

GUAM SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 12, 2019 11:00 am-12:00 pm Guam Solid Waste Authority Conference Room

I. Call to Order

The Guam Solid Waste Authority Board of Directors' meeting was called to order by Chairman Gayle at 11:02 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Board Members:

Andrew Gayle Chairman
Minakshi Hemlani Vice Chairwoman

Dana Gutierrez Secretary
Peggy Denney Member
James Oehlerking Member

Management & Staff:

Larry J. Gast General Manager Katherine Kakigi Comptroller

Alicia Fejeran Chief of Administration
Keilani Mesa Administrative Assistant

Roman Perez Operations

Guests:

III. Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed draft minutes for the August 16, 2019 Board meeting. Vice Chairwoman Hemlani moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Member Peggy Denney and passed unanimously.

IV. Reports

a. Management Report

Comptroller Kakigi reported on the financial data through July 31. She reported that a bulk of the revenues are from Commercial Accounts; however, revenues from the Residential Accounts are stable and strong. She informed the Board that these numbers are comparable to last year's numbers. Member Denney inquired on why there was a decrease in commercial tonnage. General Manager Gast stated that the decrease in tonnage is probably because of this year's weather being drier than last year as the rain causes trash to be heavier. Comptroller Kakigi provided the Board members with a financial report discussing the Solid Waste Operations Fund that reflected that GSWA is tracking 3.5% below projected revenue; however, its expenditures are below by 10.2%. Member Denney inquired with management about the Pacific Human Resources contracted employees and whether they will be transitioned to GSWA classified employees. General Manager Gast stated that he is waiting to see the results of the management audit and he that he believes the audit will show where GSWA is short on staff and where it needs to reallocate personnel. He informed the Board that until he receives the management audit he does not want to take any action contrary to what the receiver has put in place. Comptroller Kakigi stated that GSWA has been working hard to decrease its spending. She also reported that the first payment to the debt service has been made.

The Board members also discussed what needed to be reported to the court for the next court hearing. Chairman Gayle informed the Board that all the information that the Board is ordered to present is what is included in the Trash Talk reports that are submitted to the Board.

General Manager Gast inquired with the Board on whether or not GSWA can purchase a new 4-wheel drive vehicle for the Engineer who is responsible for responding to any emergency events with the Landfill and also



authorize it to be a 24-hour vehicle. General Manager Gast stated he will provide the cost breakdown which will come out of the equipment replacement fund. The Board stated that they have no issues with the purchase of a new 4-wheel drive vehicle as long as management follows and implements all proper rules and regulations regarding procurement and the use and issuance of a 24-hour vehicle.

General Manager Gast reported on two requests he received for tipping fees to be waived. He stated that he is in an ethical dilemma. One request came from the Office of the Lt. Governor and the other was from the Bureau of Statistics and Plans to waive tipping fees for the Island Beautification program and the International Coastal Clean-up. Member Denney discussed her concern with charging them. Chief of Administration Fejeran informed the Board that the Receiver usually requires a non-profit document and usually waives the fees; however, the Island Beautification task force informed her that it is not a non-profit organization. Member Oehlerking stated he is supportive of cleaning up the island; however, it should be looked into for having a third party cover costs of these clean-up events. Chairman Gayle stated that he recommends we continue the way GSWA has handled these requests under Receivership and then bring it up for the management audit and the Public Utilities Commission's input. All Board members agreed. General Manager Gast stated that he believes the tipping fees should be paid by the General Fund and not the current rate payers.

b. Committee Reports

i. Legal Counsel Procurement

Chief of Administration Fejeran informed the Board that since GSWA issued the procurement through the Guam Bar Association, six firms picked up the Proposal Packages and two have submitted. She stated the submissions will be forwarded to the review committee for evaluation.

ii. Recycling Revolving Fund

Chairman Gayle stated a bill has been sent out about establishing the rules for how funds are to be used from the Recycling Revolving Fund. Member Denney stated that she has not been able to get in touch with Director Walter Leon Guerrero from GEPA. General Manager Gast stated that this fund will eventually become the Zero Waste Fund according to Senator Sabina Perez. He informed the Board that they are also considering bringing back the bottle bill and are looking at avenues for proper recycling because it is costing money to have the recycling program open. General Manager Gast stated the bill was in its final form and parameters for GEPA and the Mayor's Office are being set.

V. Unfinished Business

a. Cell 3 Construction Update

General Manager Gast informed the Board that when the permits expire an engineering firm will do the analysis for the permits to operate the landfill. He reported that the construction contract with Core Tech International has been signed for the Cell 3 Construction and GSWA has paid for the building permit. He also informed the Board that the Cell 3 Construction contract is to begin on October 1st and should be assigned over to GSWA before then.

b. Next Court Hearing, Report due to the Court in October

The Board agreed that Chairman Gayle will work with management on the report and the narrative that needs to be submitted to the Court. The presentation and report will be distributed to the Board members after it is filed with the Court.

c. PUC Management Audit Update

General Manager Gast stated he will be meeting with the contractor in October while he is in Florida. The Audit should begin in November 2019 and end in March 2020.

d. Asbestos Monofill

Chairman Gayle stated the viability of an asbestos monofill could be discussed, as well as the possibility of it being an additional revenue stream. The Board and General Manager Gast discussed what needed to be done in order for this to be a future service, such as, establish a rate structure, operational procedures and modify the permit. The Board and management will inquire with the PUC on whether or not they need to bring forth the rates for this to be approved by the PUC in October.

VI. New Business

Member Denney asked if there was software that GSWA can use for the route changes. General Manager Gast stated that he is primarily looking at probably changing the routes to where they operate recycling pick up first and then trash second due to the high contamination of recycling. Member Denney asked about how many customers do not have



recycle bins. Chief of Administration Fejeran informed her it's less than 1% of customers who cannot receive the recycle bins. Member Denney also stated that management needs to ensure that the employees are properly informed about what is accepted for recycling and that the public is also educated better.

VII. Open Discussion

Member Oehlerking inquired on how the Trusteeship works and whether or not the Board has a role in it. Chairman Gayle explained that USEPA and GSWA have 6 days to dispute any invoices and if there are no disputes then EPA will inform the Trustee when payment is approved to be submitted to the contractor.

VIII. Public Forum

None.

IX. Next Meeting

The next Board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at the GSWA Conference room at 11:00 a.m.

X. Adjournment

Member Oehlerking moved to adjourn meeting at 12:27p.m. The motion was seconded by Member Denney and passed unanimously.