

LANDFILL COMMITTEE MEETING

FEBRUARY 1, 2011

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Gebe Ritchie.

Roll was called by Recording Secretary Debbie Street; in attendance were Steve Lowrance, Joel Street, John Lewis, Robert Gobble, Richard Renfro, Charles Von Cannon, Gebe Ritchie and Sonja Culler. Pat Hicks was absent from the meeting.

Guests: Mayor Leon Humphrey, Kim Raia, Harold Range, Rupert Congleton and several citizens.

New Business Chairman Ritchie announced that the Manager of the Landfill Benny Lyons was in the hospital having some test run. A fire was reported at the Landfill over the weekend. Ritchie was in Florida and Mayor Leon Humphrey and EMA Director Andrew Worley were on the scene. Chairman Ritchie ask Mayor Humphrey to give an update on the fire.

Mayor Humphrey stated he received a call from the Sheriff's Department on Saturday January 29, 2011 around 8:45pm. Demolition side of the Landfill was fully engulfed. Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) was contacted. Access to the Landfill was a problem for the Fire Departments. The Highway Department was called to cut a road in and place gravel for the trucks to get to the site of the fire. Saturday evening approximately 140,000 gallons of water was put on the fire and workers remained until about 5:00am. Remobilized Sunday afternoon at 1:30pm, a second call was made to Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). Local Representatives were on site from Air Quality, Water Quality and Solid Waste to give direction. Some run off resulted from the amount of water applied, hay bails were installed in the containment pond and the ditch beyond the pond to act as a filter to make certain that any contaminated materials would be captured. Worked until Sunday 1:00 am, the Mayor provided food and drinks to the workers both evenings. Mr. Fred Willingham, Program Manager with the Division of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) came to the site Monday at 8:30am. Respirators were obtained from the City of Elizabethton. As of Monday morning the fire had been extinguished. Site will need to be covered with dirt. A copy of the Emergency Management Agency Report (EMA) was provided to the committee by Andrew Worley, EMA Director. The Mayor recognized the Fire Departments for their efforts in putting out the fire. No issues of fines or violations have been received. The cause of the fire has not been determined.

Ms. Kim Raia, Environmental Consultant with (County Technical Assistance Service), CTAS presented the committee reports on installing compactors at the County's Elk Mills and Roan Mountain convenience centers. Handouts were given to the committee recommending implementation of stationary compactors for the centers. The report adds that the cost would be approximately \$50,000 to purchase and install two compactors. Ms. Raia will be in contact with Mr. Lyons and she plans to attend the March meeting with more information for the committee to review.

Old Business Mr. Ritchie brought up the discussion of the compactor that needed to be replaced from the last fire. The Insurance Company totaled the compactor. Benny Lyons has acquired information on compactors; he and Joel Street have discussed replacing the compactor. Chairman Ritchie ask Street for an update.

Joel Street provided information on the compactor Lyons had located: 1990 compactor, cost of \$27,000.00, delivered \$28,500.00. Insurance Company has paid the County \$26,500.00, (confirmed by

Finance Department). A new compactor would cost \$300,000 – \$400,000. Discussion was made to auction off the old equipment legally at Open Auction. Parts have been ordered for the old machine to use as a back up. Joel Street made a motion the equipment be purchased, second by Sonja Culler. Voice roll call vote: All ayes.

Discussion regarding the dozer be auctioned off and start the bid at \$7,000 with a two week Bid for an Open Auction. Decision was made to wait until more equipment is available to bid off.

Harold Range, owner of Range Equipment gave a report on the compactor: 2008 transmission, excellent shape, any minor things found would be fixed. Pictures were presented for the committee to view. The Committee ask Mr. Range to call the company and let them know the County would like to purchase the equipment. Mr. Range responded that he left a message for the owner to call him back. A motion was made by Richard Renfro for the Mayor to issue a down payment to purchase the dozer, second by Joel Street. Voice roll call vote: All ayes.

Rupert Congleton made a statement as an employee of the Landfill that they need a second piece of equipment. The loader is now down as it failed on Saturday while trying to place rock. R. W. Edwards brought a loader for the Landfill to use when the loader quit.

Mayor Humphrey stated there is no line item in the Landfill Budget for purchasing new equipment, therefore it does have to be an amendment and must go before the Budget Committee.

Roan Mountain Landfill Manager Harlan Guinn gave his report with a statement that he was employed for four days a week and the County was charged for five days a week, possible overcharge. Mr. Guinn said that Benny Lyons has been made aware of the matter and he is looking into it.

John Huber, the Chairman of Environmental Committee for the Chamber of Commerce stated the scheduled Cleanup dates are set for April 29 and 30, 2011. Mayor Humphrey and Steve Lowrance recognized Mr. Huber for the good job he has been doing with the Clean Up. Motion to accept the dates for a free landfill service with an eight tire limit was made by Joel Street, second by Robert Gobble. Voice roll called: All ayes.

Motion was made by Joel Street to give two tickets out at the Trustee Office, at the time the tax payer comes to pay their taxes, for a free landfill service next year, second was made by Steve Lowrance. All I's but one Mr. Von Cannon said it was a public service and we should be doing it for free. Street mentioned that some people work on Saturday and they cannot go on a designated day. Sonja Culler mentioned that we still have the two free days and one free ticket.

Pat Glover, a citizen, ask the question "Is there an Assistant Director for the Landfill"? Chairman Ritchie suggested Benny Lyons appoint an Assistant Director. John Lewis made a motion to give Benny Lyons the authority to appoint someone as Assistant Director, second by Joel Street.

Chairman Ritchie and John Lewis recognized and applauded Mayor Humphrey and EMA Director Andrew Worley for their hard work this past weekend at the Landfill.

John Lewis made a motion to adjourn, second by Richard Renfro.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Street