

Minutes
Loudon County Solid Waste Disposal Commission
December 10, 2013

The Loudon County Solid Waste Disposal Commission (Commission) met on December 10, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the Loudon County Courthouse Annex. The Commission was represented by Steve Field, Bill Waldrop, John Watkins, Larry Jameson, Brian Jenkins and Robert Harrison. Other attendees included Attorney Kevin Stevens; Gordon Harless; Loudon County Attorney Bob Bowman; Santek representatives Cheryl Dunson and Levi Higdon; a member of the media; and several citizens.

Mr. Field called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Waldrop made a motion to approve the minutes of November 12, 2013. Mr. Jenkins seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

During Items of Public Concern, Ms. Pat Hunter asked Chairman Field if a date was set with the Commission's stakeholders for the Brown and Caldwell Site Utilization and Waste Alternatives Workshop. Mr. Field said the meeting will probably occur in January. Ms. Hunter also asked if the Commission will give an update on the contract negotiations with Santek and if the permit for the major modification has been approved. Mr. Field said the Commission will discuss some of the issues during the evening's meeting and the permit has not been approved. Ms. Ailene Longmire asked is there needed to be some discussion about the document being passed between Commissioners. Mr. Field said it was an attendance sheet for Commissioners to sign indicating their presence at the meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Waldrop made a motion to enter into executive session with Mr. Bowman to discuss a potential legal dispute. Mr. Watkins seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Field called the regular meeting back to order at 7:20 p.m.

Ms. Dunson presented the November Cash Activity Report and the Landfill Operations Report. She apologized for attaching the wrong agenda and said she would email the correct agenda to the Commissioners in the morning.

Mr. Field then began a brief discussion about the Matlock Bend Landfill's major permit modification. Mr. Field said he was troubled by the amount of air space being requested in the permit application beyond the required 2 years of airspace at the expiration of Santek's existing contract. He also was concerned about the landfill's final elevation, the size of the waste disposal footprint, and not closing any portions of the landfill until it reaches final capacity. He questioned how Santek could protect the landfill environmentally as it relates to ground water, surface water and air permit issues without any phased closure activities during the life of the landfill. Mr. Field said he was afraid the landfill would not be managed as tightly as possible without phased closure.

Mr. Watkins reiterated Mr. Field's concerns. Mr. Waldrop said he wanted to see the landfill closed in stages because it would reduce the landfill closure costs, but he said he wasn't as concerned about the landfill's proposed final elevation. Mr. Watkins and Mr. Jameson disagreed with Mr. Waldrop regarding the proposed height of the landfill as they felt it was a significant concern.

MOTION: Mr. Jenkins made a motion to ask Mr. Stevens to contact regulators with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) to suspend the permit process. The motion failed due to the lack of a second.

Mr. Field suggested Ms. Dunson deliver the message to Santek's corporate officials that the Commission is not happy with certain elements of the proposed major permit modification and to see if the two parties can reach a resolution. Otherwise, Mr. Field said the Commission may ask TDEC to suspend the permit.

Mr. Stevens indicated that there was a change in the closure language from the existing landfill permit to the major permit modification which was subtle, but could have a major impact environmentally and legally. He distributed several handouts to the Commission which emphasized the language changes from closing "within 90 days when a module reaches final elevation" to placing "final closure cap after all available airspace has been utilized or exhausted." Mr. Stevens said the language change is significant and needs to be addressed.

Mr. Jenkins asked about the process of the major permit modification. Mr. Field said the new contract with Santek obligates the company to provide 22 years of airspace to the Commission which required a new design of the landfill.

Mr. Field asked Ms. Dunson if she had any comments. Since she didn't have legal counsel in attendance, she said she would take the Commission's comments back to the corporate office, but said the language mirrored the closure language in the Bradley and Rhea counties' permits.

In the Chairman's Report, Mr. Field continued with last month's topic of discussion related to the potential hiring of a county solid waste director. He asked Commissioners to raise their hands if they believed the director should report to the Commission. Mr. Jameson, Mr. Harrison and Mr. Waldrop raised their hands. Mr. Field asked the trio which one of them would interface with the new director. Mr. Field also said he received a list of solid waste directors from Kim Raia with C-TAS which indicated most solid waste directors report to their respective county mayor. Mr. Waldrop said he envisions two types of issues that would need to be addressed: administrative issues which should be dealt with by the county mayor and technical issues which should come before the Commission. Mr. Harrison said most directors of schools in every Tennessee county report to their respective school board which establishes policies. He suggested the Commission discuss the reporting issue with their stakeholders because there are three mayors in the county and the Commission should find out which governmental entity will give the Commission the best arrangement.

Mr. Field asked Mr. Harless to explain the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a Green Waste Project Study. Mr. Harless said he began investigating the feasibility of securing a hub-and-spoke grant from TDEC for a single stream curbside recycling program more than a year ago. He determined a green waste program may be more cost effective. By signing the MOU, each governmental entity in Loudon County as well as Roane and Monroe counties are agreeing to work together to gather data to determine the project's feasibility.

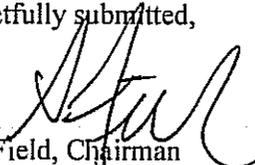
MOTION: Mr. Watkins made motion to support Mr. Harless' MOU. Mr. Harrison seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Waldrop informed the Commission last spring that he was overcommitted in his volunteer efforts and wanted to retire from the Commission after 10 years of service. He said there had been a lot of change throughout the 10 years and the Commission was a better run organization now. He said he has recruited a replacement, Mr. Tom Paul, who has a Master's of Science degree in Engineering and who is a retired Navy commander. Mr. Waldrop met with Loudon County Commissioner Don Miller who is recommending Mr. Paul to Loudon County Mayor Estelle Herron. She plans to nominate him to the Commission at the county commission's Jan. 2nd meeting. Mr. Waldrop said his goal is to orient Mr. Paul about the Commission as well as introduce him to Santek personnel and to tour the landfill. Mr. Field thanked Mr. Waldrop for his service to the Commission, and for his time and efforts.

MOTION: Mr. Waldrop made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jameson and it passed unanimously.

The Commission's next regularly scheduled meeting is January 14, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse Annex.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Field', written over a horizontal dotted line.

Steve Field, Chairman
Loudon County Solid Waste Disposal Commission