



Rome-Floyd County Solid Waste Commission



Tuesday September 28, 2021 8:30 AM
Sam King Room

PRESENT: Commissioner Allison Watters, Floyd County Commission
Commissioner Mark Cochran, Rome City Commission
Commissioner Larry Maxey, Floyd County Commission
Commissioner Bonny Askew, Rome City 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. Michael Skeen, Floyd County Public Works Director
Ms. Toni Rhinehart, Rome Finance Director
Mr. Lee Stone, Walker Mountain Landfill Director
Ms. Emma Wells, Floyd County Solid Waste Director

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Waters asked for corrections for the July meeting minutes. Hearing none, the minutes of the were approved by common consent.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Card Reader for Scale House

Mr. Stone reported the credit card reader was installed last Thursday after some technical issues. Each day, there has been a steady increase in the number of customers that use it so we expect it will catch on quickly. Mr. Stone also noted the traffic issue has resolved since household garbage was directed to the remote sites.

Rate Study Scenarios

Mr. Jenkins reported our consultant, Abby Goldsmith, wants to get together with City and County staff to go over the scenarios for our Solid Waste Management Plan. These will include keeping our rate structure as it is with the City and County contributing to the Recycling Center from the general fund as well as determining the tipping fees needed to cover the costs for the Recycling Center. Mr. McCord added we will also need to look at how the departure of Republic Services would affect us. Mr. Rich noted that it no longer makes sense for Republic to have a preferred rate. Mr. McCord said a compromise might be to go to a flat rate.

Commissioner Watters asked if the scenarios would be available to review by the next meeting. Mr. Jenkins said they will.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. McCord announced that Ms. Wells is here today and noted that we are happy to have her at the Recycling Center. Ms. Wells said she is still learning how it all works and is working to make things more efficient. She noted they don't have the manpower to do a second sort of material which leads to more material going to the landfill, but recently they have acquired a contract with a company out of Chattanooga who is taking the material after our first sort for further processing and recycling. We are getting paid \$10 per bale, which covers the cost of our baling wire and saving us tip fees at the landfill. From July to August our landfill bill has been reduced from \$2000 to 211.

Commissioner Watters announced that Ms. Hannah Bagley has taken Ms. Wells position with Keep Rome Floyd Beautiful. Yesterday she met with Ms. Bagley, Mr. Winkleman and David Mathis to discuss merging the task force with Keep Rome Floyd Beautiful.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Recycling Center

Operations Report

Mr. Skeen presented the operation reports for July and August. He noted on the July report, that we are still down from two years ago. He noted the material shipped is down but we expect that to change considerably. We will add a new line item for having our comingled material shipped out. An HHW event was held two Saturdays ago. It rained the entire time but we still had good participations with 360 vehicles coming through. He expressed appreciation to the crew that worked that Saturday. He noted we have been working on our cardboard collection process and have made it much more efficient now.

Commissioner Watters noted that Ben Winkleman is ramping up education for kids about recycling. Mr. Skeen added that last month cardboard was at \$1.40 and today it is up to \$2.35 per ton.

Financial Report

Mr. McCord gave the financial report. He noted on the accrual report salaries and benefits are pretty much on track. Supplies are up about \$20,000 over last year. Overall operating loss is down by \$10,000 and our change in net position is down \$20,000. On the cash basis report, it is about the same. The net position in cash is \$16,735 year to date. Hopefully some of the changes we are implementing will show significant improvement. There were over fifty changes identified that we can implement that will be helpful.

Walker Mountain Landfill

Operations Report

Mr. Stone gave the operation report. He noted garbage is up for the month by 1100 tons and up 6700 tons for the year. C&D is up 500 tons for the month and 2083 for the year. Inert is down slightly. Tires are down slightly about 3 tons for the year, which is good because we have to pay to store and process them. All total, we are up 1685 tons for the month and 8200 tons for the year. He noted that we average 527 tons per day.

Mr. McCord asked Mr. Stone if he is still performing the environmental duties for the landfill. Mr. Stone replied that he is, but added that since we brought in ACC (Atlantic Coast Consulting) to replace Golder Associates, they have reevaluated Mr. Stone's environmental activities and helped him to streamline his activities while adhering to current regulations.

Mr. Jenkins noted we need to be thinking about hiring an in-house environmental person. Mr. Carroll noted this was the position that Mr. Stone had before he became director. We don't want to give all of our environmental operations over to ACC although they have been able to help us streamline our environmental activities while keeping us compliant with current regulations.

Financial Report

Ms. Rhinehart presented the financial report. She noted year to date revenues are up by \$398,000 from 2020. *Commercial and Industrial* is up about \$100,000 and *C&D* is up about \$129,000. The Hydro excavator numbers was \$137,000 of the 144,000 in *Miscellaneous* from the gas project. The only line item that was down was *Interest Earned*. The Net Income for the year is \$1.572 million. The cash balance went from \$7.55 million to \$9.68 million.

ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Margaret W. Hollingsworth, Secretary