

CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Solid Waste Management Authority Board Meeting
10:30 A.M.

January 29, 2015

M I N U T E S

PRESENT: Chairman Jeffrey E. Turner (SWMA Member), Vice-Chairman Gail Hambrick (SWMA Member), Mary-Ann Carp (SWMA Member), Earl Randall (SWMA Member), Terry Baskin (SWMA Member). Also present were Mayor Bobby Cartwright (Mayor of Lovejoy), Mark Harris (Lovejoy Police Department), Jeff Metarko (Director of Transportation and Development), Tim Gilliam (Landfill Manager), Sean MacDonald (Refuse Control), Dennis Johnson (Budget Manager) , Josh Lawson with Jacobs, Chuck Button with Jacobs and Sandra T. Davis (Clerk).

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order.

II. ADOPTION OF NOVEMBER 11, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Turner advised that there is no quorum at this time and if members arrive, the board would take action at that time. *(See Below Final Action on November 11, 2014 Minutes)*

III. OLD BUSINESS

LOVEJOY PARK FACILITY

Mr. Metarko provided an update on the landfill working with the City of Lovejoy to move some property lines towards the front of the landfill to facilitate their park facility. At the last meeting, we reported that some headway was made with EPD and was going through the process. He noted that we have run into a slight issue. He explained that one of the requirements that EPD requested was to submit an update to the boundary survey and found that over the lifetime of the landfill, there has been a couple of changes to the landfill boundaries that was never updated in the landfill permit. He then provided two examples of changes relating to right-of-way. He said that we have to resolve the boundary issues with EPD; however, we are scheduled to have meetings with EPD in an effort to not delay the park.

At this time, Chairman Turner introduced the new board member- Commissioner Gail Hambrick. He then asked to move forward with the adoption of the November 11, 2014 Minutes.

ADOPTION OF NOVEMBER 11, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Turner recognized that a quorum was now present called for a motion on the November 11, 2014 minutes. Clerk Davis noted that there is one correction to the minutes on Page Two where the word "Louisville" is written, it should be replaced with "Lovejoy". With this amendment, Mr. Baskin moved adoption of the November 11, 2014 Solid Waste Management Authority Board Meeting minutes, second by Ms. Carp. The motion carried 4-0-1. Vice Chairman Hambrick abstained due to her not being a member for the last meeting.

CREDIT CARDS

Mr. Metarko recalled that the board approved the implementation of the use of credit cards at the landfill. He reported that progress has been made; however, it is not up and running yet. He estimated that by next month, we hope that it would be up and running.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Metarko provided some highlights on the financial report due to Mr. Dennis Johnson attending a budget planning process meeting. For FY2014, the final audited numbers are as follows: revenue increased by 14%; rental income for energy generated up about \$40,000; sale of the inert site net approximately \$77,000. The important note is that there was no transfer from the general fund to the landfill fund to supplement it this year.

Chairman Turner asked what were the changes that occurred. Mr. Metarko said some of the haulers started to come back, the economy picked up and we historically are dependent on the commercial builders and obviously broke out enough to cause the landfill to break even. He also added that expenses were lower than last year.

Mr. Metarko then made reference to the refinancing of bonds. He recalled that Mr. Johnson had the idea that there may be an opportunity to refinance the bonds for some potential savings and have met with the financial consultant with the county. He explained that there are two bond series with one that runs out in about two years and the suggestion is not to touch that one. However, the other one that runs out in about 10 years, there may be some opportunities. He said they are looking at approximately \$500,000 over the lifetime of the bond for potential savings.

Mr. Metarko said for the next meeting, he would like to bring forward information on how the landfill is developing and the development cost for the next cell area. In conferring with Mr. Dennis Johnson, he said that if the board is amendable to that, and we were to move forward with developing the next cell, a bond mechanism would be the discussion point; however, Mr. Johnson would rather not try to refinance a current bond for that purpose. He said if we could recognize that there is a potential but just hold off until we make some decisions about the

direction of the landfill within the next couple of months; then, we can have better information about what we need to do with that bond.

When asked by Mr. Randall what was the status of weighing the pick-up trucks, Mr. Metarko explained that there was a consensus among this board to have the Board of Commissioners rescind the rate structure that the Board of Commissioners had set forth and was brought to the board in December 2014. He recapped that it was tabled the first meeting in December; then, passed during the second meeting in December. He explained that this board could address the matter today to determine if this is something the board wants to move forward with. He said as a recap, the issue was to have the trailers go over and be weighed instead of the flat rate. He pointed out that with the pick-up trucks, this is something that needs a decision on how to address that. He said that we still have the problem with people stacking trash up 20 feet, but there would also be the people that just have a couple bags of trash. Technically, he noted that if the board decides that all pick-up trucks would go across the scales; then, all pick-up trucks would have to be weighed. Mr. Gilliam added that it would be a minimum charge of twenty dollars. Mr. Metarko offered that if we could relax that and take it off the table and allow the discretion of the operator of the landfill to determine if the pick-up truck should go over the scale. However, the person that comes with a couple of bags in the back, they could just give them the lower rate and for convenience, not make them wait in line for the scale. Mr. Baskin agreed with discretion; however, what happens when the buddy comes through; there cannot be discretion at that point, because everyone should pay their fair share.

Mayor Bobby Cartwright expounded further that one of the things that would affect the commercial haulers is the wait for the landfill to weigh all of the pick-up trucks. He said that there is one set of scales; therefore, everything that has to come in gets weighed in then that ticket is held until they dump and come back to weigh out. Mr. Metarko added there would be two-way traffic on one scale, which could be a potential impact on the wait time coming back across the scale. Mr. Metarko recommended for the board to consider would be that the trailers would definitely need to be weighed and allow the landfill staff to be the experts to have the discretion on if they need to go over the scales. Mr. Gilliam also suggested that if the board wants to have that the body has to be leveled with no sides that would be fine too for the discretionary part of it. When Ms. Carp suggested a sign, Mr. Gilliam advised that there is a sign there now. However, Mr. Metarko suggested a sign that reads “the landfill staffers reserve the right to require weigh-in”. Mr. Gilliam also suggested thirty days notice to let everyone know that on this certain date, this changes.

When asked if the board needed to take a vote, Chairman Turner maintained that this is an operational issue; therefore, he believes through a consensus of this board, we could allow the landfill to operate at their discretion, at which time, the board members expressed their consensus. For clarity, Mr. Metarko asked if the restriction that was there for the trailers is that removed, because right now the Board of Commissioners did not remove it. Chairman Turner

said that to remove the restriction is a policy change; therefore, he would make the motion to remove that restriction on the trailers, seconded by Mr. Baskin. Vote unanimous.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

SOLID WASTE PROGRAM – JACOBS

Mr. Metarko advised that Jacobs is here to speak on a presentation that has been provided previously to this board. As a recap, he advised that the board had questions regarding the landfill, which the landfill has never got into the collection side or managing anything from the private citizens; however, there has been a lot of discussion. He said this is the reason Jacobs has been invited to outline the variety of options if the board chooses to go outside the landfill and try to control some sort of waste in the county.

Mr. Josh Lawson, from Jacobs, came forward to offer the following presentation and a summary is provided below. (*The presentation in its entirety is on file in the Clerk's Office, 112 Smith Street, Jonesboro, Georgia 30236*) He advised that this presentation has been provided before back on August 25, 2011 and some of the information has been update; however, some of the financial analyses were not recreated.

Overall Project Objectives in 2011:

- Improve Revenue at County Landfill
- Reduce Illegal Dumping to Enhance County Image

Landfill Financial Analysis:

- Estimated cost of disposal is \$108.00/ton (\$84.00 in 2010)
- Current intake rate = 178 tons per day (FY2014)
- Current amount (internal/non-revenue) = 75 tons per day (2014)
- Current remaining capacity = 36 years (up from 28 years in 2011) – Increase due to higher compaction ratio calculated post disposal of inert waste in Site 3

Mr. Gilliam spoke of the new piece of equipment that impacts the landfill space. He explained that we were able to compact it so much smaller and pushes it down into a small area; thereby, increasing the capacity of this landfill.

- Bread-even (revenue) tonnage = 300 tons per day
- Break-even (revenue) remaining capacity = 22 years
- Break-even remaining capacity (including 75 tons/day of non-revenue) = 16 years

Solid Waste Ordinance Comparison:

- Current Ordinance – requirements versus enforcement
- Benchmark communities
 - Gwinnett County – Franchise with a solid waste fee on the property tax bill
 - DeKalb County – Offers full service solid waste program every aspect is funded and performed by DeKalb County from collection to disposal
 - Columbus Consolidated Government – Landfill just for the use of the Columbus Consolidated area; there is a fee that goes out on their water and sewer bill
 - Meriwether County – Franchise and flow control- haulers pay a fee and an agreement with the landfill for reduced rates if that trash then goes to the Turkey Run Facility; private/public partnership
 - Dalton-Whitfield County – Solid Waste Authority- similar to Meriwether County- franchise fee and an element of flow control that routes that waste to their landfill where they make additional revenue

In response to a question from Vice-Chairman Hambrick regarding what happens with the residential trash that is picked up by these private companies, Mr. Lawson skipping ahead in his presentation advised that the landfill is required to ask where this waste comes from and that gets reported with tonnage reports; then they can track where waste is generated and where it ultimately ends up. He said the bulk of the trash generated in unincorporated Clayton County goes to the Turkey Run in Meriwether County. Of the 300,000 tons, Turkey Run receives almost half and Stephens C & D Landfill is the other large receiver at about 113,000 tons.

Waste Generation – Unincorporated Areas:

- 2010 Census reported 71% of County population (185,000 residents) live in unincorporated area
 - 65,000 households
 - Average household size = 2.82 people
- 2012 USEPA MSW generation rate = 4.38 pounds of trash per day per person
 - 1.51 pounds is recycled or composted
 - 2.87 pounds is landfilled
 - Average Clayton County household landfills (2.82 x 2.87) 8.09 pounds per day
 - Total daily household trash generation: 8.09 x 64,847 = 524,612 pounds per day = 262 tons per day = 95,630 tons per year
- 2013 EPD tonnage records = 317,179 tons generated from unincorporated Clayton County (209,257 tons in 2010)
 - 30% is residential
 - 70% is non-residential (e.g., C&D, commercial, etc.) up about 50/50 split

- County Landfill operates 309 days of the year
 - Residential = 309 tons per operational day (311 tons in 2010)
 - Non-residential = 717 tons per operational day (367 tons in 2010)
 - Total potential daily tonnage = 1,026 tons per operational day (678 tons in 2010)

Mr. Lawson noted that if Clayton County captures all of the tonnage, the county could be operating as high as 1,000 tons per operational day if the county had a complete monopoly on trash generation in unincorporated Clayton County. When Vice-Chairman Hambrick asked what that translates to in dollars, Mr. Lawson said that it would equate to \$400,000 a day coming in the door; however, that would shorten the life span of the landfill and fill up that landfill very quickly. He advised that the county would have to instantly develop cells five and six to maintain the available air space to take capacity in as well as increase operations. Vice-Chairman Hambrick stated that we do not want to fill it up then, at which time, Mr. Lawson explained that this is where this whole evaluation led us to. He asked is this an enterprise fund intended to be operated as a business, which means to fill it up make the money and get out, or is it a service to the community and there for the residence, which means it is not about making money it is about providing a service. Vice-Chairman Hambrick then asked which one are we with several members advising that is where the board is in trying to make that determination. Mr. Metarko added that the board has never really answered that question.

Vice-Chairman Hambrick mentioned the deficit that was discussed at the December Regular Business Meeting. Mr. Metarko explained that if we look on paper, strictly financial reporting, there is a deficit. Mayor Cartwright noted that with the exception of this year. Mr. Metarko recapped that according to Mr. Dennis Johnson, what he reported earlier was that we are about breaking even.

Mayor Cartwright recalled that two years ago, it looked as if we were losing \$1 million a year; however, when we counted it up, it was determined that the county was putting in \$1 million worth of free trash in there a year as they were making the first major push to clean up the county. He pointed out that the free intake has slowed and some of your paying intake has increased. He still does not understand why there can't be some discussion with the Board of Commissioners about some responsibility for some of the 40% if it was only at 1/3 of the rate, because it is the responsibility of the county to maintain the dump and the service. He recalled discussions of closing on some Saturdays and this is the reason he brought the chief with him today, because if the county is serious about doing that, he would have to increase patrol.

Mr. Metarko shared that the board did vote at the last meeting to seasonally close the second and fourth Saturday of the month. He added that starting in October 2015 through February 2016. Mayor Cartwright asked that if we continue to break even, let's look into not doing the closings.

Mr. Lawson continued with the presentation and outlined the unincorporated county waste destinations that include their tonnage rate and the amount of trash being received.

Haulers – Big and Small (based on 2011 field survey and 2015 Updates):

- Large Haulers:
 - Waste Management – Dominant northside
 - Waste Industries (aka CLM) – Dominant southside (Do not bring any waste to County Landfill)
- Small Haulers:
 - T R South (County Landfill’s largest customer)
 - Robertson Sanitation

Illegal Dumping – FY2011 (not updated):

- Refuse Control responded to 84 illegal tire dumps – collecting 2699 tires
- T & D Dept collected an additional 3983 tires
- Refuse Control responded to 800 other illegal dumping sites:
 - Yard debris, household trash, furniture, etc.
- Code Enforcement has issued 143 code violations for littering and illegal dumping since Jan 2009
- Main illegal dumping problems (according to Refuse Control):
 - Abandoning old cars or tires on public property
 - Hauling trash for profit and dumping it somewhere other than a designated disposal facility

Mr. Baskin asked the Lt. MacDonald if he has received more calls of dumping at 555 Battle Creek, at which time, Lt. MacDonald advised that we have not received any in quite a few years. He added that Code and Enforcement is actively working to resolve that issue and have the apartments demolished.

Program Change Options:

- Do Nothing
- Conduct Public Outreach Program
- Enhanced Business Licensing: requires all existing haulers doing business in Clayton County to purchase and maintain a business license with the County
- Transfer Station: County solicits RFQ/RFP for Transfer Station to be built and operated by private waste company. Transfer Station would belong to County but long-termed leased to private waste company
- Flow-Control: requires all trash collected in unincorporated areas be disposed of in the County Landfill
- Mandatory Collection: requires all residential properties in unincorporated areas to obtain and maintain trash collection services

- County-Controlled Franchising: County is divided into districts and one hauler per district is secured through an RFP process. All residential properties (with exceptions) are charged by the County for trash collection services
- County-Controlled Franchising w/Flow Control: Same as above but contracted haulers would be required to dispose a percentage of their collected trash in the County Landfill

With regards to flow control, Mr. Lawson advised that this causes the most resistance. He added that the county would be sued. Vice Chairman Hambrick said that we could win. Mr. Baskin suggested that we start with all county owned property trash pickups have to go to the landfill. Or, Vice Chairman Hambrick added that we could charge the business license and let them dump where they want to. Chairman Turner stated that he is in favor of the County-Controlled Franchising.

After Mr. Lawson made reference to Mandatory Collection, he advised that this is what Gwinnett has done. Several members expressed support for Mandatory Collection.

In conclusion, Mr. Metarko asked the members what they would like to see next and what Jacob is to review for the members. Chairman Turner said that we should look at the different objectives and the next meeting the members could discuss which one of these options we want to follow-up on. Mr. Metarko said we could bring forward our disposal rate and what it means for developing cells 5 & 6, because if the members are contemplating any flow control, there are expenses to it. Chairman Turner added that the flow-control is the quickest way to fill up the landfill.

PAPER RECYCLING:

Mr. Metarko explained that we are having some issues with paper recycling. The reason he is bringing this forward is that he needs some direction. He pointed out the recycler that we had for paper was with an unwritten contract. He explained that the agreement was the recycler would have containers at the Recycling Center off Highway 138. The agreement was that the people would come in and use the facility to dispose the mixed paper, and they would come pick it up every week or so to haul it off; it was kind of break-even. He said that Mr. Gilliam and he had a philosophy where if we are making money or breaking even, we would keep it going.

He advised that the company was bought out and went out of business. He explained that paper has changed and saturated beyond belief. He pointed out that the new vendor has attached a dollar amount to it for the pickup, which means it is no longer free to the county. He added that we have approximately a dozen containers that are full. He maintained that Chief Merkison has recycling paper at his fire stations and they are full. He explained that we are still collecting it. Mr. Metarko then posed the question does the members want us to pay money to recycle this component or we stop taking it or it gets hauled to the landfill. He expressed his concerns in that there are passionate people that recycle and he does not want the media to find that he is taking it to the landfill.

When asked about the cost, Mr. Gilliam said that it would cost the county \$12,000 a year. Mr. Randall asked if there was anyone that would take the recycling for free. Mr. Mark Harris with Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful added that the only way the county could get paid for paper is that it has to be non-mixed, huge volumes and it has to be bundled, but you still don't get much for it.

Mr. Gilliam outlined the three options as follows: Pay \$12,000 for the new company to haul it, there is another company that would allow us to co-mingle it but they are going to charge \$190 per container and the third option is to invest in two bailers and two more boxes. He explained that we would bail it ourselves and haul it to market.

Several members expressed concerns with the cost involved to pay another company. Mr. Metarko explained that at the next meeting, the members could stipulate business licenses that if a company is going to pick up trash; then, legally they would have to offer recycling. He said this does not assist him immediately, and he has to do something. Mr. Metarko advised that he can cover it in his budget right now.

Chairman Turner then asked if there was board consensus to allow them to continue to pay for it; until, we can get a better solution. The members then asked for clarification as it relates to the cost, at which time, Mr. Metarko said we could clear out everything for approximately \$2,000; the \$12,000 figure was for the year. If the board wants us to continue taking it until we see what the board wants to do into the future, there would be ongoing cost that we would want to load a little bit more money in next year's budget to handle it. He added that the School System is in the same situation. Mr. Lawson pointed out that no hauler will offer recycling to any resident in Clayton County. He explained that this operation is the county's sole source of recycling for the citizens.

Mr. Metarko recommended that we pay to have it cleared out and let's continue it until the near future until we make a bigger decision about where we want to go with it. He pointed out that it is small dollars but philosophically we are paying for recycling.

Chairman Turner then asked if the members were in consensus to give Mr. Metarko direction to do so, because the funds are available. Mr. Metarko confirmed that we could make it work right now.

There was discussion on scheduling the next meeting. Chairman Turner suggested April or May and definitely before the budget cycle; however, he asked that Mr. Metarko bring up those issues during his budget discussions.

Mr. Metarko pointed out that for the agenda for next month we are looking at continuing some of these items and asked if the members were okay with us doing a presentation on the disposal of the landfill and how we are filling it up and technical things on that side and what we may be looking at for the budget. No member expressed any objections.

There being no further business to discuss, motion by Chairman Turner, second by Mr. Baskin, to adjourn the Solid Waste Management Authority Board Meeting of January 29, 2015 at 11:27 a.m. Vote unanimous.