



Region 2000 Services Authority

Location

Haberer Bldg.
47 Courthouse Lane
Rustburg, VA 24588

Date | Time

November 28, 2018
2:00 p.m.

Minutes

Board Members Present

Susan Adams.....Appomattox County
Steve Carter Nelson County
Frank Rogers..... Campbell County
Bonnie Svrcek, *Chair*.....City of Lynchburg

1. Welcome

Bonnie Svrcek welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment

There were none.

3. Approval of the September 26, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Chair Bonnie Svrcek welcomed the Authority and the members of the public. The approval of the minutes from September 26, 2018 was delayed until later in the meeting.

4. Financial Update

Mrs. Majerus reported no unusual expenditures or revenue year to date and noted that market tonnage is running about 5% above budget year to date. The Authority noted the importance of keeping an eye on the fuel budget line. The Capital Equipment schedule has been updated to reflect latest expenditures.

The proceeds from the sale of surplus equipment has been added back to the Capital Equipment fund.

The FY 2020 Budget schedule of an initial presentation in January, a work session in March and approval in May was discussed. It was agreed that there was adequate time for the Authority to have additional sessions if needed.

5. Responding to Changing Market Conditions

Mr. Rogers reported that the Campbell County Board of Supervisors approved a motion 5-2 to inform the Authority that the Board opposes any expansion or adding of additional capacity to the landfill.

Mr. Christie noted that the Authority had asked staff to discuss some ideas focused on generating new revenue or reducing costs for the Authority. Mr. Gibson noted that the ideas had been reviewed and refined based on input from three of the members of the “Working Group” who are the Alternates or their designees to the Authority.

1) Adding a political jurisdiction with 25,000 tons/year as a Member or as a customer with a discounted rate.

Bringing on a new political jurisdiction with a volume of 25,000 tons/year would lower costs of service by an average of \$3.00 per ton. It would also reduce landfill capacity by an estimated 1.5 years. If joining as a member, the political jurisdiction should commit to bringing all of its solid waste to the Authority.

There was discussion about granting a \$5.00 discount off of the Excess Revenue fee for a new jurisdiction with 25,000 tons/year. That would generate another \$125,000 in excess revenue, lower the overall cost of service and shorten the life of the landfill by 1.5 years.

Amherst County was mentioned as an example of a jurisdiction with 25,000 tons/year. Ms. Svrcek noted that she would recuse herself if Amherst County was being specifically negotiated with because she has a family member who work for Amherst County.

A concern was expressed that we shouldn’t give a discount to an outside jurisdiction over local commercial haulers. It was noted that to bring in a new members would require unanimous consent of the current members.

2) Discounts for existing large volume (10,000+ tons/year)

A \$2 discount on the Excess Revenue fee to large commercial carriers might be an incentive to retain their volume. It would reduce excess revenue and may require an additional expenditure to compensate Lynchburg and Campbell. Mr. Gibson noted that it is an industry practice to negotiate price with customers.

Some members of the Authority thought this might be a good strategy. Other Authority members responded that \$2 would likely not be enough of an incentive. One member noted that our rates are below market rates now so that a discount may not be necessary. Hauling out of the area is a huge expense for commercial customers and that hauling cost will help discourage loss of customers. Mr. Rogers reminded the Authority that the Excess Revenue fee is payment for an asset and while we have the ability to negotiate that fee the Authority should be careful about undervaluing the asset.

3) Market to nearby commercial haulers who are serving counties not in the Authority's service area

The Authority may consider changing the current policy which does not permit solid waste from non-member jurisdictions so that local haulers who serve in Bedford, Amherst, or Pittsylvania counties could use the landfill at the commercial rate. A waste shed study would need to be done to estimate the quantity that may be received from these sources.

The Authority members asked for clarification about a hauler from Bedford being refused to use our landfill and Mr. Gibson explained that that was correct. Although there may be some inadvertent co-mingling, if we know that a load of solid waste comes from outside our member area then we're not supposed to accept it.

4) Solid Waste Flow Control

Mr. Gibson explained that there are two jurisdiction in Virginia which require all solid waste to be brought to the municipal landfill under a system called "Flow Control". It would assure that there would be a waste stream to utilize the investment that the Authority has made in the landfill infrastructure. It would require the two larger communities, Lynchburg and Campbell, at a minimum, to agree to this.

5) Establishing a drop off center to keep trucks off of the fill face

A drop off center is effectively a transfer station that allows commercial haulers to unload the solid waste without going onto the fill face saving time and wear/tear on equipment. It would be additional capital and operational expenses for the Authority.

Authority members asked for a new time study to see what the current unloading time is now and encouraged staff to make sure that the operation is as effective, efficient, and as low cost as it can be over the next three years. Being as competitive as possible may dilute the desire of a customer to go somewhere else. The condition of the road was especially mentioned as a need for improvement. The members also were curious about our unloading time compared to other landfills.

Ms. Adams thanked the Campbell Board of Supervisors for providing their perspective on the direction on the future of the landfill and suggested we begin discussions on the future of the Authority. Ms. Svrcek noted that staff will be meeting with County Waste in January and that information would be helpful in talking about a path forward. Ms. Svrcek also noted that we have time and can think through our steps deliberately as we move forward.

6) Examining the establishment of a collection/hauling system

Staff feels that the private market appears to be handling this adequately.

7) Over time, probably 6 companies have explored the concept of waste to energy.

8) Beneficial use of Landfill Gas

We could re-examine if this is an appropriate time to seek proposals for use of the landfill gas at Livestock Road landfill. We will be transitioning our shop heating system to landfill gas. Mr. Gibson noted that we could look at installing a Compressed Natural Gas system for vehicles.

9) Solar Energy Farms

The Authority has land that could be used as a solar energy farm.

10) Timeline for 2030 options were reviewed by Mr. Gibson:

- a. Greenfield Site: 9-10 years
- b. Development of Bennett Property: 8 years or less
- c. Transfer Station: 6 years, shorter time if site is identified and zoned properly
- d. Coal Ash Berm: Liner would be constructed in about two years and filled as the landfill gained in height.

11) Activities to enhance customer service had been previously discussed

12) Impact of County Waste

We dispose of about 50,000 tons of solid waste from County Waste and if that were to go away then our cost would increase \$10-11 per ton. One benefit is that it would increase the life of the landfill by 3-4 years.

13) Neighboring regional landfills

Mr. Gibson noted that he and directors from the Roanoke and New River Valley landfills had begun discussions about opportunities to work more closely together.

Mr. Gibson reviewed several tonnage scenarios.

14) Greenfield Site

Mr. Gibson noted that we could explore the idea of a greenfield site, which is siting a landfill at a new location.

Ms. Svrcsek thanked Clif Tweedy, John Spencer and Gaynelle Hart for assisting staff and their input in review of these options.

6. Awarding a contract for the Phase III Partial Closure Project

Upon a motion by Mr. Carter, seconded by Ms. Adams, the authority unanimously agreed to award a contract to Counts & Dobbins for the partial closure of the Phase III cell at a cost of \$3,431,245.69.

7. Director's Report

1) Report on hazardous household waste collection

Mr. Gibson noted that the Authority held three household hazardous waste collection events during 2018 receiving waste from 803 households. Ms. Adams asked about methods for notifying the communities. Mr. Gibson noted that it had been advertised in the Lynchburg newspaper and on the Authority website. He also noted that he will look into including advertisements in local papers in outlying counties. Ms. Adams also noted that the voucher system for County residents to use the service seems cumbersome.

2) Tonnage Report

Mr. Gibson remarked that tonnage is above budget year to date.

8. Placement of monitoring equipment at the Concord Turnpike landfill by IWT

Upon a motion by Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Rogers, the Authority unanimously authorized staff to work with Innovative Wireless Technologies (IWT) on a memorandum of understanding to allow IWT to place monitoring equipment at the Concord Turnpike landfill as part of their research and development on software projects and to hold the Authority harmless. There will be four (4) sensors installed in a testbed environment to monitor environmental gases and soils. The sensors are small, fully enclosed and battery powered and would be in place for 6 months to a year.

9. Minutes of September 26, 2018

Upon a motion by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Carter, the minutes of 9-26-18 were unanimously approved by the Authority with an amendment that Ms. Adams has requested a discussion of Excess Revenue at the budget discussions in January.

10. Proposed meeting schedule

The Authority agreed by consensus to the 2019 meeting schedule. Mr. Christie noted that the schedule listed in the agenda material was not complete and the balance of the meeting dates would be sent out after the meeting.

- January 30
- March 27
- May 29
- July 31

(missing are September 25 and December 4 meeting dates)

11. Adjournment until the next meeting on January 30 was unanimously approved by the Authority upon a motion by Ms. Adams and seconded by Mr. Carter.