

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

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

**Approval of minutes of previous session and agenda:**

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

Motion by VonCannon, seconded by Collins to approve minutes from previous session; motion passed by acclamation.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Old Business:**

We have received confirmation that the oil and recycling grants have been awarded. These grants totalling \$47,400 will be used for upgrades to better accommodate used oil collections and recycling efforts at the transfer station as well as the Roan Mountain convenience center, and needed equipment.

The landfill is still not able to accept brush.

Cameras installed to monitor Mill Street recycling convenience center have revealed citizens legitimately recycling at odd hours such as 3 a.m. Incidences of dumping of nonapproved materials have been reduced.

Road widening near entrance to Landfill has not progressed due to appraisal on the property needed for expansion coming in significantly lower than the asking price. County Mayor is continuing to work with the land owner.

Ammonia calculation conversion to pounds for leachate will allow continued processing through the water department.

**New Business:**

The Landfill progress report is due in February. Director Lyons is working on it and expects to have it completed well before the due date. The state mandated percentage on recycling will be increasing this year. Director Lyons has surveyed all plants regarding their recycling percentages, and will begin surveying retail businesses on 1/11.

Director Lyons announced his appointment as co-chair of the East Tennessee Solid Waste Association, and reported on data gathered from meetings with TDEC in this role:

- Tennessee State recycling mandate will increase from 25% to 35% this year.
- Landfills will be required to conduct more surveys.
- State of Tennessee seems to be beginning a push toward discontinuing County waste disposal operations by utilizing private sector commercial waste businesses instead.

The Hub and Spoke grant cycle opens for applications in April. Director Lyons intends to apply for funds to purchase a new front-load truck and/or sorting system for the recycling center. This grant requires no matching funds.

Spring Household Hazardous Waste Day will tentatively be the second week of May.

**Commissioner Comments:**

Commissioner Ward spoke about his concerns about the rapidly diminishing lifespan of our landfill, and expressed a need to begin researching in earnest all possible options post close date. Proper planning now can help minimize a large unexpected expense in the near future.

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Collins, seconded by Miller: The meeting adjourned at 6:45.

submitted by Mike Hill, Secretary

approved \_\_\_\_\_