

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Solid Waste Management Authority Board Meeting
10:00 A.M.

January 23, 2018

M I N U T E S

PRESENT: Chairman Jeffrey E. Turner (SWMA Member), Tax Commissioner Terry Baskin (SWMA Member), Mary-Ann Carp (SWMA Member), and Robb Leatherwood (SWMA Member). Also present were Jeff Metarko (Director of Transportation and Development), Steffany Lewis (Finance Department), Pamela Everett (Legal Department- Freeman Mathis & Gary, LLP), Josh Lawson with Jacobs Engineering, Chuck Button with Jacobs Engineering and Sandra T. Davis (Clerk).

ABSENT: Vice-Chairman Michael Edmondson (SWMA Member), Victor Lett, Sr., (SWMA Member) and Andrew Love (SWMA Member).

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order.

II. ADOPTION OF NOVEMBER 30, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Turner entertained a motion to adopt the minutes. Motion by Tax Commissioner Baskin to approve the November 30, 2017 Meeting minutes, second by Ms. Carp. The motion passed unanimously by the four members present for this meeting.

III. CONTINUE TRANSFER STATION DISCUSSION

Mr. Josh Lawson provided a brief recap from where we were in November 2017. He recalled that we presented information on different transfer station ideas by looking at various scenarios. There was some discussion prior to the November meeting with one of the major haulers in the industry. As some take-away action items from the last meeting, there was additional interest in the transfer station. One of the questions was where could a transfer station go within the county. Waste Industries had conducted a property survey previously and offered that information to us. There was also additional interest that was brought up by Mr. Leatherwood with regards to the absence of a Keep Clayton Beautiful. He pointed out that they had some meetings with some prominent, local Keep Beautiful Programs and received some information in terms of their structure, services provided and how it is funded. We also presented information on the educational piece.

Moving ahead to the Waste Industries property evaluation, he estimated that they had looked at approximately 37 properties on the north side of town. We then evaluated the properties against some key elements relative to compatibility, zoning criteria, proximity to airport, the process to obtain permitting and the commission district. Ultimately, we identified 12 potential properties that made it past that screening level. The minimum acreage of usable space is seven acres; some of the properties that Waste Industries identified were much larger, but some of them were limited by easements and creeks. He noted that the bulk of the properties are in District One near the interstate. Waste Industries did identify one of the properties that met their needs the best and is listed as location zero, which is Moreland Avenue. They also identified one property in District 2 and three properties in District 4. These are not the only ones that could be suitable, these are just the ones evaluated by Waste Industries.

When Tax Commissioner Baskin asked for the amount of acreage in Location Zero, Mr. Lawson responded that it approximately 7 acres exactly. He then explained that they were looking at a Single Bay Transfer Station with one under-drive and a three-sided open front transfer station.

At this time, Mr. Lawson offered information on the Keep Beautiful Programs. He advised that all of these programs have an affiliation structure to Keep Georgia Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful. He shared that we met with Ms. Kimberly White with Keep Cobb Beautiful and Schelly Marlatt with Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful and received some good insight from them. He said for county level Keep Beautiful affiliate programs, there are three structures: Government only, which means that everything is funded through the local government; Volunteer only program, which means every element of the program is handled through a volunteer basis; or a Hybrid program, which means your key staff would be county employees, and the funding sources are going to be mixed with the bulk of the funding coming from the county; then, a volunteer advisory board.

With regards to Keep Cobb Beautiful, Mr. Lawson explained that they have a Hybrid program with 2.5 staff members that are full-time county employees, which includes an executive director. The volunteer advisory board has approximately 20 members. Their funding is approximately \$500,000 and that is broken down into some key elements: Yearly County expenses- Staff - \$150,000; grant- \$35,000; Operating Budget- \$8,000 and the balance of their operating funds comes from the county's tree program and those funds are made on a revolving basis available to Keep Cobb Beautiful; therefore, it is not necessarily expending that \$300,000 every year, but it is a balance of available funds that is there routed to their program through their tree service. He explained that they also have the ability to go out and get grants and donations.

For Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful, it is similar to Keep Cobb Beautiful because it is also a hybrid program and both recommended the hybrid structure. The key staff is also county employees; however, with their advisory board, it is a much bigger board with over 50 members. Their advisory board is much different than Cobb County because instead of commissioner appointees, they go out and strategically target community members that are engaged in green initiatives but

also insure that they are influential within the county. There are three full-time staff members and their annual budget is roughly \$400,000; they receive the balance of their funds through the storm water utility of approximately \$200,000 yearly.

Mr. Lawson outlined the kinds of programs that these Keep Beautiful Programs are putting out there are listed as follows: Litter surveys, Adopt-A-Mile, Christmas Tree Chipper Program, Storm water program, Adopt-A-Stream, document shredding and special waste amnesty days.

IV. EDUCATIONAL COMPONENT DISCUSSION

Comparatively, Mr. Lawson shared that we looked at Cobb County, Gwinnett County and Athens-Clarke County for the educational component. Cobb County has the following: Green School Initiative, Natural Resource Management Unit and Cobb County Water System. The Recycling Facilities include: Free recycling drop-offs at Fire Stations, Private Recycling Company- Rock Tenn Recycling Company, Solid Waste Transfer Station and TAG Grinding service. Gwinnett County has the following: Green and Health School Program, Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center, Gwinnett Solid Waste Management Program and the Recycling Directory. Athens-Clarke County has the following: Green School Program, Community Involvement through committees and Recycling Division. They also have two unique facilities; Recovery Materials Processing Facility (RMPR) and Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHARM).

In conclusion, Mr. Lawson advised that this is an overview of two Keep Beautiful Programs, the resources and educational elements that we were asked to present. Chairman Turner then asked how much money would be needed for a Keep Clayton Beautiful Program, at which time, Transportation and Development Director Metarko responded that we previously had two positions; an Executive Director and an Administrator. It was disbanded six to eight years ago and was funded with approximately \$50,000, which covered mainly salaries and benefits. He recalled that they were not given funding to do much of anything. Therefore, they were trying to solicit funding from the business community. The advisory board was not appointed by the county. It was determined that funding was not available for the benefit that they were providing and, the funding went away; therefore, the organization went away. He explained that it did survive a couple of years after that when the City of Forest Park took over the reminisce of it; however, recently the City of Forest Park did not fund it either.

Mr. Leatherwood advised that the City of Riverdale is trying to make some progress in this regard. Ms. Carp shared that for the City of Lovejoy, it worked for a while, but people began dumping items that were not recyclable; therefore, we had to shut it down.

Chairman Turner said whatever we decide with regards to mandatory trash pickup in addition to looking at a transfer station, a keep clean and beautiful initiative is needed but would probably need to be done in conjunction with our cities and build in county funding and city funding. He suggested having the department made up of several cities in the county and the school system; therefore, we would have a bigger educational piece involved in this as well. He then requested

that work be done on something for the county to determine what a viable program would look like in terms of funding for Clayton County; maybe with two employees. Also, include some of the educational components from Cobb and Gwinnett Counties. More importantly, the efforts to get the community involved in our beautification efforts as a starting point. Mr. Lawson noted that he did ask both counties what would be that minimal level to get a viable program started, and both agreed that two staff members and not much funding beyond the funding for the two staff members; then, target some of the lower hanging fruit initiatives; such as, litter survey or Adopt-A-Mile program.

Chairman Turner reiterated that he would like to receive more information on putting together a Keep Clayton Beautiful program and providing a structure of what it would look like and possibly how much it would cost to fund it; then, we could look at partnering with our cities. Mr. Baskin suggested carving out our own niche and that would be our starting point; then, he could see more cities and schools buying into the program.

With regards to the transfer station, Transportation and Development Director Metarko asked is there any next steps for the transfer station. Chairman Turner stated that he would like to hear from someone from waste management. Transportation and Development Director Metarko pointed out that representatives from Waste Industries would have no problems speaking before the authority and would be something that we could arrange. When asked a question, Ms. Pamela Everett advised that the county may have to put out an RFP to make sure that it is competitive. She would have to do some further research, because even if the county did a public/private partnership, the county may still have to look at other companies because there may be others that could do the same thing. Mr. Button suggested a gentleman out of North Carolina, Mr. Mike Ingle, Vice President of Corporate Development for Waste Industries, is interested in this market and would be happy to come down to speak on this proposal knowing that it's not just going to be given to them. Chairman Turner advised that as long as it is understood that there is no commitment and this is just fact finding and to answer questions. Mr. Lawson agreed that they have had open discussions with Mr. Jason Zepp, who is the Regional Manager of Waste Industries; therefore, it is clearly understood that this would most likely go out for an RFP. Chairman Turner said that he would like for them to be present at the next meeting if possible.

Mr. Lawson then responded to question with regards to the time involved with the RFP process, acquiring property, permitting and any public notice if there is a need to rezone the property. Chairman Turner determined that the authority members may have questions for them as it relates to the transfer station. He then suggested that information on a Keep Clayton Beautiful concept be sent to the Board of Commissioners by the end of February; since, budget talks would be starting soon.

V. CONSULTANT TASK ORDER NO. 4

Transportation and Development Director Metarko explained that we engaged Jacobs Engineering under contract for routine environmental compliance for the landfill. Also, a Task Order to help generate the franchising collection system; therefore, we have two programs set up. He further explained his concerns with it is that Mr. Lawson is providing information on a transfer station, and this just does not fit. He suggested a very generic set of parameters where Mr. Lawson could get paid for the work that he is performing to research the transfer station and to do all of these other things that do not fit in the environmental compliance of the landfill. He advised that we could un-encumber any funds that remain on the Order for franchising. There is no more additional funding; it is already budgeted. This is just contractually getting him under a Task Order that has a scope defined for the services he is performing right now.

Motion by Mr. Leatherwood to approve Task Order No. 4, seconded by Mr. Baskin. Vote unanimous by the four members present for this meeting.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

- 1) Ms. Marianne Martos, Rex, Georgia informed that she would not be speaking before the authority members.
- 2) Mr. Mickey Garber, Rex, Georgia came forward to thank the authority members for all of the information that was brought to him and others in his community. He expressed his disbelief that the Keep Beautiful program costs so much- \$500,000. He maintained that he would assist in reaching the goal for funding of this program. With regards to the educational piece and Adopt-A-Mile program, he noted that the funding is there with the leadership in the schools; principal, track team leaders, and all of the people who are leaders in the schools for them to Adopt-A-Mile. However, there should be incentives for rewards to the schools in the way of some sort of monetary reward. In conclusion, he mentioned other incentives in places where there are commercial entities, because these are the places where you find a great deal of garbage.

Transportation and Development Director Metarko asked about the scheduling of the next meeting, which he is looking at mid-March and then a mid-May meeting. For the March meeting, we would come back with some of the information with Waste Industries; then, in mid-May, we could look at renewing the annual Task Orders for the landfill compliance services.

There being no further business to discuss, motion by Tax Commissioner Baskin, second by Ms. Carp, to adjourn the Solid Waste Management Authority Board Meeting of January 23, 2018 at 11:13 a.m. Vote unanimous.