



Rome-Floyd County Solid Waste Commission



Tuesday January 25, 2022 8:30 AM
Carnegie Training Room

PRESENT: Commissioner Allison Watters, Floyd County Commission
Commissioner Mark Cochran, Rome City Commission
Commissioner Larry Maxey, Floyd County 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. The election of officers was tabled until the next meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF 22 MEETING SCHEDULE

The confirmation of the 2022 meeting schedule was tabled until the next meeting.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

OLD BUSINESS

Rate Scenario Update

Mr. Jenkins updated the Commission on the rate scenarios discussed at the last meeting where it was decided that staff should meet to discuss Republic's tipping fee rate at the landfill and come up with a recommendation for a rate change. This group consisted of Mr. Rich, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Stone, Mr. McCord and Mr. Ivey. This group

recommended raising the rate from the preferred \$21.69/ton they have enjoyed for 14 years to \$38 in keeping with all other customers. He noted that we just need to determine how and when we will implement it. Mr. Stone recommended a \$5 increases each quarter. Commissioner Watters suggested implementing the increase all at once. Commissioner Cochran suggested a six-month advance notice before implementing the full increase. Mr. Rich noted the six-month advance would allow for a one-time administrative adjustment.

Commissioner Cochran moved to make Republic's rate increase to \$38 on July 1, 2022. Commissioner Maxey seconded. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Recycling Center and Rome City Schools MOA

Ms. Wells reported that she has been contacted by Ms. Leslie Dixon, director of the Rome City Schools ASPIRE program, which is a Federally funded after-school educational program for elementary school students. Ms. Dixon has approached the Recycling Center to partner with the City's elementary schools in with an agreement that the Center will continue to support this after-school program. They have drawn up a "Memorandum of Agreement", which doesn't commit the Center to anything financially. She recommended that we approve this agreement.

Commissioner Maxey moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement. Commissioner Cochran seconded. The motion carried.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Recycling Center

Operations Report

Ms. Wells reported tonnage was up for December as compared to this period in 2020. We continue to working great with Westrock. We have sent out 230 tons of co-mingled material. We have sent out several loads of corrugated, cardboard and loose paper. We are not getting any material in from Polk County but we have seen an increase in individual shredding.

Commissioner Watters noted the new signage at the Center. Ms. Wells said they hope to rebrand the Center logo and replace the ReRe mascot. We had great success with the last HHW event and had 200 show up on the events. For the first time we offered on line sign ups which was very successful.

Financial Report

Mr. McCord stated the 2020 year-end financial report will be presented at the next meeting.

Walker Mountain Landfill

Operations Report

Mr. Stone gave the December 2021 operation report. He noted that total tonnage increased 214 tons over the previous December. Year-to-date garbage increased by 9200 tons over 2020. C&D was up 511 tons for the month and 3200 tons for the year. Inert was down slightly. Tires were down. We were up 867 tons for the month and almost 12,000 for the year.

Commissioner Watters asked for an update on credit card usage. Mr. Stone reported that it is beginning to catch on and has been much easier to deal with than checks.

Commissioner Watters asked where we stand on hiring. Mr. Jenkins said we have an environmental compliance position and two operator positions open at this time.

Financial Report

The financial report will be presented at the next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Watters noted we have a big problem with illegal dumping and suggested we look at ways we can address it in both the City and the County. She added there is a misunderstanding in the community about the cost of disposal at the landfill. She suggested the rates need to be posted on the website. Mr. Carroll noted we could post some examples of the average cost of disposing of specific items. She suggested we talk more about this issue at the next meeting along with the possibility of having an 'amnesty day'.

ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret W. Hollingsworth, Secretary