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# Carter County Commission

Minutes of:

Landfill Committee

September 9, 2019 7:00 PM

**Members:**

Chairwoman Sonja Culler

Austin Jaynes

Mark Blevins

Ginger Holdren

Nancy Brown

Gary Bailey

Charles Von Cannon

Robin McKamey - absent

**I. Call to Order**

The Landfill Committee was called to order by Chairwoman Sonja Culler at 5:17 pm.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Mark Blevins second by Ginger Holdren. Agenda was unanimously approved.

**III. Approval of minutes**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the August meeting by Nancy Brown and second by Robin McKamey.

**IV. Public Comments**

Danny Hilbert – Street Sanitation with the City of Elizabethton came to let the committee know how much the city appreciated the relationship between the City and the County. Benny Lyons has done everything that was agreed upon and he was pleased with the progress that had been made in getting the computer system in and was looking forward to working with Benny. He also wanted to express the issue that he is having with the cardboard recycling. He has had to remove the city's cardboard recycling dumpsters. There is a problem and one that needs to be fixed soon. He is hoping that the people who are recycling will continue to do so when the issue is corrected soon. The only thing that the city can do is to empty the recycling bins with the trash bins. This is costing the city more than what has been budgeted. Benny Lyons stated that the county was losing at least \$10,000 per month by not being able to operate.

Chairwoman Culler called the meeting in recess to go to the property beside the old Chair Factory beside Snap-On Tools that is up for consideration to replace the property that burned.

Chairwoman Culler reconvened at 6:00 pm

**V. Old Business**

- **Internet for Landfill**

Benny Lyons reported that the internet is up and running. Asked if Mr. Bailey would call Charter and ask them to come and rebury the cable because it isn't deep enough. Mr. Bailey agreed that he would make the call.

- **Ticket Program**

Mr. Lyons also stated that the ticketing software is installed, and he is currently putting all the information into the system. When it is finished, he will be running it and the old handwritten system at the same time to make sure it is correct. It should be used fully by October 1.

- **Loader Purchase**

The loader has been purchased and is on its way.

- **Employee**

A new employee has been hired.

- **Cab Purchase**

A truck has been purchased and is being delivered

Ms. Holdren asked how much was spent on the loader and truck. Mr. Lyons told her that both were \$180,000. The committee gave \$175,000. This is a used truck and it has a brand-new motor in it. We paid \$30,000, he sent it to budget to do an amendment so they would take the extra out of his budget. Mr. Lyons also updated the committee on the insurance from the fire. TWRA owns the building and he has not been able to get any information about what they are going to do with the building. They will have to decide if they will repair or demolish it. The equipment is still in the building but can't be touched until it is cleaned and moved by the insurance company. They will either clean the equipment or give us fair market value. The insurance will pay for up to 6 months for rent on another building but without the equipment nothing can be done. The committee asked if Attorney Hardin needed to get involved to maybe speed up the process. Mr. Lyons stated yes.

Chairwoman Culler asked if there was any further discussion needed on closing the demolition. Should it be taken off the table. If there has been no other issue, no need to keep it on the agenda. Consensus is to remove it.

## **VI. New Business**

### **Building**

Ms. Holdren and several other members said they were uncomfortable with the age of the building. What would the maintenance be? There was also discussion about the size of the building and how much room Mr. Lyons would have. The outside storage was a concern as well. Would you need to build more storage? Mr. Von Cannon asked what was going to have to be done to the building to make it usable for the equipment that would be working in the building. The electrical would have to be changed for sure and an inspection would let them know what else would need to be done. Mr. Bailey asked if there were any other buildings that would be available? Mr. Jaynes informed the group that a larger building with more storage land is available in the Industrial Park. Mr. Lyons expressed concern about the time that has already passed and the additional time that will pass before he can get up and running again. People have gotten into the habit of recycling and he is concerned that they will stop if it takes too long. Mr. Lyons isn't worried about the storage issue he is concerned about getting up and running as quickly as possible. Ms. Holdren asked about city ordinances and if anyone has checked to see if they would be able to go in up there. Mr. Hilbert recommended that they get together with the city because the regulations have changed over the last few years and you want to know what you can do before you make any offer. Mr. Bailey reminded the committee that the seller wants

\$220,000 for the property. His question was to Mr. Lyons, what would you offer. Mr. Lyons said he would offer \$180,000. There were several suggestions of amounts as low as \$150,000 because of the repairs that would be made to the property. The other concern is the equipment that is in the building that burned. It will need to be decontaminated and moved. Insurance will do it but TWRA must decide what they are going to do with the building. Mr. Bailey suggested that they offer \$155,000. Ms. Brown asked what is the property appraised at? Mr. Jaynes said \$99,200 without the back lot that will probably be about another \$75/\$80. Ms. Holdren asked if they give Mr. Lyons approval to work on a design to take to the commission, who would you work with to put it together. Mr. Lyons stated that he would go to the engineering program at the high school. Chairwoman Culler asked the committee to put together a proposal to take to the budget and see what they say. The committee agreed to go on Wednesday September 11 at 5:00 pm to visit the property in the industrial park. A special meeting will then be held on Monday September 16 at 5:00 pm to discuss the second property.

Ms. Holdren asked if there was any way that they could use Mr. Von Cannons building. Ms. Culler asked Attorney Hardin to come into the meeting and inform the committee that Mr. Von Cannon can not take any payment from the county while holding a position on the Carter County Commission. It would be a conflict of interest.

#### **Directors Report**

Roan Mountain Project:

All pads are poured, the walls poured and back field. The highway department is coming to see how much asphalt is needed. The water line is in at the top of the hill. The building and equipment are ordered and is respectively 2 and 5 weeks out.

Ms. Brown asked if Attorney Hardin should get involved with the insurance company to see if he can get results. Mr. Bailey asked if the county could ask for the money lost due to the delay.

Ms. Holdren wanted to express her thanks to Mr. Lyons for not coming to the committee and asking for more money when purchasing the new truck.

#### **VII. Announcement**

#### **VIII. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Austin Jaynes and second by Robin McKamey. The motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm