



HENDERSON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) minutes: March 15, 2010

Present: Chairman Stan Kumor, Mr. Jim Phelps, Mr. Tom McCullough, Mr. Terry Maybin, and Mr. Robert Delwiche, Ms. Debbie Hicks, Ms. Emily Anderson, and Mr. Joseph McGuthand.

Guests: Mr. Jack Keyes and Mr. Will Hicks with Etowah Lions, Mr. Chuck McGrady with the Henderson County Board of Commissioners, Mr. Rick Burt with ECO and Mr. Larry Rodgers with PEP.

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

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 January 19, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: None to address

New Business: Mr. Kumor announces the resignation of the Henderson County Solid Waste Manager, Will Sagar. Mr. Sagar's last day will be Friday, March 12, 2010. Ms. Natalie Berry, Assistant County Engineer, is currently working with Marcus Jones, Director of Engineering, in handling the duties of the Solid Waste Manager, in the interim. Action to find a replacement for the position is being taken.

Mr. Jones announced that all staff with the Henderson County Solid Waste Division will be attending a portion of the upcoming Carolina Recycling Association Conference scheduled for March 16th – 19th. Mr. Kumor requested that the staff prepare a report on what was discussed at the conference. Mr. Jones & Mr. Kumor encouraged all at the meeting to attend the conference if at all possible.

Mr. Jones announced that a modular type building (approximately 300 s.q. feet in size) has been purchased to serve as the collection site for Household Hazardous Waste at 800 Stoney Mtn. Road. The building is currently under construction and will be delivered and assembled near the old animal shelter. Some staff from the Solid Waste Division attended a course in order to be trained on the proper collection of HHW. The approximate time of delivery is sometime in May. The funding for the HHW Bldg came from grants obtained thru DIPPY.

Ms. Natalie Berry, Assistant County Engineer, reported on the NC DENR inspection held on March 10th, 2010. Inspector Andrea Keller requested a copy of the 1995 Transition Plan. Andrea also stated that the areas of concern included litter pickup, three seepages, and bollards that needed repair at the gas pump area. Andrea will be returning on April 28, 2010 to conduct a follow-up inspection in order to see that any issues of concern are being address. **A copy of the written inspection results are attached to these minutes.**

The committee reviewed graphs provided by the Solid Waste Division showing the increase of recycling and the decrease of waste from the previous 2009 year to current year-to-date (February 2010). Mr. Kumor requested that the next meeting also include a report which contains, Mixed Paper and Single Stream. Also, information showing the incoming and outgoing amounts of Single Stream. **A graph and/or report of requested information is attached to these minutes.**

Mr. Jones next shared an update on the capital improvement plans for the Solid Waste Division on Stoney Mtn. Road. After consulting with the Planning Department and in consideration of the private property that surrounds the area for the improved area, the most current plans to date include moving the convenience center further back on the property then originally planned. This will in turn mean more paving for the road that is to access the center.

The Material Recovery Facility or MRF location is still unknown. Mr. Jones is currently moving forward with the original plan of renting or leasing a warehouse type facility. RFQ's (Request for Quote) and RFP's (Request for Pricing) are in process to obtain several quotes for the facilitation and operation of the MRF. The estimated operational day for the MRF is Earth Day of 2011. The funding for the MRF includes North Carolina State funding of \$60,000.00 a year and the repayment of \$54,000.00 from the General Fund for the Animal Shelter. Ms. Debbie Hicks asked if the haulers will be taking their recycling to the MRF or to Stoney Mtn. Road and Mr. Jones responded that the haulers can use either.

Mr. Jones also shared that Land Code Amendments will be brought up for Public Hearing on April 5, 2010. The current zoning laws would not allow for the improvements to move forward as planned. The current property in use on Stoney Mtn. Road was grandfathered in under current code. Therefore, the hope is to introduce Public Solid Waste Use text that will allow for property which is to be used in the new design of the future facility on Stoney Mountain Road.

Ms. Alexis Baker updated the committee on the status of education and outreach. The 40th anniversary of Earth Day is approaching. ECO will be hosting a celebration on April 24, 2010 at Blue Ridge Community College. The general public's understanding of what can be recycled is still an issue of concern. Some suggestion of educational avenues includes public access television and the use of magnets and stickers. Ms. Baker currently uses many areas of media including the Times News and the internet. She also does a presentation for groups and schools to further educate any interested parties, handing out brochures and other materials.

The committee was requested to help select a winner from the Environmental Stewardship Contest. Out of 10 possible selections, the art submitted by Miss. Stephanie Cope entitled "Always Think about Recycling", was selected as the winner. Miss Cope's work will be displayed on the back of the Henderson

County Recycling truck and will be present with an award. The truck is scheduled to be displayed at the ECO Earth Day celebration with the winning drawing.

Mr. Terry Maybin asked if haulers that are leaving dumpsters in residential areas are also required to offer recycling just as the haulers that provide residential pickup are required to provide recycling? Mr. Jones responded that a dumpster would be required for recycling to go with the dumpster meant only for trash in order for compliance to be met. Mr. Jones suggested that a letter be sent out by the Solid Waste Division reminding all haulers that they must offer recycling whether they offer pickup services and/or dumpster drop sites.

The next SWAC meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2010.

Meeting Adjourned

Minutes submitted by Ms. Rebecca Coplin

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