



# *Rome-Floyd County Solid Waste Commission*



Tuesday July 25, 2023 8:30 AM  
Sam King Room

PRESENT: Commissioner Wright Bagby  
Commissioner Larry Maxey  
Commissioner Bonny Askew  
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 Public Works Assistant Director  
Mr. Michael Skeen, Floyd County Public Works Director  
Mr. Bruce Ivey, Floyd County Special Projects Manager  
Mr. Lee Stone, Walker Mountain Landfill Director  
Ms. Emma Wells, Floyd County Solid Waste Director  
Mr. Doug Walker, Public Information Officer

## REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

## OLD BUSINESS

### Update on New Scale

Mr. Jenkins reported updated the Commission on the changes that have taken place at Walker Mountain Landfill. He noted there was a serious traffic issue on Walker Mountain Rd that precipitated the decision to add a scale allowing customers to enter through one scale and leave through the other. This has greatly reduced the traffic congestion.

Mr. Stone supplied a video of the new scale house. Mr. Jenkins displayed several views of the two scales. He added there will be an updated camera system installed soon.

## Environmental Compliance Supervisor

Mr. Jenkins reported the Environmental Compliance Supervisor position was posted and several interviews were held after interviewees were first allowed to shadow Lee Stone to get an idea of what the job would entail. An offer was made but was declined. We recently had another prospective candidate come out to shadow Mr. Stone, but he also declined going forward.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Solid Waste Management Plan

Mr. Jenkins reported the Solid Waste Management Plan was developed by Abby Goldsmith with ACC. We decided to postpone updating it while we were going through some changes. Now it is time to update the financial portion to keep us on track with our 10-year financial plan for closure and post closure. He noted there are also some minor changes that need to be addressed in the update. He has reached out to ACC to get an estimate on completing the updated plan and should have something from David Hamilton with ACC by tomorrow. The estimated cost is between \$10,000 and \$12,000.

### Financial Assurance Update

Mr. Jenkins reported the financial assurance report is something we update annually in a lengthy process. First, our Engineering Dept. surveys and measures the level of waste and uses those figures to determine the remaining capacity at the landfill. Based on that information, we create a financial assurance report detailing how we can fund future expansions as well as closure and post closure costs. This report is then sent to the Finance Director to review Mr. Jenkins' figures against the actual funds. After she has completed her review, the report is forwarded to our auditors. Once the auditors have completed their review, Mr. Jenkins submits the final report to EPD. Mr. Jenkins noted the report is due each June. Ms. Rhinehart added we requested an extension on our audit this year because the School Board's audit must be completed first. She noted that we typically submit the report at the end of July.

## MONTHLY REPORTS

### Recycling Center

#### Operations Report

Ms. Wells presented the Recycling Center operations report. She announced she has received approval for the scrap tire amnesty day grants for August 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, which are a Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. She noted that EPD requires us to follow

specific guidelines for the event. Each grant has awarded, but she noted that amount is based on an estimate of the number of tires we expect to receive. We can request additional funding if we exceed the estimated number of tires.

Ms. Wells noted there will be two more HHW and Electronics recycling events for this year. She noted there is an upcoming craft event with the Master Gardner's, and she presented the participation counts for 2023 events to date. She added the addition of online appointments has made the entire process much easier.

On the operations report she pointed out that tonnage is increasing to pre-covid numbers. They are about to ship out 7 or 8 loads of cardboard at \$90/ton which is the highest we have price we have received in a long time.

### Financial Report

The financial report was presented for review. Ms. Wells noted material sales are down due to the markets being down. In the beginning of 2022, we had a \$47,000 payment for one load of #2 Naturals that skewed our numbers. Supplies are doing well but we will be asking for more money in the budget for that category to cover the cost of baling wire.

Mr. McCord noted everything is tracking well and on budget. He added that he received a message about "wish cycling" which is the practice of putting anything at all that is possible to recycling in the recycling bin. He noted this can cause a problem if items we can't recycle are put in the bins.

Commissioner Bagby asked if the tire grants could become a regular annual award. Ms. Wells replied they can be awarded annually.

### Walker Mountain Landfill

#### Operations Report

Mr. Stone presented the Landfill operations report. He noted we are down 1400 tons for the month of June from June last year, and year-to-date we are down 3200 tons. In June we took in 2329 tons of C&D material which is up 111 over last year, for a total year to date of 16,131.62 tons for the year which is up 3668 over last year. He noted that garbage is dropping while C&D is rising. We took in 241 tons of inert material for the month, which is down 168 over last year, and year- to- date we are down 1,098 tons. There were 2.85 tons of tires taken in, which is down 10.5 last year. In June of last year there was a surge in tires, and we took in 13 tons. There were 2.85 tons of tires taken in which is 10.51 tons less June last year.

## Financial Report

Ms. Rhinehart presented the financial report. She noted revenues are up from 2022 by \$521,999. This is mainly due to increases in *Commercial and Industrial*, which is up \$275,000. She added that interest earned is up at \$167,513 over \$12,438 at this time last year.

Expenses are up \$155,000 over last year which is mostly from personal services and supplies. The cash balance has increased be \$3.9 million.

## ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret W. Hollingsworth, Secretary