



Rome-Floyd County Solid Waste Commission



Tuesday, March 22, 2016
9:30 AM
Sam King Room, 601 Broad Street

PRESENT: Commissioner Bill Collins, Rome City Commission
Commissioner Scotty Hancock, Floyd County Commission
Commissioner Sundai Stevenson, 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, Assistant County Manager
Ms. Sherri Shore, Rome Finance Director
Mr. Michael Skeen, Floyd County Public Works Director
Mr. Mike Gattis, Rome Solid Waste Processing and Disposal Director

GUEST: Charles Love, North Rome Community Action Committee

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Bagwell called the meeting to order. He called for elections of the Chair and Vice Chairs.

Commissioner Bagwell nominated Commissioner Collins as Chairman. Commissioner Stevenson seconded. The motion carried.

Commissioner Bagwell nominated Commissioner Hancock for Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Stevenson seconded. The motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Collins asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes of the November meeting. None were given.

Commissioner Hancock moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Bagwell seconded. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Walker Mountain Landfill Fuel Storage Tank Installation

Mr. Foy updated the Commission on the fuel storage tank installation at Walker Mountain Landfill. He reported that the Fire Marshal has inspected and recommended the installation of a six foot high fence with two gates around the perimeter of the pad that the tank sits on. A local fence installer will install the fence tomorrow and the Fire Marshal will return next Monday to inspect it. The Fire Marshal also noted the warning stickers on the tank needed to be modified which has been corrected by C&M Equipment Company.

Mr. Foy reported that we are required to have a *Spill Prevention Control and Containment Plan*. Golder and Associates will be working with staff to develop this plan today and they anticipated completion of the plan in a few days. Hopefully this will all be complete within the next month.

NEW BUSINESS

Glass Handling at the Recycling Center

Mr. Skeen reviewed glass handling practices in other communities as was requested in the last meeting. He distributed a summary of his findings. He noted that Columbus still collects glass but does not recycle it and instead sends it to the landfill. Metro Atlanta still separates their glass, but it is up to private haulers whether they choose to recycle it or dispose of it. When the market for this material is not good, some take it straight to the landfill.

He noted that at the County's remote sites plastic is collected in trailers that were purchased for that purpose. He recommended putting plastic in the larger roll-offs which will reduce the servicing time, giving personnel more time to focus on sorting.

From a financial point of view, he estimated roughly \$23,000 was spent on glass collection, while only a little over \$100 revenue was generated by the glass collected. He added that we are still owed \$700 for the glass shipped last April.

There are two containers of glass outside the Center that haven't been picked up since January. If we could eliminate glass collection, we would have more space for plastic collection. He recommended eliminating glass collection.

Commissioner Hancock added this would not have any impact on citizens who already include glass in their garbage. Commissioner Collins asked how the citizens would be informed of the change. Mr. Skeen said he would put up signs and offer handouts to citizens.

Commissioner Hancock moved to approve Mr. Skeen's recommendation. Commissioner Bagwell seconded. The motion carried.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Recycling Center

Operations Report

Mr. Skeen presented the January and February reports. He noted there was nothing out of line in either one. He noted they contain volume reports for material received. Mr. McCord noted the glass listed is less than two loads.

Financial Report

Mr. Burkhalter presented the Recycling Center's unaudited statement for 2015. He noted material sales, which are the main revenue resource, being about 27% less than budgeted and about \$90,000 less than what we collected at this time last year. Revenues were \$144,500 under budget overall.

Operating expenses were almost \$165,000 less than budget. We projected expenses for the year would be greater than revenue by almost \$295,000 while actual expenses were \$235,000. The ending balance was \$734,546, which is \$235,000 less than year before.

On the Cash Increases he noted about \$2,000 less than budget was taken in but and about \$140,000 less than projections was paid out. The cash balance at the beginning of year cash was about \$500,000 and the balance at the end of the year was just under \$345,000. Approximately \$155,000 of our cash was used in operations during the year.

Mr. Skeen added that material sales are outside of our control since it is a market driven number. The price of cardboard, for example, has fluctuated from \$145/ton in 2010 to \$85/ton today. Plastic was \$400 to \$550 per ton in 2010 and is now \$170/ton. This has been the longest consistent fall in price we have experienced. Long term projections do not anticipate any major increases.

Walker Mountain Landfill

Mr. Gattis presented the landfill operations report. He noted that January 2016 was down over January 2015 but in February tonnage was up for the month and year. Year-to-date tonnage was up by 3,000 tons; C&D is down some. Overall we are doing well.

Financial Report

Ms. Shore presented the unaudited December report. She noted there has been increased landfill usage all year long. Every revenue source is up over 2014 including interest earned. Total revenues were at \$2.78 million for the year, up from \$2.47 million last year. *Personal Services* were up slightly over last year. Supplies were down mainly due to fuel costs being way down. *Repairs and Maintenance* is about the same as last year. *Other Services and Charges* had a substantial decrease from last year mainly because there were more payments in 2014 to Environmental Guidance Assoc. for compliance work on the Fox Manufacturing site.

She noted that funds must be accrued as we use the landfill to cover the closure, post closure and 30 years monitoring that we will face in the future. Recently the way we calculate closure expenses was changed which resulted in some negative numbers on this report that may look strange but only reflect this change in calculation.

On the cash statement she noted some of the same increases and decreases are reflected. She noted only \$32,000 was spent on a \$500,000 budget because we did not make anticipated capital purchases in 2015 but will make some of these purchases in 2016 instead. The overall cash balance is up, but we are still short in deposits to the Restricted Accounts for post closure and landfill development.

Commissioner Collins asked how long we have been in the current phase. Ms. Shore noted that Phase 7 is at approximately a 50% capacity. Mr. Milam said we shouldn't need to expand into another phase until around 2018. The balances in the restricted accounts need to be increased so we have the necessary funds for development of the next phase when we need it.

Commissioner Bagwell expected that we would have more time to build the funding since we have extended the life of the landfill. Mr. Milam noted that although we have longer before we have to close the landfill, we also have extended the years of operating costs as well. He added that once the landfill is closed and no revenue is coming in, there will be some operating costs and monitoring obligations that will continue. We must be watchful to ensure we build up enough reserve in the restricted accounts to cover those costs.

On the February report, Ms. Shore noted that C&D was down, but up over last year. Other revenues were in line with last year.

OTHER

Commissioner Collins welcomed the guest, Mr. Charles Love, who is co-chair of the North Rome Community Action Committee. He stated that the Committee was organized about two years ago. Among their issues of concern, the Committee has been discussing the Recycling Center and their desire to have it moved outside of their community. He was directed by the Committee to convey their position on this issue officially to the Solid Waste Commission.

Commissioner Bagwell thanked Mr. Love and noted that he supports moving the Center to the landfill. He added that between SPLOST funds and Solid Waste Commission funds, we may be able to do it. Mr. Milam noted the question for landfill placement depends on whether or not we have a good footprint for the facility and the costs to construct it. Right now, the restricted funds are not available for this use so the Commission would have to change its policy to use any of these funds. Mr. Skeen added that several cities have built their recycling operations near their landfills.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Mr. Milam asked the Commissioners if they would like to keep the current meeting schedule which is every other month at 9:30 AM, or make any changes. The Commissioners agreed to keep the meeting on the odd months but change the time to 8:30 AM.

Commissioner Collins said if the Commissioners agreed, he would like to meet next month for further discussions on relocating the Recycling Center. The Commissioners agreed. The next meeting will be April 26th at 8:30 AM.

ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Hollingsworth

Margaret W. Hollingsworth, Secretary