



Rome-Floyd County Solid Waste Commission



Tuesday March 22, 2022, 8:30 AM
Sam King Room

PRESENT: Commissioner Bony Askew, Rome City Commission
Commissioner Allison Watters, Floyd County Commission
Commissioner Mark Cochran, Rome City Commission
Mr. Sammy Rich, Rome City Manager
Ms. Meredith Ulmer, Rome Assistant City Manager
Mr. Jamie McCord, Floyd County Manager
Mr. Chris Jenkins, Rome Public Works Director
Mr. Justin Messer, Rome Assistant Public Works Director
Mr. Bruce Ivey, Floyd County Special Projects Manager
Mr. Aaron Carroll, Rome Engineering Services Director
Mr. Lee Stone, Walker Mountain Landfill Director
Ms. Emma Wells, Floyd County Solid Waste Director
Mr. Doug Walker, Public Information Officer

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commissioner Watters called the meeting to order and asked for nominations for the 2022 Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

Commissioner Cochran nominated Commissioner Bonnie Askew for Chairman. Commissioner Watters seconded. The motion carried.

Commissioner Watters nominate Commissioner Larry Maxey for Vice-Chair. Commissioner Cochran seconded. The motion carried.

CONFIRMATION OF 22 MEETING SCHEDULE

The Commission agreed to maintain an 8:30 AM scheduled on the fourth Tuesday on odd months.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January meeting were approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

Fox Manufacturing Property Corrective Action Plan

Mr. Jenkins reported on the Fox Manufacturing property Corrective Action Plan. He noted the City and County Governments have shared responsibility for this property since 1986 when it was donated to us. The site had been used consistently as a furniture company from 1885. This industry uses chemicals to treat lumber. In 1986, EPD began performing regular inspections on the property and detected mostly lead and arsenic on the site. He added that as owners, we have been responsible for the continued monitoring of the site for several decades, which is about to finally come to an end. We hired a new engineering consultant two years ago who has been working diligently for that outcome.

The property sold two years ago, but in this situation, the responsibility for the site is not transferred to the new owners but shared with them. The City has taken the position of facilitating the work with EPD on this including managing the corrective actions that include monitoring and reporting, but have recently been working with our consultant to get this property off EPD's hazardous site inventory. EPD has a list of risk reduction standards that have been working to meet. We will be meeting with the new property owners to hopefully get them to agree to a uniform environmental covenant, which contains restrictions on the property use and excludes any residential use or earth work on the site.

The City, County and Solid Waste Commission have born the entire cost of work with engineers, consultants and EPD with costs up to \$40,000. The new contract we are about to sign is for \$5000. Mr. McCord asked if the wells would continue to be active. Mr. Jenkins replied there are three wells that continue to be monitored annually. He added there are no problems with the ground water, only with the soil. The current use is for warehouse storage which coincides with EPD's requirement for a deed restriction against digging or excavation on the site. Mr. Jenkins added that this report is for informational purposes and does not require any formal action.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion Regarding Amnesty Day for Tires

Mr. Jenkins invited Ms. Wells to discuss the upcoming Amnesty Day event. She reported that she procured a \$6880 grant to cover the cost of the event that will take place on April 23rd from 9 AM until 3 PM at the GE site. Ms. Wells said she applied for a budget for 4000 passenger tires and 100 large tractor tires, making the guidelines very clear. They would not accept any commercial tires and a maximum of 10 tires per vehicles and vehicles must have a Floyd County tag. They decided to have the event at GE to be easier for residents than the Braves Stadium. Appointments are not required. She noted that the hauler is Liberty Tires, and they will drop of trailers the day before off the day before the event.

The event is being marketed on Facebook, and there will be flyers given out at the Recycling Center and at the landfill.

Cardboard and Latex Bunkers

Ms. Wells reported there is a new cardboard bunker in the front of the Recycling Center that has been very efficient. It is a great improvement from the dumpsters that it replaces which were unsightly. The latex bunker was completed about three weeks ago. It is about 6 feet tall with concrete walls and a roof. We are placing leaf debris and sawdust in the bunker so we can pour the paint out to be absorbed there and then dispose of it once dried. This has saved a great deal of time and money in disposal.

She announced that the next HHW event will be held on May 21st. We just had an electronics event this past Saturday and had 148 people participate. She noted the addition of online sign-ups has been a major improvement with a significant reduction in phone calls.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Recycling Center

Operations Report

Ms. Wells presented the operations report. She noted we recently hired a new administrative assistant. She noted that curbside trucks were down slightly in February, which is due to it being a shorter month, but we are basically on track for where we should be. We sent out a lot of cardboard and have a great relationship with our residual buyer. We have put up new signs at our remote sites and at the Center to clarify exactly what we will accept as well as noting our drop off area is open 24/7. She added the price for mixed paper is very high right now.

Financial Report

Ms. Wells presented the unaudited financials for 2021. She noted there were a lot of big expenses for supplies. We have budgeted for a new forklift and two new side dump trailers to place out front of the Center. We haven't had any unusual expenses so far this year.

Walker Mountain Landfill

Operations Report

Mr. Stone presented the February operations report. He noted that garbage was up. We were 577 tons over this time last year. C&D was up 549 tons from last year. Inert is up 832 tons from last year. Tires were down. Overall, we were up 1957 tons year-to-date over last

year. BFI has received the notice of the elimination of their preferred rate but so far, they continue to bring as much material as they had been.

He noted that EPD has a standardized form we must use to calculate the remaining life of the landfill. We try to do better than their projections by better compacting the waste to reduce the volume, and EPD has not objected to using less cover dirt, which has helped somewhat. An independent study on the compactor we use shows it can extend the life of the landfill by 10 years. It only runs about 50% of the time so fuel costs are a lot less. It has a more efficient motor. The ALJON model we had before had to run continuously using a tremendous amount of fuel, but the new TANA machine is rigid and does not need to run more than 50% of the time, saving quite a bit of fuel. We have just received the second of these machines which potentially could extend the life of the landfill from 14 years to 40 years longer. Mr. Jenkins added that last year we were projecting Phase 8 to last until 2026 and we are now projecting 2028. He presented a model of the TANA machine for the Commission to review. Mr. Carroll added that we should have a more realistic projection after two more cycles of the fluff layer have been placed. We will continue to watch this but by 2026 we should be getting Phase 9 designed and get with a consultant to consider where Site 3 should be. Once identified we may be able to use material removed from the Site 3 location as cover in our current landfill. We currently have about 1/3 of our site left to be covered with a fluff layer which will be done by next year.

Financial Report

Ms. Rhinehart presented a February financial report noting the December statement will be completed this week. In February, she noted revenues were up almost \$124,000 from this time last year. Pretty much every line item is up, particularly C&D. Expenses are slightly higher than last year. We started late in 2021 with the inmate crew working at the landfill. Payroll is up slightly. Fuel costs are already up which should have a huge impact city-wide for the rest of this year. The new compactor was paid for last week at \$886,892. The cash balance at the end of February was a little over \$11 million but is now about \$10 million.

ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret W. Hollingsworth, Secretary