

MINUTES

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AUGUST 24, 1993

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a Special Called Meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the County Office Building. The purpose of the meeting was a Solid Waste Work Session.

Present were: Chairman Vollie G. Good, Vice-Chairman J. Michael Edney, Commissioner Hugh D. Randall, Commissioner William McKay, Commissioner Renee Kumor, County Manager David F. Thompson, Assistant County Manager David E. Nicholson, and Clerk to the Board Elizabeth W. Corn.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Good called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

OPENING REMARKS BY THE COUNTY MANAGER

The County Manager explained what each person's roles have been during the developing of this land use process.

ALTERNATIVE DAILY COVER

Mr. Gary Tweed discussed Alternative Daily Cover, Fabrisoil, which is a tarp type of cover. Mr. Tweed discussed the frustrations of dealing with the state on matters such as the use of alternative cover and the cycle utilization issues. He suggested that the recycling area and haul road be moved to better utilize the air space as an extension of the landfill field. Mr. Tweed gave background information on the permit issued to the Landfill in 1982 and in 1986 for the horizontal expansion. Currently they are asking the state to allow them to utilize the space approved in 1992.

STATEMENT BY THE COUNTY MANAGER

The County Manager has asked Mr. Eldon Owen to order a synthetic cover and to begin using it when it arrives. The County is losing \$1500 a day by not using a synthetic cover. It will improve operations, extend the life of the landfill, and it will give us space while we consider another site. The County hopes to have a reshaping of the landfill within the existing base. The County Manager stated that notice was sent to the state and he will send a follow up letter to inform the state that if within 30 days the County does not hear differently, then the County will consider the proposal is within our existing permit and we will proceed with the best management practices on the landfill site. The County is supposed to get a permit modification, but because of the time factor, the county will prepare the permit modifications and drawings just like the regular submittal.

Mr. Thompson said he would go ahead with the alternative daily cover. As far as the vertical expansion, the state has already

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received notice of what we want to do, but he will follow up with a letter from the County Manager's office saying that as of such date we will start working within our permit, but this is how the County wants to change the operations within that permit. The county will go ahead and notify the state because too much money is being wasted and the state is not being responsive.

TUB GRINDER

Mr. Eldon Owen stated that the Landfill grinds 99% of yard and wood waste. The landfill uses, stores, and sells mulch, which is 100% recyclable. The tub grinder was sent to Transylvania County once for 10 days, and it did all the mulch they had saved for a year in eight days.

METHANE GAS REMEDIATION

Mr. Gary Tweed stated that Cargan Resources had completed Phase I of the site evaluation for gas remediation and found the gas is migrating primarily in two directions at the site. The County is considering a flaring station. A flaring station is a small structure that has a stack on it 15 feet high, on the top is a burner jet where the gas would be collected, ignited, and burned; as a result there would be no smoke, no odor, and the collective gas would be disposed of in an environmentally sound way in a small location that can better control the migration of gasses.

David Thompson commented that Subtitle D of the Landfill Regulations require existing sites that are being closed to manage the gas through a type of collection management system, and the Board of Commissioner's main goal was to control the problem, not just be in state compliance. The County Manager asked for the Board's permission to bring forth Phase II of the Methane Gas Remediation Contracts in late September.

SEDIMENTATION/EROSION CONTROL PONDS

Mr. Eldon Owen spoke of the sediment ponds and how they needed to be excavated periodically. Last year was the highest in any one year and it had to be done three times that year. David Thompson got a Notice of Violation, and Mr. Owen drafted a letter to answer the Notice of Violation. Now they are waiting for a response.

CLOSURE CONSIDERATION FOR LANDFILL SITES

_____ stated that because of the new state regulations, Title D, existing landfills will have a new transition plan that will become effective in October of this year. The transition plan will contain an operational plan to continue operating the existing landfill, closure/post closure plans of how to close the landfill, and what will be done with the landfill site after it is closed, including the water monitoring plans.

David Thompson stated that the Board will have to make a decision within the next calendar year on the contract for closure and what will be done with the site at the end of its usefulness. He

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suggested that the Board wait until the regulations come out and then decide on an appropriate course of action and further stated to be sure that that course of action doesn't lock the Board in because the regulations might change in another month.

Every county in the state will be getting out of their old landfills and into new Subtitle D landfills, which includes a permit process for the site, a permit process for the construction plans to build it, and to have plans to get into it within the next two to three years.

UP COMING PUBLIC HEARING

The County is looking for a new landfill site. Marty Morgan is helping us prepare for the Public Hearing on the site and the site selection process: (format Structure)

1. Bring the public up to date as to how this all took place. A quick way to bring the public up to date on where we are today is to show an Audio Visual Presentation at the Public Hearing.
2. Part A of the presentation will be the County Manager and experts. He might use some slide presentations with an in-depth explanation of things relative to what may have been seen in the audio visual.
3. To open that presentation to the public and the press to ask questions, and make comments about what it is.

Bill Lapsley stated that as for final sites, the next step from an engineer's standpoint, is to bring in technical experts to work with them within the next week. That team is lined up to come in and make a final check of the sites from a technical standpoint before presenting them to the state for their final opinion on them.

Chairman Good called a 10 minute break. The work session was called back to order. Chairman Good recognized Nippy Page.

MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY

GDS was contracted by Henderson County in April of 1992 to handle our two drop off sites. They subsequently contracted with Curb Waste Recycle in Hendersonville to help them process the amount of material coming out of Henderson County. During the first part of the year, the tonnages increased dramatically as they added three new materials to the recycling. Henderson County still has its cardboard and its paper recycling. Because of those problems, GDS met with Henderson County to ascertain whether or not a Materials Recovery Facility was in the future for the County. They presented an unsolicited proposal in January of 1993 and state officials were contacted to find out what types of materials recovery facilities were operating across the state, how they were financed, how many employees they had, how many materials were handled and to get a list of those facilities. It was decided it was impossible to

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compare what a materials recovery facility on the other end of the state was doing; it was like comparing apples to oranges because each locality had specific operational procedures that were different from ours in materials. We sent an RFP out in March to 7 companies and got responses from 2, GDS and BSI in Hickory. Ms. Page updated the Board at the April meeting on solid waste issues and what recycling activities were going on in the County and the proposal we received from GDS. From the time we sent the RFP out to the time that we got the proposal back from GDS, Waste Management made the decision to take the waste that they were hauling in Henderson County outside of Henderson County. At that time Ms. Page couldn't make any kind of recommendation to the Board as staff until she could analyze the effects of that loss of revenues, (in our budget). The loss of tonnage was heavy.

The SWAC has been informed of this whole process and is in complete support of the MRF. They did not suggest how we would finance this MRF. Ms. Page waited until the end of July to look at the revenues and expenditures side of the landfill budget to get the effect Waste Management pulling out of the county would have. GDS would like to go into a private/public partnership with us. They would like for us to buy the equipment in the facility and they are waiting for us to give them an operational support fee. GDS will use the old Sugarloaf apple packing house in Dana, and will continue to lease with an option to buy.

GDS has stated that at the end of the contract they would buy the equipment back if the county so desires.

The County paid 60% residual so the County would have the option to either let them have their own equipment, or we can use it in our own materials recovery facility after three years. The reason for the three years is because we are going into the new landfill site.

David Thompson is looking for a three year contract that doesn't force us to franchise our haulers. He doesn't want to put anyone out of business and he wants to know what the downside risks are. Mr. Thompson specifically stated what the contract has and then reviewed the overall dollar amounts.

GDS Contract will provide for the County:

1. a facility for a full service, flexible MRF, designed for growth,
2. a clean, safe public buy-back facility,
3. education on every level,
4. route service for commercial/industrial accounts,
5. comprehensive accounting and reporting, and
6. brokerage service for all materials.

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COST PROJECTIONS

David Nicholson discussed the landfill activity, waste reduction, recycling centers cost figures, projection of landfill enterprise budgets for 1994-1997 (including proposed GDS Contract).

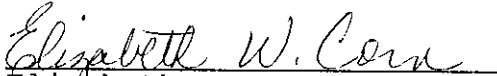
Mr. Nicholson said the issue is how long could we stay in the current landfill and use that facility correctly, but in the future what will the costs of solid waste be. If we don't build a strong basis now for recycling, then in a year or two when we get into the new landfill we will need to start all over again, losing that basis and that time period. Financially the Board has two options available: we could use the money that's in the capital account to pay for this contract and borrow a little bit more toward the costs of a new facility; or we could raise the tipping fee, but staff doesn't recommend raising the tipping fee to be competitive in the market place right now. Some issues are community wide and recycling is a community wide issue. It may not be a solid waste disposal issue in the future.

Peter Molleur discussed landfill revenues with GDS and landfill revenues without using GDS services. We have to be more competitive in the market, but we are competing with Waste Management. The County Manager stated that we must seriously and aggressively pursue regional landfills. It wasn't cost effective before but now it is going to be the only way to do it because that's the only way we can compete with the larger firms out there. We will have to look more seriously at regional landfills. We will have to look at a household property tax. Financially, Mr. Nicholson feels that there should be no problem with financing the new landfill with special revenue bonds with the waste stream we have now.

GDS will have a contract for the Board of Commissioner's approval for the September 7th meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

ATTEST:


Elizabeth W. Corn, Clerk


Vollie G. Good, Chairman