, but this particular application was  
292 unsuccessful. He stated that a helicopter flew over Ivy MUC, spreading herbicide on the buffer  
293 management areas to the west and east. He stated this was part of their forestry management

294 program where they harvest trees, eliminate invasive species and underbrush, then replant pines in  
295 the spring. He stated that they had coordinated this with the Virginia Department of Forestry, and it  
296 was a standard program they provided to all communities interested in such programs.  
297

298 Mr. Mawyer stated that they were planning the calendar for next year. He stated that this year, as  
299 they had now, they had two virtual meetings. He proposed that next year, they have no virtual  
300 meetings. He stated he had received feedback from a couple Board members about how they  
301 enjoyed networking with other Board members at the in-person meetings. He stated if the Board had  
302 any feedback, he would be glad to hear it as they prepared the schedule. He stated they will bring  
303 the schedule to the Board at the next meeting in November.  
304

305 Mr. Mawyer stated that one item that came up during their meeting was the issue of trash and litter  
306 along Dick Woods Road. He stated they were looking into ways to improve their education  
307 component by placing signs at their scale house to remind people to secure their loads and  
308 distributing flyers and other materials related to this topic. He stated that they were considering  
309 whether they could implement some sort of fee if they felt people were violating the County  
310 ordinance about securing their loads. He stated he asked counsel to look into this possibility. He  
311 stated their staff members went out to pick up trash along the road on a daily or weekly basis  
312 depending on the volume of trash. He stated that they were aware of the issue and tried to address it  
313 as best they can. He stated that it was a County ordinance about people securing their loads. He  
314 stated that they will do the best they can and coordinate with the County on what measures they can  
315 take to help resolve the problem.  
316

317 Mr. Andrews stated that he encouraged a two-pronged approach: recognizing that there was an  
318 ordinance about it, and putting in an extra fee would persuade people to make sure their loads were  
319 secured and covered.  
320

## 321 **8. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

322 There was no one wishing to speak.  
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## 324 **7. RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENT**

325 There was no response to public comment.  
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## 327 **8. CONSENT AGENDA**

328 *a. Staff Report on Finance*  
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330 *b. Staff Report on Ivy Material Utilization Center/Recycling Operations Update*  
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332 *c. Staff Report on Administration and Communications*  
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334 **Mr. Sanders moved that the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion**  
335 **was seconded by Mr. Andrews and passed unanimously (7-0).**  
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337 Mr. Mawyer stated that item 9C on the consent agenda was a new report that they added. He stated  
338 it was a staff report from their newly established division, the Administration and Communications  
339 Division. He stated it was included in their standard list of documents prepared by Division Director  
340 Betsy Nemeth and her team.  
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## 342 **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

343 There was no other business.

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**10. OTHER ITEMS FROM BOARD/STAFF NOT ON AGENDA**

There were no other items.

**11. CLOSED MEETING**

There was no reason for a closed meeting.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

At 2:41 p.m., Mr. Pinkston moved to adjourn the meeting of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority. Mr. Sanders seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (7-0).

Respectfully submitted,



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**Mr. Sam Sanders**  
**Secretary - Treasurer**

