

**Minutes**  
**Loudon County Solid Waste Disposal Commission**  
**March 14, 2017**

The Loudon County Solid Waste Disposal Commission (Commission) met on March 14, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Loudon County Office Building. The Commission was represented by Steve Field, John Watkins, Kelly Littleton-Brewster, Dennis Stewart, Bruce Hamilton and Art Stewart. Other attendees included Attorney Kevin Stevens; Auditor Richard Hill; City of Loudon Mayor Jim Greenway; Santek representatives Raymond Givens and Cheryl Dunson; and residents Aileen Longmire, Pat Hunter, Kaye Wallace and Betty Jo McAllister.

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

Ms. Littleton-Brewster led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation.

**MOTION:** Ms. Littleton-Brewster made a motion to approve the minutes of February 14, 2017. Mr. Watkins seconded the motion. During discussion, Mr. Dennis Stewart asked for the minutes to reflect that Waste Services of Tennessee is owned by Santek. The corrected minutes were approved unanimously.

During Items of Public Concern, Ms. Hunter said she was concerned and disappointed that Santek, the manager of the Matlock Bend Landfill, was not revealing landfill charges on the monthly customer activity report. She said the letter written by Santek Chief Operations Officer Tim Watts, which was included in the Commission's meeting packet, reflected inflexibility and the Commission had the right to know the monthly charges because of the potential deficit in the closure/post-closure fund.

Ms. Hunter also asked if the Commission's election of officers could be postponed due to the absence of Commissioner Larry Jameson. Mr. Stevens replied that he didn't foresee a problem tabling the elections unless there were objections from Commission members.

Ms. Dunson presented the Cash Activity Reports for January 2016.

During Santek's Operations Report, Ms. Dunson presented a letter to the Commission written by Mr. Watts stating the company's position not to post monthly rates and charges on the customer activity reports provided to the Commission. Mr. Field asked Mr. Stevens for his opinion and Mr. Stevens replied that he strongly disagrees with Mr. Watts. Mr. Stevens cited language in the landfill operating agreement requiring Santek to provide the Commission with monthly tonnage reports showing the total amount of tons received and the source of such tonnage and the respective fees charged therefore. Mr. Stevens added that Santek is also obligated under the landfill operating agreement to provide any additional information requested by the Commission to properly inform the Commission of the ongoing operations and management of the landfill. Ms. Littleton-Brewster said she was baffled why putting the monthly rates and charges on the report was suddenly a problem after this information had been provided by Santek for many years. Mr. Watkins asked Ms. Dunson to remind Mr. Watts about his pledge to be transparent during his visit to the Commission several months ago.

**MOTION:** Ms. Littleton-Brewster made a motion to direct Mr. Stevens write a letter to Mr. Watts stating the Commission's disagreement with his position regarding the lack of financial information provided by Santek in the customer activity reports. Mr. Watkins seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Field asked Mr. Givens about the status of the new scales at the landfill. Mr. Givens said he was told by the scale company that the new scales will ship March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Hill distributed a draft financial statement to the Commission and generally walked the members through the document page by page. Mr. Hill said at the Commission's request he had separated funds for the Poplar Springs Landfill from the Commission's other funds. Mr. Field asked everyone to take the statement home to study, direct any comments or questions to Mr. Stevens, and be prepared to accept it at the Commission's April meeting.

Mr. Stevens distributed three responses to the Request For Proposals (RFP) for a third-party analysis of Santek's closure/post closure contract modification proposal. He said he sent RFPs to eight consulting companies. Two companies responded that they would not be submitting proposals. The Commission received substantive responses from GeoSyntec, MBI and Quantum Environmental and Engineering Services. Mr. Field asked the Commission to take the proposals home to study and be prepared to discuss them at the Commission's April meeting.

Ms. Littleton-Brewster said there hasn't been any movement regarding the Poplar Springs Landfill.

Mr. Stevens distributed a document summarizing the details of Mr. Hamilton's meeting with Loudon County Trustee Chip Miller regarding options for investing the Commission's funds in U.S. Treasury bonds. Mr. Hamilton said the federal government is likely to change interest rates which will affect the rates presented in the summary. He said the question is, does the Commission want to proceed with the trustee's proposal which are much better rates than what the Commission is currently receiving on its funds, or does the Commission want to wait to see what the federal government does with interest rates? Mr. Hamilton recommended investing the funds now rather than waiting on the federal government. The Trustee suggested investing \$500,000 in one year bonds; \$500,000 in two year bonds; and \$1 million in three year bonds.

**MOTION:** Mr. Hamilton made a motion to invest funds now according to the Trustee's suggestion. Specifically he moved to invest \$500,000 in one year bonds; \$500,000 in two year bonds; and \$1 million in three year bonds. Mr. Watkins seconded the motion and the Commission approved it unanimously.

Mr. Field asked Mr. Hamilton to begin the investment process with the Trustee immediately.

**MOTION:** During the Attorney's Report, Ms. Littleton-Brewster made a motion to table the Commission's election of officers and keep current officers in place. Mr. Dennis Stewart seconded the motion. During discussion, Mr. Watkins asked what the Commission will do if a member of the Commission is absent next month. Mr. Field said there isn't a deadline to elect officers and he was satisfied having the same officers for a few more months. The motion passed unanimously.

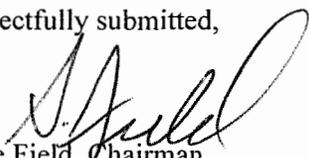
During the Chairman's Report, Mr. Field said he included in the Commission's meeting packets a couple of articles that appeared recently in MSW Magazine about landfill management and closure. He also said he read an article about the cost of purchasing, operating and maintaining waste collection vehicles, but didn't include it in the meeting packet.

Mr. Field said he spoke to Chris Parks about the status of completing the annual update to the Loudon County Solid Waste Management Plan. They plan to meet with solid waste planner Mitch Loomis within the next few weeks. Ms. Dunson said Santek has entered as much information as it can, except for one section which would be completed the following day. Mr. Field said he will ask for an extension on the submittal of the report, give the report to Mr. Watkins by March 24<sup>th</sup> for his review, and bring it to the full Commission at its April meeting for approval.

**MOTION:** Mr. Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 P.M. Mr. Art Stewart seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The Commission's next regularly scheduled meeting is April 11, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Loudon County Courthouse Annex.

Respectfully submitted,



Steve Field, Chairman  
Loudon County Solid Waste Disposal Commission