



Rome-Floyd County Solid Waste Commission



Tuesday May 4, 2021 8:30 AM
Sam King Room

PRESENT: Commissioner Allison Watters
Commissioner Mark Cochran, Rome City Commission
Commissioner Larry Maxey, Floyd County Commission
Commissioner Bonny Askew, Rome City Commission
Mr. Sammy Rich, Rome City Manager
Mr. Jamie McCord, Floyd County Manager
Mr. Gary Burkhalter, Floyd County Assistant 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. Michael Skeen, Floyd County Public Works Director
Ms. Toni Rhinehart, Rome Finance Director

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Waters asked if there were any corrections for the March meeting minutes. Hearing none, the minutes of the March meeting were approved by common consent.

OLD BUSINESS

Traffic Concerns at Walker Mountain Landfill

Commissioner Waters noted we had a good discussion of the challenges we are facing at Walker Mountain Landfill regarding traffic concerns at the last meeting. It was noted there are forty to fifty cars bringing household garbage daily that contribute to serious traffic issues. At the last meeting we discussed prohibiting the household garbage at the landfill to reduce the traffic backing up on Walker Mountain Rd. She asked Mr. Skeen to present a map showing the distances between the existing remote sites and the landfill. Mr. McCord noted that prior to 2010, there wasn't a remote site at the landfill at all, but was started at that time to encourage recycling. Mr. Skeen indicated the locations of the current remote sites at Midway and Berry Hill on the map. Mr. Stone noted the trend for household garbage has increased steadily over the past year. Commissioner Waters said she would prefer another remote site in the vicinity

if possible. Mr. McCord stated there are other locations such as the Lock and Dam Park. Mr. Stone noted another advantage to having a remote site is that he would be able to better account for the material for his reporting to EPD. Commissioner Watters noted it would also reduce waiting time in line for the customers.

Commissioner Watters stated she would like to stop taking household garbage as soon as possible and not wait until the end of summer. Mr. Jenkins noted we could let it coincide with the implementation the new tipping fee structure on June 1st. Mr. Carroll suggested an informational flyer that could be distributed to the effected customers. Commissioner Cochran added that even if we haven't resolved the location of a new remote site yet, we could announce the change while letting people know that we are working on a new site. Mr. Stone noted that Emma Wells will be distributing free tarp on Saturdays and can give out information to customers during that program. Mr. McCord added we would also advertise the changes on social media. Mr. Rich suggested a variable message board near the entrance along with a social media campaign.

Commissioner Watters said the City can get Kristi Kent to create an informational flyer and the County will get Amy and Erin Elrod to work on notifying the media. Emma Wells should be notified to give out information on Saturdays along with the tarp program.

Commissioner Waters asked for a motion. Commissioner Maxey moved to approve the discontinuation of household garbage drop-off at the landfill effective June 1st. Commissioner Askew seconded. The motion carried.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Recycling Center

Operations Report

Mr. Skeen presented the March operations report. He noted that the numbers continued to be down, which is largely COVID related. Remote sites are holding steady from last year but down overall. Drop-off is down. Markets are up but the whole process is changed. About half of what we collected was shipped out to Paper Recovery. We had a very good HHW event back in January. Our pounds had not cleared in time for this report. We have another event this month on the 15th. They are doing appointments through their Facebook page during some issue with the phone system. This HHW event will include electronics and will take place from 9:00 AM to 3:15 PM on May 15th.

Commissioner Watters noted she would like to bring the woman who recycles glass to our next meeting in July.

Financial Report

Mr. Burkhalter presented the March financial report. Material sales were down almost \$24,000 from 2020. Corrugated is up. Comingled is down. Steel is up and wood pallets are down.

On the operating side, overall expenses were down almost \$22,000. Salaries and benefits were down almost \$17,000. Health insurance was up about \$2700. Almost half the budget has been used under Repairs and Maintenance to repair a baler and large roll up door at the Center. Utilities are down \$2250. We had one HHW event that used up 31.7% of the budget. At the end of March, we had cash on hand of \$21,356.

Walker Mountain Landfill

Operations Report

Mr. Stone reported that YTD through April we were up 3200 tons of garbage and C&D was up 1600 tons. Inert was down about 600 tons. Tires were about the same. All total through April compared to last year we were 4200 tons better than 2020.

Financial Report

Ms. Rhinehart presented the March financial report. The numbers almost mirror 2020. The only difference is that expenses were a little higher in 2020 because there was one extra payroll in the period. The cash balance at the end of march \$8,480,000 down from \$13 million at this period last year. Commissioner Cochran asked why interest earned is so significantly different.

OTHER

Mr. Jenkins reported that the contract for credit card processing was reviewed by the City attorneys and has been returned with comments to the company. Hopefully it will be back soon. He added that he hopes to report on it at the July meeting along as well as the hauler fees with Abby Goldsmith.

ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret W. Hollingsworth, Secretary