

AT A MEETING OF THE NEW RIVER RESOURCE AUTHORITY
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2025, AT NOON,
NRRRA ADMINISTRATION BUILDING,
DUBLIN, VIRGINIA:

PRESENT: Mr. Steve Fijalkowski, Chairman
Mr. Tom Starnes, Vice-Chairman.
Mr. Dirk Compton, Secretary
Mr. Robert Asbury, Member
Mr. Paul Baker, Member
Mr. John Boyer, Alternate
Ms. Debbie Lyons, Member
Mr. Mike Mooney, Member

ABSENT: Mr. Barry Helms, Member

STAFF: Mr. Joseph Levine, NRRRA Executive Director
Ms. Marjorie Atkins, NRRRA Recording Secretary
Mr. David Rupe, NRRRA Administrative Manager
Mr. Howard Estes, NRRRA Legal Counsel
Mr. Brandon Atkins
Mr. Isaac Wall
Mr. Josh Owens

GUESTS: Mr. Andrew Monk, Thompson & Litton, Inc.

Chairman Fijalkowski called the meeting to order. An invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance followed the call to order.

Section II. Approval of February 26, 2025, Agenda

The motion to approve the February 26, 2025, Agenda as amended (adding §2.2-3711(A)(8) consultation with legal counsel regarding a potential contract) to the Closed Meeting portion of the agenda was made by Mr. Baker. The motion was seconded by Mr. Starnes and approved by an eight to zero vote of the Authority.

Section III. Public Hearing: Proposed Rates for FY 25/26

Mr. Levine presented the Public Hearing Notice and the Proposed Tipping Fee Rate Increases:

NEW RIVER RESOURCE AUTHORITY
PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE OF PROPOSED WASTE DISPOSAL AND TIPPING FEE RATE INCREASES

New River Resource Authority ("NRRRA") provides, among related services, waste disposal services for the businesses, citizens and communities of the City of Radford, the Town of Dublin, Giles County, Pulaski County and within the jurisdictional boundaries, and incorporated jurisdictions therein, of Montgomery County, Floyd County, Bland County and Wythe County. Pursuant to Va. Code § 15.2-5136 and § 15.2-5114, NRRRA proposes the following waste disposal and tipping fees to be effective July 1, 2025:

<u>Rates \$/Ton</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Municipal Solid Waste – MSW	\$34.00	\$36.00
Construction Debris – CD	\$34.00	\$36.00
POTW Sludge	\$24.00	\$26.00
Non-Friable Asbestos	\$54.00	\$56.00
Clean Wood	\$25.00	\$30.00
Tires (per pound)	\$00.15	\$00.17
Recycling	\$60.00	\$74.00

A public hearing on the rates set forth above will be held on Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at Noon, or as soon thereafter as may be heard, in the administrative conference room of NRRA at 7100 Cloyd's Mountain Road, Dublin, VA.

Interested persons may appear at the aforementioned time and place to present their views or may submit written comments prior to the hearing. Accommodations for disabled persons can be made with the Deputy Director by calling (540) 674-1677 at least five (5) days prior to the hearing date.

Chairman Fijalkowski opened the Public Hearing.

No comments were presented

Chairman Fijalkowski closed the Public Hearing.

Section IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes: January 15, 2025.

The Motion to approve the meeting minutes of January 15, 2025, was made by Mr. Baker. The motion was seconded by Mr. Compton and approved by an eight to zero vote of the Authority.

Section V. Old Business:

No old business was presented.

Section VI. New Business and Administrative Items:

A. Items of Consent:

1. Transaction By Vendor Report

The motion to approve the Transaction by Vendor Report for the month of January 2025 was made by Mr. Asbury. The motion was seconded by Mr. Baker and approved by a recorded roll call vote of the Authority as follows:

Mr. Asbury	<u>yes</u>	Ms. Lyons	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Baker	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Mooney	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Compton	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Starnes	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Boyer	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Fijalkowski	<u>yes</u>

2. Financial Statement

The Draft Financial Statement as of January 31, 2025, was presented.

The motion to approve the Draft Financial Statement as of January 31, 2025, was made by Mr. Starnes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Compton and approved by a recorded roll call vote of the Authority as follows:

Mr. Asbury	<u>yes</u>	Ms. Lyons	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Baker	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Mooney	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Compton	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Starnes	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Boyer	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Fijalkowski	<u>yes</u>

B. Administrative Items

1. Equipment Mechanic Position

Mr. Levine stated that one of the current mechanics may retire in this fiscal year, the position was not in the current fiscal year's budget. the Authority is currently accepting applications

Mr. Starnes asked for clarification, that this is not an addition of a position but to replace and have time to train.

Mr. Levine responded yes.

2. Revision to Accepted FY 25/26 Budget

Mr. Levine noted that line item 500.01 (Member Compensation) has been amended to reflect the addition of two new Board Members.

Mr. Starnes stated that account code 500.02 (Board Direct Expenses) was amended during the January Board Meeting to be decreased from \$6,000 to \$3,000.

Mr. Starnes suggested moving to a budget number for account code 501.05 (REG, PT, Merit, COLA).

Mr. Fijalkowski asked Mr. Estes if legally there were any issues by combining the cost-of-living adjustment and merit.

Mr. Estes responded that there was no issue on the budgetary side, however, regarding human resources there is a distinction. the cost-of-living adjustment is automatic, and merit is based on individual performance.

Mr. Levine suggested that this be addressed in the Budget Committee and have 501.05 as a maximum estimate.

The motion to accept the revised Budget for fiscal year 25/26 was made by Mr. Asbury. The motion was seconded by Mr. Starnes and approved by a recorded roll call vote of the Authority as follows:

Mr. Asbury	<u>yes</u>	Ms. Lyons	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Baker	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Mooney	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Compton	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Starnes	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Boyer	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Fijalkowski	<u>yes</u>

3. Adoption of Rates for Fiscal Year 2025/2026

Mr. Compton stated that he is concerned about the increase of Member rates, but he is fine with the rest of the rate increases. The member rate increase directly affects the citizens of Pulaski County and he requests that the board consider increasing the Member rate to \$25 per ton or leaving it as is.

Mr. Fijalkowski noted that if the Member rate did not increase, other numbers would need to change to make up for that loss.

Mr. Levine stated that expenses would not be met and would be operating out of reserves if the proposed rates were not adopted.

Mr. Asbury rephrased the question asking what percentage of the budget revenues are generated by Members and what percentage is generated by non-members.

Mr. Levine responded that only changing the non-member rate would affect the budget minimally. The last rate change was in 2022. Furthermore, if only the non-member rate were changed it would be a loss in the \$300,000 to \$400,000 range.

Mr. Monk added that the Member waste stream was approximately 78% of the Authority's waste stream.

Mr. Baker noted that this issue needs to be addressed now rather than making up for it with larger rate increases in the future.

Mr. Levine stated that the third-party waste stream analysis has been projecting this increase for the past seven years.

Mr. Fijalkowski stated that he appreciates Mr. Compton for expressing his concern but a public rate hearing was advertised and held at this meeting with no participants and suggests the Board should adopt these rates.

The motion to adopt the rates as advertised for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 was made by Mr. Starnes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Baker and approved by a recorded roll call vote of the Authority as follows:

Mr. Asbury	<u>yes</u>	Ms. Lyons	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Baker	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Mooney	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Compton	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Starnes	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Boyer	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Fijalkowski	<u>yes</u>

C. Reports

1. Executive Director's Report:

Mr. Levine presented the Executive Director's Report. For the month of January 2025. In summary of the balance sheet, revenues to date are 28.3% above projections and expenses are 6% below projections to date. \$190,861.44 was transferred to the Reserve Fund for the month of January 2025. The total year to date transferred to the Reserve Fund is \$1,497,687.62. The Waste Stream Report for January showed a solid month, the difference between January 2025 and 2024 is the debris coming in from cleanups around the area and waste coming from Wythe and Bland. Operationally, the Authority received a preliminary notice of violation from Pulaski County for exceedance of ammonia levels and the number of pH samples. A meeting was held with Butch Joyce from LaBella to discuss the five-year operations and management assessment, which is required by the articles of incorporation, the presentation is scheduled to occur at the March Board Meeting. March 4, Edward Shelton will

be on site for a safety inspection. SCS Engineers Solid Waste Seminars are upcoming with staff attending in Roanoke on March 6, and others will be attending virtually later in March. The 2023 recycling report was accepted by VDEQ and exceeded the mandated rate.

2. Engineering:

Mr. Monk stated that regarding the PNOV from Pulaski County, Leachate sampling is required by the permit with Peppers Ferry. The Ammonia levels came back high in December and Thompson and Litton was contacted and recommended more aeration. The third sampling of the leachate came back in bounds. Thompson and Litton recommend that a study be performed to determine how to treat this issue. Mr. Monk also noted that the West Fork year seven post construction monitoring report was submitted, the next report will be for year 10.

Section VII. Public Comments

The Chairman invited Public Comments.

No comments were presented.

Section VIII. Closed Meeting

The motion to enter a closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711 (A) (1) for the purpose of the Executive Director's annual review and salary and, §2.2-3711(A)(8) consultation with legal counsel regarding a potential contract was made by Mr. Starnes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Baker and approved by a recorded roll call vote of the Authority as follows:

Mr. Asbury	<u>yes</u>	Ms. Lyons	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Baker	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Mooney	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Compton	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Starnes	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Boyer	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Fijalkowski	<u>yes</u>

The motion to reconvene the regular meeting and for certification pursuant to the Code of Virginia, that the Board of Directors, to the best of each Director's knowledge, heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by the Freedom of Information Act in the closed meeting of this date, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board of Directors of the New River Resource Authority was made by Mr. Asbury. The motion was seconded by Mr. Starnes and approved by a recorded roll call vote of the Authority as follows:

Mr. Asbury	<u>yes</u>	Ms. Lyons	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Baker	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Mooney	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Compton	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Starnes	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Boyer	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Fijalkowski	<u>yes</u>

The motion to reinstate the COLA for the Executive Director salary was made by Mr. Baker. The motion was seconded by Mr. Asbury and approved by a recorded roll call vote of the Authority as follows:

Mr. Asbury	<u>yes</u>	Ms. Lyons	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Baker	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Mooney	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Compton	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Starnes	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Boyer	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Fijalkowski	<u>yes</u>

The motion to set the Executive Director salary at \$217,000 starting March 1 was made by Mr. Asbury. The motion was seconded by Mr. Baker and approved by a recorded roll call vote of the Authority as follows:

Mr. Asbury	<u>yes</u>	Ms. Lyons	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Baker	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Mooney	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Compton	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Starnes	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Boyer	<u>yes</u>	Mr. Fijalkowski	<u>yes</u>

Section IX. Adjourn:

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Starnes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mooney and approved by an eight to zero vote of the Authority

The meeting adjourned at 1:45pm.

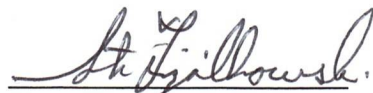
The next scheduled meeting of the Authority is Wednesday, March 26, 2025, 12:00, (NOON), at 7100 Cloyd's Mountain Road.

Respectfully Submitted,

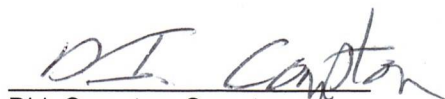


Brandon J. Atkins

Approved at 03/26/2025 Board Meeting.



Steve Fijalkowski, Chairman



Dirk Compton, Secretary

NRRA
PUBLIC COMMENT
REGISTRATION
FEBRUARY 26, 2025

Please register below if you wish to speak during the “Public Comment” portion of the Agenda. Speakers are limited to five minutes.

NAME: _____ **ADDRESS:** _____ **PHONE OR EMAIL:** _____

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**NRRA
PROPOSED
FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026 RATES
PUBLIC HEARING
REGISTRATION
FEBRUARY 26, 2025**

Please register below if you wish to speak during the “Public Hearing regarding proposed rates” portion of the Agenda. Speakers are limited to five minutes.

NAME: ADDRESS: PHONE OR EMAIL:

1. _____
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