

## LANDFILL COMMITTEE MEETING

April 5, 2011

9:00am

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Gebe Ritchie.

In attendance were Steve Lowrance, Joel Street, John Lewis, Richard Renfro, Charles Von Cannon, Gebe Ritchie, Pat Hicks and Sonja Culler.

Motion to adopt the agenda was made by John Lewis, second by Sonja Culler.

Motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting was made by John Lewis second by Richard Renfro. Motion carried.

### Old Business:

A Compactor has been purchased for total cost of \$48,400.00 and will be delivered this week.

Clean Up is scheduled for April 29 and 30 of this month. Roll offs will be located at the Covered Bridge Park and one at the boat ramp near Persinger Bridge in Watauga. Landfill will be open Friday from 7:00-4:00pm and Saturday from 8:00 to 1:00pm. Mr. Von Cannon stated he would be out of town at the time and unavailable to head up the clean-up efforts for the Watauga River and ask if someone could direct the cleanup of Sinking Creek in the Central community in his absence. Household garbage, old furniture and other demolition material (non commercial) will be accepted at the landfill along with tires at no charge. Tires will be limited to eight per household; Driver's License will be copied and entered into the computer to help prevent violations of the rules set up for the cleanup. Sullivan and Washington County will take the hazardous waste clean-up this year.

### New Business

Mayor Humphrey stated we were missing the opportunity to provide a service to our constituents. After a visit to the Washington County Recycling Center in Gray he informed the committee that the center was well organized and takes in enough material to pay for most of the county recycling operation. They have containers staged for all different types of materials such as paper, cardboard, metals, aluminum cans, refrigerators, copper and appliances. He also stated that he had been contacted by OmniSource of Elizabethton regarding a possible site and potential to be used for the recycling purpose. The committee is planning a visit to the Gray Recycling Center on May 23 at 10:00am to gain some insight on operating our own center in the County.

Motion was made to move the Landfill meeting to 10:00am in the future by Sonja Culler, second by Steve Lowrance. Motion carried.

### Financial Report

Benny Lyons reported Cash In Bank \$115,478.70 less \$48,400 for the compactor. Balance \$67,078.70. R. W. Edwards has cleaned up the site and started sowing grass. Dwight Stiltner has been appointed as the Assistant Director at the Landfill. Mr. Von Cannon suggested Lyons keep at least \$150,000 (three month cushion) in the bank for emergencies. Lyons stated this was what he was working toward. Kim Raia is still working on an overall plan for the Landfill; she is consulting with other counties. Lyons stated he would ask Ms. Raia to attend next months' meeting for an update.

Mayor Humphrey stated any funds from resale of material picked up on county property or brought to the landfill must go to the county coffers. Committee approved a raise to Leonard Johnson, who manages the recycling center at the Landfill. Previously Mr. Johnson was allowed to collect aluminum cans at the center for resale to OmniSource.

Motion to not allow Mr. Johnson to resale cans that come into the Landfill was made by John Lewis, second by Steve Lowrance. Motion carried.

Motion was made to give Mr. Johnson a 25 cent on the hour raise was made by Joel Street. Motion to table the motion until further investigation of other Landfill employee wages was made by Mr. Von Cannon, second by John Lewis. Roll Call Richard Renfro-No, Pat Hicks-Yes, Steve Lowrance-Yes, Gebe Ritchie-No, Joel Street-No, Sonja Culler-No, Charles Von Cannon-Yes, John Lewis-Yes. Vote Four-No, Four-Yes. Motion failed.

Motion was on the floor to give Mr. Johnson a 25 cent on the hour raise was made by Joel Street, second by Sonja Culler. Motion carried.

Public Comment by Juanita Miller was made to Mr. Lyons "Is it in your budget to give a raise?" Mr. Lyons answered yes. Lyons stated he has \$3,700 in his budget for a part-time employee and can be used for the increase.

Mr. Von Cannon stated that on the clean-up days the aluminum cans and metal picked up does not go to the Landfill it goes to the Sheriff's Department for the prisoners who do the clean-up.

Mr. Ritchie stated there are times; if the Sheriff's Department in the past were out doing community work and they pick up cans or metals they were allowed to keep it. On the clean-up day we need to request it come into the Landfill. Mayor stated that anything that is picked up in this county in that fashion is county property; it should not go back to the Sheriff. The law states it becomes county property and should go into the county coffers period.

Discussion of allowing elderly and disabled residents, those who are unable to transport their own garbage, to call Mr. Huber at the Chamber of Commerce for assistance in picking up garbage on their properties during the cleanup. Mr. Ritchie stated there are people who need help; if you know of anyone who does need help hauling off trash and they do indeed need our help, we will do our best to see that someone goes out and picks it up.

Motion to adjourn was made by Pat Hicks, second by Sonja Culler.

Respectively submitted,

Debbie Street