

**Landfill Committee Meeting
September 5, 2017, Happy Valley Elementary School**

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Dietz at 6:00 PM

Roll call: Commissioners Collins, Dietz, Hill, Miller, Peters, VonCannon and Ward were present.
Commissioner Simerly was absent.

Approval of minutes of previous session and agenda:

Motion by Hill, seconded by Collins to approve the agenda; motion passed by acclamation.

Motion by Hill, seconded by Ward to approve minutes from previous session; motion passed by acclamation.

Public Comments: None were brought forth.

Old Business: Commissioner Dietz reported details from her meeting with Sheriff Lunceford regarding inmate work crews at the landfill. Four inmates per day will be made available to Director Lyons, and we will be allowed to keep the crew selected for longer periods of time in order to reduce the amount of re-training necessary and improve operations. Director Lyons commented that the inmate labor was a needed part of his workforce and integral to Landfill operations.

New Business: TDEC Environmental Consultant Kim Raia presented her landfill evaluation (attached) to the committee.

- Carter County's Landfill program is cheaper to operate than most programs in the state.
- 67% of Tennessee Landfills are funded by property tax.
- Carter County's "pay to throw" program is primarily funded (84%) by tipping fees, compared to an average of 18% tipping fee revenue in most landfill operations. This creates a major stumbling block for improvements, growth and expansion of programs.
- \$26 out of Carter County's \$42 per ton tipping rate is used to cover the costs of hauling household waste.
- Recommended plan for future is an upgraded and expanded transfer station, given our circumstances.
- Less than 5 years of use remains in current landfill operation, so beginning planning is critical for next steps.

Director Lyons' Report:

Brush processing will cost the county \$500 per hour for an estimated 45 hours, according to bid from Superior Mulch. The City of Elizabethton spent \$80,000 on their most recent mulch grinding session. This does not include hauling or removal. The question was raised as to whether we could sell the mulch. Director Lyons stated that we were not set up to sell mulch at this time, and that some equipment would be needed in order to do so. We can not burn the brush or mulch due to environmental concerns.

We have taken delivery on all recycling grant purchases, with the exception of the oil recycling trailer which is still pending.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner VonCannon expressed concerns over household waste being dumped into cardboard only containers. He stated that CCSD cannot take action even though names and addresses were found in the trash, due to no proof that the person implicated actually committed the improper dumping offense.

A concern was raised regarding the need of a reliable internet source for the Landfill, which has no available high speed service.

Commissioner Collins stated that recycling needs to be promoted as an increased revenue source.

Adjournment: Motion by Commissioner Peters, seconded by Commissioner Ward. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

submitted by Mike Hill, Secretary

approved _____