



Memorandum

DATE: January 21, 2022

TO: Chairman and Members of the Board

FROM: Kevin H. Roche, CEO/General Manager

SUBJECT: Full Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 20, 2022

There was a Full Board of Directors Meeting held on the date noted above via the Zoom Platform in accordance with the **ecomaine** Remote & Hybrid Meeting Policy. The meeting was called to order by Mike Shaw, Chairman.

Item 1 – Approval of the Minutes:

Rob Wood motioned to approve the minutes from October 21, 2021. The motion was second by Matthew Frank.

Roll Call: Dennis Abbott, Anne Bilodeau, Linda Boudreau, Dave Durrell, Matthew Frank, Jim Gailey, Caleb Hemphill, Jarrod Maxfield, Jessica Maloy, Troy Moon, Robert Peabody, Rod Regier, Tim Reiniger, Nate Rudy, Mike Shaw & Rob Wood. Approved.

Abstained: Anthony Ward

Note: The agenda order was changed.

Item 3 – Outreach & Recycling Committee Report – Caleb Hemphill, Chair:

Caleb Hemphill reported out that the committee met on November 4, 2021 and would like to provide the following highlights:

- PR, Outreach & Education to date staff has reached 41,667 people.
- News stories and earned media continue to be strong. Coverage of **ecomaine's** web tool for "Sustainable Christmas tree disposal" had good media coverage.
- Recyclopedia had record number of views. For the month of December, over 50,000 items were searched.
- **ecomaine's** education in schools have rebounded and staff is making good progress in reaching out to the school systems.

Caleb reminded the board of the eco-Excellence Awards for 2022. Staff will continue to accept nominations until January 30, 2022. He encouraged the board to nominate an individual, non-profit, business, or municipal staff member.

The next meeting of the Outreach & Recycling Committee is February 10, 2022, at which time the committee will review eco-Excellence Award Nominations.

Item 2 – Finance & Audit Committee Report – Bill Shane, Chair:

Mike Shaw, Board Chairman presented the Finance & Audit committee report in the absence of the Chair, Bill Shane.

Mike Shaw reported that the committee last met on November 18, 2021, and the following items were discussed:

- Todd Jacobson from USI Insurance provided an overview of Terrorism Insurance with the Committee. There was a lengthy discussion on the coverage. The committee tabled insurance discussions until staff can provide a broader review of all insurance coverage including premiums and deductibles for all our insurance policies. Staff will present a summary of all our policies to the Executive Committee at our February meeting.
- The Chairman of the Finance & Audit Committee reviewed the cash disbursements with staff and found them to be consistent with ecomaine polices.
- Mike Shaw provided a reminder of the upcoming rate changes for FY 23 for owner communities, which will begin on July 1, 2022. MSW tipping fee rates will increase to \$79.50 a ton with no increase in recycling.

The next meeting of the Finance & Audit Committee will be March 24, 2022 @ 4pm. This is our Annual Budget Review meeting. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Item 4 – Nominating Committee – Request for Leadership Interest

Mike Shaw, Chairman reported that our Annual Solicitation letter was sent to all board members regarding interest in a leadership position such as Vice Chair, Secretary or Treasurer as well as interest in serving on a committee. The Nominating Committee will review the interest and make a recommendation to the Full Board at the Annual Meeting.

Item 5 – Managers Report

Presentation – Anne Hewes, Ph.D. – Environmental Report

- Anne Hewes provided a yearly update/presentation of **ecomaine's** environmental performance over the last year. The presentation included a review of the process involved in management of waste and specific pollutant controls and **ecomaine's** level of compliance with standards. This includes analysis of results of our Annual Stack Test and Continuous Emissions Monitor System (CEMS) results. She also discussed the process of managing non-conformities and measures taken to reduce/correct issues.
- In addition to the compliance reports, Anne provided an update on the status of our project to reduce Nitrogen Oxide (NOx). The board approved funding for Phase I & Phase II and staff is looking for other funding for Phase III. Staff has notified the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) of our plans. There was a brief discussion that followed.

Rod Regier requested a copy of the annual environmental report be posted on the ecomaine website to share with council members.

Manager's Report – Kevin Roche

- **Update – Electric Trucks**

Electric Trucks has been delayed. Truck delivery is not expected before the end of 2022 or Spring of 2023. On the funding side staff has reached out to DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) and the EPA (Environment Protection Agency) on funding availability and currently funding is still in place. **ecomaine** anticipates that they will still be in line for funding once trucks are available.

- **Update – Solar at Landfill**

CMP has required ecomaine to do a transmission/cluster study for the interconnection to ensure that the connection can manage the load. This study has delayed the project 12-18 months. We are currently in a holding pattern until the cluster study is complete. We expect the study to be completed in early to late fall. **ecomaine** does have in place an out of the contract if the interconnection becomes too costly.

The Maine Turnpike project is still in progress, we are evaluating with Maine Turnpike a land swap or possible purchase of land to the turnpike.

BD Larson Solar Project

The Executive Committee approved staff entering into a Letter of Understanding on an Easement Agreement with BD Larson Solar, who is working on a solar project that is adjacent to the **ecomaine** landfill. Their project requires access to the site through our landfill facility. The easement agreement is for 25 years, and BD Larson has agreed to cover all legal costs through the life of the project. We also requested a letter of credit for \$50,000 to cover any damage to our roadway. If the project goes through, BD Larson Solar will provide **ecomaine** the initial payment of \$10,000 and \$2500 every year thereafter for access.

- **Update – Recycling Market**

The recycling markets were reviewed and staff noted that some markets are weakening due to issues with transportation.

- **Update – Annual Meeting Speaker – Professor**

Marco Castaldi is confirmed as a speaker for our Annual Meeting. Marco is a Professor of City College of New York. He has been a good advocate for waste-to-energy.

Item 6 – Regionalization of Solid Waste Services

- Staff briefed the board on talks with the County Manager (Jim Gailey) on Regionalization and have had several towns who have voiced an interest in regionalization of services. Staff is looking into a creating a program to regionalize collection and or transfer station services. The Executive Committee supports staff moving forward with reaching out to municipalities to put together a program that could be studied and fully analyzed to develop a sound plan. There was a lengthy discussion.

Bill Shane requested staff send out a letter to each municipality and include tonnage information for last 3-5 years. Rod Regier also noted that the cost associated with the long-term obligation for each owner community for the landfill closure will need to be included in this effort.

Item 7 – Second Session of the 130th Legislature – Environmental and Natural Resources Committee

Kevin Roche provided an update on two bills carried forward from the last legislative session. LD 259 supporting the solid waste hierarchy and LD 1639 Stop out of state waste filling Maine's landfills. There was a brief discussion on advocacy/ policy support consistent with our mission.

Finance Report:

Kevin Roche provided an overview of our year-to-date financials, which included Cash Expenses, Cash Position, WTE Operations, Food Waste & Recycling Markets. He also provided info on the by-pass process.

Adjourn: Bill Shane made a motion to adjourn. The motion was second by Linda Boudreau. All in favor.

Present: Dennis Abbott, Anne Bilodeau, Linda Boudreau, Christopher Branch, Dave Durrell, Matthew Frank, Jim Gailey, Caleb Hemphill, Jarrod Maxfield, Jessica Maloy, Troy Moon, Robert Peabody, Rod Regier, Tim Reiniger, Heidi Richards, Nate Rudy, Bill Shane, Mike Shaw, Anthony Ward & Rob Wood - All in favor

Guest:

Terry Deering - Gorham
Shawn Ballard – Local 877

Staff Present: Matt Grondin, Wei Huang, Greg L'Heureux, Anne Hewes, Jonathan Miller, Denise Mungen, Kevin Roche & Kevin Trytek