

# Carter County Commission



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## Minutes of:

### Landfill Committee

January 6, 2020 6:00 PM

#### Members:

Chairwoman Sonja Culler

Layla Ward

Nancy Brown

Gary Bailey

Charles Von Cannon

Mark Blevins

Jerry Proffitt

David Miller

#### I. Call to Order

The Landfill Committee was called to order by Chairwoman Sonja Culler at 6:35 pm.

#### II. Approval of Agenda

Chairwoman Culler asked to make an amendment to the agenda by removing "Recycle Center Insurance Breakdown" that will be moved to next month and moving 2020 Meeting Calendar from Old Business to New Business. A motion was made to approve the amended agenda by Gary Bailey, second by Mark Blevins. The agenda was unanimously approved.

#### III. Approval of minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the December 2019 meeting was made by Nancy Brown, second by Mark Blevins. The minutes were unanimously approved.

#### IV. Public Comments

None

#### V. Old Business

- **Time frame on fully opening new recycle center**

Benny Lyons reported that while he is in the building they have not officially opened yet. The date for the official opening is February 1, 2020. He does not want to open that building to the public, wants to use it as a processing center. With the equipment running and inmates present he wants to limit public access. Recycle bins will be sat in the same places as before and will be emptied in the evening. Chairwoman Culler noted that the road to the building was not in the best shape either.

- **Property for sale at Landfill location**

Birchfield Realty now has the property adjacent to the landfill location. Chairwoman Culler has spoken to the contact person Jason Blevins. The owner wanted \$95,000 before but the asking price is \$79,000. Chairwoman Culler suggest that the county should buy property but only if it can be used to extend the landfill. Testing needs to be done to determine the usability of the property. Mr. Lyons informed the committee that an outside firm would have to test the property and then report the results. The testing could cost the county \$20,000 to \$100,000.

Gary Bailey made a motion for Mr. Lyons to research the cost for the land testing, second by Mark Blevins. Motion was unanimously approved.

- **Status of "Blue" building/use**

Chairwoman Culler said that she had contacted the construction company about when they could schedule the inmates from the Northeast Corrections Facility to come and dismantle it. She is currently waiting to hear back about a date and time.

Benny Lyons informed the committee that he is currently looking for a smaller building (40x60x16) with a loading dock till a larger one can be obtained. He will pay for the building with money left from the insurance. Mr. Bailey asked Mr. Lyons how much money is left. Mr. Lyons informed the committee that he hasn't spent any money other than the purchase price from the money approved by the commission. He gave a brief list of the items that have been purchased with the \$90,000+ insurance money, such as a set of scales, \$7,960, materials to do the loading dock, \$8,450, getting the bailer and the conveyer moved was \$6,500, new cameras installed was \$4,700, to get the asbestos out of the building, which the county paid for and was reimbursed for was \$46,000, the oil burner heater that is going back in was \$15,000. Roughly \$80,000 and that he still has approximately \$10,000 left from the insurance. The insurance will add more money to cover moving the bailer and the cameras. Mr. Bailey asked Mr. Lyons if he was going to have enough money to get everything up and running so they could open on February 1<sup>st</sup> without having to ask for more money from the county? Mr. Lyons said that he is running now but is lacking storage. Chairwoman Culler reminded the committee that that is why the blue building is needed and a turnkey building is being sought.

Mark Blevins made a motion, Gary Bailey second the motion, for Mr. Lyons to put out for bid request on a building up to 40' x 60' x 16' and not less than 36' x 50' x 16'. to attach a loading dock to. The motion was unanimously approved.

- **Fencing at new recycle center**

The estimate for the new fencing at the recycle center is as follows:  
8' x 300' - \$4500; 6' x 300' - \$4000. Mr. Charles Von Cannon has agreed to donate half the cost and would prefer the 8' fence.

Mark Blevins made the motion to purchase the 8' fence. Mr. Jerry Proffitt second the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Von Cannon suggested that the county contact the city about putting a fence across the gap between the fence that belongs to the city and the fence around the Valley Forge Action House. The gap is approximately 24' feet and would require 2 (two) poles and fencing. This would enclose the recycle center completely. Chairwoman Culler asked if the committee would consider tabling the motion till the March 2020 meeting. Ms. Ward suggested that everything with the building be finished before spending money on the fence. Decision to table the motion was unanimous and will be added to the March agenda.

## VI. New Business

Chairwoman Culler asked the committee for permission to comment on the road leading to the recycle center. She has been in touch with Bill Taylor and he is willing to give that to the county for a donation letter. He has not contacted the attorney and as soon as he does, she will take it to the commission.

- **2020 Meeting Calendar**

Chairwoman Culler brought to the attention of the committee that the Labor Day holiday is the only conflict for 2020. Therefore, the September meeting will need to be moved from Monday September 7, 2020 to Thursday September 10, 2020. All agreed to the date switch.

- **Open House at new recycle center (County and City Officials)**

Chairwoman Culler asked the committee to set a time and day for the Open House for the new recycle center. She is going to email an invitation to all the County and City Officials. The committee decided on Wednesday January 15, 2020 from 5 – 6 pm.

- **Need for more employees**

Chairwoman Culler has been researching other facilities our size and is suggesting a need for new employees in the future. Benny Lyons told the committee that he would love to have more employees. If an employee is out it leaves the staff short and he has to pick up that slack. He listed the following employees:

Trash Truck Drivers – 2

Roll Off Drivers – 1 (also serves as Mr. Lyons assistant)

Front Load Drivers – 1

Transfer Station Operator – 1

Demo Station Operator – 1 full time / 1 part time

Scale House – 2 full time / 1 part time

Recycle Center Operator – 1 full time / 1 part time

Float – 1 (who moves from job to job)

Convenience Center – 1 at each

Mr. Lyons stated that he would like to have another operator, another truck driver, and someone full time at the recycle center.

Mr. Lyons also stated that a full-time mechanic would be a huge benefit to the landfill. When something happens, he has to sub it out and it cost \$55 per hour to have them come out. In the long run it would save the county money to have someone on staff that could work on and maintain the equipment.

Mr. Bailey ask Mr. Lyons what he has paid out for a mechanic in the last year and suggested that the committee look at hiring a full-time mechanic. He asked Mr. Lyons to look at what he has paid a mechanic in the last year and bring that back to the committee.

Chairwoman Culler asked Mr. Lyons to research the need and bring his findings back to the committee.

Mr. Lyons informed the committee that he has some issues that he wanted to bring to the committee about the Holiday situation with his employees. The landfill only closes for Christmas Day and is not on the same schedule that the rest of the county offices are on. He must ask his employees to come during the Christmas Holiday. He would like to see some compensation for those that work the extra days. Mr. Bailey asked how many holidays the landfill gets in the year. Mr. Lyons replied that they are closed for Christmas Day and that is all. Chairwoman Culler wants to bring it up to financial management.

Charles Von Cannon made motion to take the situation to financial management. Second by Mark Blevins. The motion was unanimously approved.

**VII. Directors Report**

Benny Lyons informed the committee that there were materials at the new recycle center that are unneeded, and he would like permission to sell these items.

Mark Blevins made a motion to give Benny Lyons permission to sell materials that are not useable to the county. Second by Gary Bailey. The motion was unanimously approved.

**VIII. Commissioner Comments**

Chairwoman Culler stated that she, after reading in the minutes about the bonuses that were approved for employees, she became aware that most bonuses are going to be taken out of the General Fund but the Landfill and Highway Department will have it come from their budget. She doesn't think this is fair and wants to have it all come out of the general fund.

**IX. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Brown, second by Layla Ward. The motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm.