



Rome-Floyd County Solid Waste Commission



Tuesday March 27, 2023, 8:30 AM
Sam King Room

PRESENT: Commissioner Bony Askew, Rome City Commission
Commissioner Wright Bagby, Floyd County Commission
Commissioner Larry Maxey
Commissioner Mr. Sammy Rich, Rome City Manager
Ms. Meredith Ulmer, Rome Assistant City Manager
Mr. Jamie McCord, Floyd County Manager
Mr. Bruce Ivey, Floyd County Special Projects Manager
Mr. Chris Jenkins, Rome Public Works Director
Mr. Justin Messer, Rome Assistant Public Works Director
Ms. Toni Rhinehart, Rome Finance Director
Mr. Lee Stone, Walker Mountain Landfill Director
Ms. Emma Wells, Floyd County Solid Waste Director
Mr. Doug Walker, Public Information Officer
Ms. Hannah Bagley, KRFB Program Coordinator

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January meeting were approved by common consent.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Traffic Congestion Complaint

Mr. Jenkins reported there has been a traffic congestion complaint from Jonathan Kilgo, owner of Rhino Waste & Recycling, Inc., regarding his concerns about traffic stacking up both ways coming into the landfill, and the need for enforcement to stop motorists from going around traffic coming into the landfill. Mr. Stone reported noted there was an improvement in congestion for about a year after we prohibited the household garbage traffic, eliminating from 65 to 70 cars a day. Over the last year, however, tonnage has increased steadily causing congestion to increase. Drivers will risk crossing the center line in a blind curve to by-pass the congestion. He recommended Mr. Jenkins suggestion

of a second scale operating simultaneously. Mr. Jenkins suggested the best solution would be to move to the old scale house where they could add a second scale so there would be a scale going in and one going out. This would speed up the process on those weighing out. He estimated with the cost of a new scale and the modifications to the office they cost would come in under \$200,000. Mr. Jenkins noted that we have discussed putting this on a SPLOST depending on how fast we want to get it done. Commissioner Bagby asked Mr. Stone if he recommended this solution. Commissioner Bojo asked how long it would take. Mr. Stone said the last scale purchased took 6 months to arrive. Mr. Lee said staff should come out and walk the area to confirm the arrangement. A pit would have to be dug and wiring set up while before switching from the current location.

Commissioner Bagby asked for a motion to proceed with this project. Commissioner Bojo moved to proceed. Commissioner Maxey seconded. The motion carried.

Former Recycling Center Site CSR for EPD

Mr. Jenkins reported the former recycling center site has been on the EPD's *Hazardous Site Index* (HIS) list since 1994. We sold the property two years ago, which did not release us from responsibility for a corrective action plan. Our consultant, Maxis Engineering worked to get our corrective action plan approved and now we only need them to complete the Compliance Summary Report (CSR) and submit it to EPD for the site to be removed off the HIS list and the City and County to be free from responsibility for the site. Monitoring will no longer be required. The current owner is impatient for this step to be completed and anticipate that moving forward soon.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Recycling Center

Operations Report

Ms. Wells presented the Operations report. She noted the Center has been operating more efficiently with the new truck purchased last year. We still have an agreement with West Rock Paper Company to sell our residual material to them, so we are not sending as much to the landfill. We are getting paid \$10/ton for that material. Our material sales were high. Cardboard is low compared to 2021, 2022, and 2023 but we expect the trend to rise. Cardboard is now going for \$15/ton. She added that she and KRFB Program Coordinator, Ms. Bagley, went out to Floyd County Schools yesterday to present some awards for a recycling challenge. Ms. Wells also noted that the City was awarded the bid to pick up Berry's recycling last November, so that material is being accounted for separately as a line item in her report since it isn't curbside.

Financial Report

The financial report was presented for review.

Walker Mountain Landfill

Operations Report

Mr. Stone presented the landfill operations report. He reported that Garbage 9000 tons of garbage was taken in during the month of February which is down slightly from this time last year but is up slightly year to date. We took in 384 tons of inert material which is also down for the month but up 57 tons for the year. There was a big spike in tires at 11 tons which is up by 8 tons over this time last year. There were 2400 tons of C&D material received, which is up by 567. Overall, we took in a total of 11,823.03 tons of material which is up by 438.39 tons for the month and 1860.35 for the year.

Commissioner Bagby noted at the last meeting we planned to make a plan on how were are going to handle tires. Mr. McCord said we need to decide on a budget and make a plan. Ms. Wells said we can request more grant funding than the \$9000 we received last year but we need to decide whether we want to do an event, curbside or remote site pick up which would require manpower to cut them off the rim. Mr. Rich asked how the grant money is to be used. Ms. Well replied that it must be used only for the hauler and the processing Mr. McCord suggested this Committee approve a budget not to exceed from this Commission then the City and County can determine what they plan to provide and we can work together on it. We could have a called meeting next month or wait until May. Ms. Wells said the limits on the grant is a maximum of \$50,000 per local government per State fiscal year, and up to \$4 per passenger tire equivalent. Mr. McCord suggested we apply for the grant for \$50,000 and the Solid Waste Commission could supply the difference.

Commissioner Bojo moved to approve up to \$50,000 toward a tire program. Commissioner Maxey seconded. The motion carried.

Financial Report

The financial report was distributed for review.

OTHER

Ms. Bagley reported the litter prevention giveaways will be held at Walker Mountain and at three of the remote sites in partnership with the City, County and Code Enforcement. We will give out car trash bags and tarp. The dates will be April 4, 14, 18, and 28th from 9 AM until 11 AM.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret W. Hollingsworth, Secretary