



HENDERSON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) minutes: September 20, 2010

Present: Chairman Stan Kumor, Mr. Jim Phelps, Ms. Katie Breckheimer, Mr. Terry Maybin, and Mr. Robert Delwiche, Ms. Debbie Hicks, Ms. Emily Anderson and Mr. Thomas McMinn.

Guests: Mr. Jack Keyes with Etowah Lions, Mr. Dwight A. Lively with Zeke's Garbage, Mr. Jerry Schnitzius with Waste Pro and Mr. Chuck McGrady with Henderson County Board of Commissioners.

Staff: Ms. Alexis Baker, Mr. Marcus Jones, and Ms. Natalie Berry.

Welcome/Call to Order:

Chairman Kumor called the meeting to order at 4:00pm

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the minutes from July 19, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

Materials Reports presented by Ms. Baker. The recycling numbers are down in comparison to the previous year but that is due to the metal reclamation happening at different times for the comparative years. The numbers for total waste continue to decline. A request was made for a report showing month by month comparisons for fiscal year 2009-2010.

Marcus Jones reported that the current Hauling & Disposal Contract with Waste Management at \$33.47 a ton will expire at the end of 2010. Upon receipt and review of bids, the low bid from Republic Waste at \$34.19 a ton has been accepted with the approval of the Board of Commissioners. The County attorney is reviewing the contract to assure that the correct terms are in place and then upon the County Managers signature, the contract will be in effect as of January 1, 2011. Republic Waste facility is in Union, S.C.

Capital Improvements are out for bid and scheduled for opening on October 5th. The decrease in revenues has sparked a re-evaluation of the feasibility study updating it to include decreased revenues and excluding the in-house MRF. Once the study is complete and all factors have been reweighed, progression toward the finalization of the plans for the capital improvements can continue. The Board will be presented with the engineer's recommended contract by the first Board meeting in November.

The plans for the MRF have changed in that, with the direction of the Board of Commissioners, the MRF will now be sought privately as a partnership. An RFP (Request for Proposal) for this will be going out soon. This decision will mean less risk for the county by using a company that is already prepared and equipped to take the materials. There should be results to present to the Board of Commissioners by the first meeting in November. The benefits for having a MRF in Hendersonville include saving money due to current transportation costs to a facility in Asheville. If the single stream continues to be sent out of Hendersonville, a transportation contract will be necessary to assure low cost transport to a facility which accepts the materials at no cost.

Natalie Berry reported that the Five Year NC DENR Permit Renewal Process is in progress. The current permit expires on March 21, 2010. All information to obtain a new permit must be submitted to NC DENR by December 21, 2010. This permit is for operations of the facility. More information will be reported to SWAC as progress continues.

An unscheduled NC DENR inspection took place on September 10, 2010. The inspector noted wind-blown trash on the grounds but was satisfied with plans to have the trash cleaned up the following day. The inspection report noted the Transfer Station bays were clean and controlled. Bay 2 leachate control was addressed with continual weekly cleaning of the lines. The yard waste/grinding operation was in good working order and though the electronics recycling area was at capacity, the inspector was satisfied with the efforts in progress to find additional storage for the fast accumulating electronic recycling materials. No NOV's (Notice of Violation) were issued.

Alexis Baker reported that the trash and recycling amounts from the 2010 Apple Festival for recycling are in line with the amounts from 2009. Public Works for the City of Hendersonville, ECO, Polk County High School Green Team and Project Challenge helped with the collection of the recycling.

The HHW Events (Household Hazardous Waste) in August produced approximately 212 gallons of paint collected as well as many various kinds of pesticides and household cleaners. The Department of Agriculture picks up the pesticides for free but everything else must be paid for by Henderson County to be removed. September's HHW Event produced 241 gallons of paint and an increase of pesticides collection in comparison to the August event.

Education and Outreach continues in many forms. The forms include aiding and educating local Boy Scouts seeking to earn their environmental badges to speaking at local school schools and social events. Events include the two recent HHW Events, ECO Community forum at GE (Energy Management focus), Apple Festival, Local Food's meeting (composting focus), Flat Rock Rotary Club and the Blue Ridge Community College group tour of the Stoney Mtn. Road facility.

DPPEA Reduction Grant was returned due to the decision to not build a MRF. DPPEA has been renamed and is now called the Division of Environmental Assistance and Outreach. The grant can be reapplied for next year under a different request.

Per Marcus Jones, Waste Pro confirmed that they offer trash and recycling at the published rate for Henderson County residents. The Henderson County rate is higher than the Buncombe County rate due to the fact that Waste Pro is the contracted hauler for Buncombe County.

The Haulers Forum held on August 25, 2010 was successful with good attendance. Haulers were informed and much dialogue ensued between the haulers and staff. Review of the statutes and requirements as well as answering questions and concerns were the primary focus. As requested, meeting minutes from the Haulers Forum are attached.

Katie Breckheimer reported that the ECO Tour will be on Friday, November 19, 2010. The group will be touring National Resource Recovery Corporation in Spartanburg, S.C. and continue to the Southeastern Container Company if possible. All SWAC members, Henderson County Solid Waste Division staff and the Board of Commissioners are invited.

The SWAC meeting for January 17, 2011 was moved to January 24, 2011 in observance of the MLK Holiday. Also the next SWAC meeting on November 15, 2010 will be chaired by Vice President Jim Phelps.

Meeting Adjourned

Minutes submitted by Ms. Rebecca Coplin

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