



Rome-Floyd County Solid Waste Commission



Tuesday, September 22, 2015
9:30 AM
Sam King Room, 601 Broad Street

PRESENT:

Commissioner Bill Collins, City of Rome Commission, Chairman
Commissioner Rhonda Wallace, Floyd County Commission
Commissioner Kim Canada, Rome City Commission
Commissioner Irwin Bagwell, Floyd County Commission
Mr. Sammy Rich, City Manager
Mr. Jamie McCord, Floyd County Manager
Mr. Kirk Milam, Rome Public Services Manager
Mr. Steven Foy, Rome Assistant Public Works Director
Mr. Gary Burkhalter, Floyd County Finance Director & Comptroller
Ms. Sheree Shore, Rome Finance Director
Mr. Michael Skeen, Floyd County Public Works Director
Mr. Mike Gattis, Rome Solid Waste Processing and Disposal Director

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Collins called the meeting to order.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Collins asked for corrections to the July minutes. Hearing none, they were approved by common consent.

OLD BUSINESS

Landfill Projects Update

Mr. Foy updated the Commission on the landfill pump station project. He reported the EPD has approved the plans and the bid documents and specifications have been sent to Purchasing to go out for bid. We should be ready to advertise for bids in the next week or so.

The above ground storage tank project is waiting for the tank to be constructed, which is an eight to ten week process. It is expected to be completed by the end of October and installation should begin in early November. He noted that underground tanks require continued monitoring so we will eventually remove the old tank.

Commissioner Collins asked how much fuel is used for equipment. Mr. Foy replied that typically about seven gallons is purchased every month to month and a half. It is purchased as needed. Mr. Milam added that this is off-road diesel fuel that is less expensive.

NEW BUSINESS

Updating Billing Software (Wasteworks)

Mr. Foy reported that we are purchasing an update to our Wasteworks software that is used at the landfill. This is an outdated Dos-based program. The updated software will integrate with Munis. Lisa McClain will be facilitating the upgrade and will work with Wasteworks to customize it to our needs.

Ms. Shore added the upgraded software will provide better audit between the scales and the billing.

Title V Air Quality Permit Renewal

Mr. Milam reported that in addition to our general permit to operate the landfill we are required to have a Title V Air Quality Permit. The only gas produced at the landfill is natural landfill gas that escapes from the soil. The permit documentation is fairly administrative and we have been utilizing Golder Associates services to manage that process which is required every five years. Our current permit will expire in March of next year.

Commissioner Collins asked Sammy Rich to report on discussions with an innovated company about recycling our waste stream. Mr. Rich stated that we have had different companies approach us over the years regarding diverting solid waste to them to be used in other applications. We always remain open to new technologies. Mr. Milam added there are other systems out there that collect gases as well but most of them depend on a high volume landfill to be profitable. We do not have a high volume landfill only processing about 250 tons a day whereas 1000 to 1500 tons per day are

needed to make the operation profitable. Although we do talk to any of these companies that approach us, we have not proved to be a good market for any of them as yet.

Fox Manufacturing HIS and EPD Review

Mr. Milam reported that in an attempt to satisfy EPD's Hazardous site requirements, our corrective action plan was submitted to EPD over a year ago. The project officer we originally submitted the plan retired before approving the plan so we have to adapt the plan to suit his replacement. The downside to this is that we continue to incur costs to have our consultant prepare the required changes. The bigger issue is that we still carry the burden of how to proceed with our utilization of the property in the meantime. Our position is that the property is not a true hazard to the public or our workers, but we need to continue to plan on a use for the property that minimizes being invasive into the soil. . At this time we don't know when EPD will approve the plan, but we could move forward with expansion and upgrading of the Center as long as we minimize disturbance of the soil.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Recycling Center

Operations Report

Mr. Skeen presented the August and July reports. He noted that everything is pretty much in line over the last five years. The City is working on the sticker distribution for the curbside recycling containers which is hoped to help reduce the contamination in the co-mingled collections. Under the *Shipped Out* the concern he noted that co-mingled material has increased but added there are a lot of equipment reasons for this.

He reported the back lot has a very rough surface which is not good on the equipment. He would like to see the surface smoothed out some. There are also some issues with the route trucks that are getting old and need replacement. Processing the co-mingled is the best way to increase revenues.

Commissioner Collins asked how much funding is available improvements and equipment. Mr. McCord stated that 1.3 million adding that there are many improvements that are needed including replacing all the concrete on the back

side of the facility which would expose the cap. We need coverage over some of the material to keep it contained and out of the weather. A fence is needed to contain the material and control access to the site. Commissioner Bagwell asked why we couldn't move the Center to the landfill. Mr. McCord said that would be ideal but we still would have responsibility for the current site. Mr. Milam said there is a perception that there is plenty of room for it at the landfill but there are challenges at the site such as hills and valleys. He added that we will use a majority of the landfill property as well. The Center actually needs quite a lot of space to operate properly.

Commissioner Collins asked if we could go ahead and put the fence up and arrange for the cover, but leave the grounds along for the time being. Mr. McCord suggested Mr. Skeen generate a plan for the 2016 budget using the SPLOST funding. Commissioner Bagwell suggested we consider constructing the main Center at the landfill while using the current facility as a remote site. Mr. Skeen noted that has been done in Columbus, but the new facility constructed at their landfill cost \$7 million.

Mr. McCord stated staff will present a plan at the November meeting detailing priorities for the Center and options for moving forward. Commissioner Bagwell asked them to include the costs associated

Financial Report

Mr. Burkhalter presented the financial reports for July and August. On the August accrual based report, the revenues are 30% less than the year-to-date budget. The budgeted amount is 66.7% of the year. Revenues are below projections.

On the expense side under *Salaries and Benefits*, he noted salaries are 1% over the year-to-date budget due to overtime that had to be spent. The actual expenses are \$27,000 more than at this time. Supplies and other expenses are down \$33,000 from last year. Utilities are almost \$14,000 over last year. Operating expenses overall are \$5,300 more than last year. The change in net position is pretty much on target with projections. On the cash basis report he noted there is \$177,000 in the bank as of the end of August.

Commissioner Bagwell asked about the difference between last year cash balance of \$546,649 and this year's \$177,711. Mr. Burkhalter stated the difference in

funds is not a loss but rather funds being transferred to other cash flow areas in the County. Commissioner Collins asked what the true figure for cash would be. Mr. Burkhalter replied that the net increase or decrease figure shows that the Center has actually lost \$183,235 this year which is only \$23,000 less than this point last year. Mr. Skeen added that we also had an insurance settlement of \$55,000 which we don't have this year.

Walker Mountain Landfill

Mr. Gattis gave the August landfill operations report. Fees were down from this period last year. He noted that there was a heavy influx of C&D material in 2014. The commercial tonnage was up 3,000 tons over last year. The C&D tonnage was up 2000 tons. The total tonnage fees year-to-date was up from \$1,654,136 last year to \$1,827,234.

Financial Report

Ms. Shore reported the financial report mirrors the operations report. For the month you can see \$34,000 versus \$56,000. We are well over in C&D which is a good thing because it is a good economic indicator. *Private Residential Haulers* were up slightly. Individual Residents were up slightly. Interest earned is up slightly giving us an opportunity to invest some funds. At \$1.8 million we are well over where we were at this time last year.

Under expenses she noted expenses are in line with last year. *Supplies* are down slightly. *Personal Services* are in line with last year. *Repairs and Maintenance* are up slightly and *Other Services and Charges* are down. We have a bill in hand for the Recycling Center payment which will put us over budget. The net income through eight months is \$698,618 up from \$481,758 last year. There will be some expenses show up at the end of the year. There is some cash to be spent before the end of the year for the above ground storage tank and the lift station.

Commissioner Collins asked about the reserve. She replied it is a cumulative reserve based on the master plan that goes up to 2019. He noted that every year we have to report financial assurance to EPD, who approves us for permitting. We review this every month.

ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Hollingsworth

Margaret W. Hollingsworth, Secretary