

Hamblen County/Morristown Solid Waste Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes: February 16, 2024

Hamblen County Health Department Conference Room

Board Members Present: Tom Rush-Chairman, Keith Jackson-Vice Chairman, Dennis Barnes-(Ex-Officio/Director), Mike Bell, Bob Garrett, Tim Horner, Matt Lacy, Pat McGuffin and Ventrus Norfolk.

Board Member Absent: Bill Brittain- (Ex-Officio/County Mayor)

Others Present: Amy Hemminger, Steve Bostic, Reuben Robertson, Paul Brown, John Burgin, Allie Davidson, Nick Overbay, Stephanie Clonce and Public.

Meeting Called To Order: Tom Rush

Mr. Rush called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment/General Public Forum: None

Approval of Minutes: Tom Rush

Mr. Lacy made the motion to approve the January 26, 2024 minutes and Mr. Norfolk seconded the motion with all board members in favor.

Financial Report: Amy Hemminger and Tom Rush

1. Review of January Financials- Ms. Hemminger stated that the adjustment to the bond receivable and liabilities corresponding with that had been made from the audit.
2. Mr. Rush stated that the LGIP accounts are at 5.35% and First Horizon is at 2.14%.

Manager's Report: Dennis Barnes

1. Mr. Barnes stated that the TDEC inspection has not been done this month.
2. The board asked Mr. Barnes how the grinder was doing, and he replied great. It is holding up good with the brush and other things besides the tires, they have some impact on the teeth, but not bad.
3. Mr. Lacy asked if the sawdust was helping with the traction with the sludge and Mr. Barnes replied that it helps, but still is not great having to go up the slopes.
4. Mr. Barnes stated that he was glad that the GFL land purchase finally closed.

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Engineer's Report: Steve Bostic

Mr. Bostic updated the board on the engineering projects going on at the Landfill (see attachment).

Mr. Bostic went over the bids for the expansion that were opened on February 13, 2024. The lowest bid was from East Tennessee Turf and Landscape for \$15,376,406.50 with some math errors that were fixed by LDA. The highest bid came in at \$22,351,824, which is a difference of \$6,975,417.50. Mr. Bostic and Mr. Barnes suggested that we do some of the work ourselves in-house to save some money.

Mr. Bostic stated that the tire grant he had been looking into for us will not be reviewed until April 24. Mr. Bostic stated that he was trying to get them to pay for a new track hoe to use with the shredder. We would have to get three quotes or bids for the new equipment and HCMSW would have to pay for it up front and then they would reimburse us for all or part of the cost.

Mr. Bostic will also talk to TDEC in Nashville about using the tire shreds for road bases and cover for the landfill.

Unfinished Business: Tim Horner and Tom Rush

1. Mr. Horner told the board that he had met with Joe Sargent of PDS Consulting and discussed the PDS contract that is still in question. Mr. Sargent still has an issue with the confidentiality act, confidentiality to open records request and break down of services being subjected to the public and competitors. Mr. Horner stated that it will hopefully be revised by next month's meeting for a vote of approval by the board.
2. Mr. Rush stated that he signed the documents to close the GFL land purchase on February 14, 2024. The title company had to make a few adjustments and will send the finalized documents with signature as soon as it is completed. It will be in the packet next month for your review.

New Business: Steve Bostic, Dennis Barnes, Tom Rush, and Keith Jackson

1. Mr. Bostic stated that we received four bids on the expansion project and the lowest bid went to East Tennessee Turf and Landscape for \$15,376,406.50. Bids were higher than was budgeted originally. We will have to go back and see if we can do it in two phases instead of one. Mr. Rush stated that he would have to talk to the City and County about getting the rest of the money because we only received approximately \$8,775,000 from the previous bond issues to use. Mr. Rush stated that we would have to call a special-

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called meeting to vote on the bid and how we will fund the additional costs. The project is scheduled to begin on April 8, 2024 with a 240-day deadline to finish. Mr. Barnes suggested requesting enough to do ten acres and all the rock blasting, and we can clean that off in-house to save some money. Mr. Overbay stated that would not be fair to E TTL because we bid that all out and they have other obligations.

2. Mr. Rush stated that we received a rate increase of 3% from Elavon, our credit card machine company, which goes into effect on March 1, 2024. It covered some of the service fees for the credit card machine use, now it will not, it will all be paid by us. Mr. Rush stated that we may want to look at charging a 4% or 5% fee for using the credit card. Mr. Lacy made a motion to approve the 3% increase from Elavon and Mr. Horner seconded the motion with all board members in favor.
3. Mr. Rush discussed the new contract for 2024, 2025 and 2026 from Rodefer Moss. We were paying \$12,000 per year, now they have increased it to \$15,000 per year. Mr. Rush stated that the audit was filed late with the state this year due to additional work related to the bonds issued by the city and county. After some discussion with the board, Mr. Bell made a motion to meet them halfway with a counter proposal of \$13,500 per year to see if they would accept and Mr. McGuffin seconded the motion with all board members in favor. We will send them a letter and report back with their response for a vote next month.
4. Mr. Jackson spoke to the board and stated that he had turned in his resignation to the mayor due to health issues. Mr. Jackson started the Solid Waste Board 40 years ago and enjoyed working with everyone. Mr. Jackson stated that he was glad of all the years of progress and wished the board well in the expansion. Mr. Jackson stated that Will Sliger will be taking his place on the board and that will be voted on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at the City Council meeting.

Adjournment: Tom Rush

Mr. Rush adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Tom Rush-Chairman



Bill Brittain


