

# Hamblen County/Morristown Solid Waste Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes: October 18, 2024

## Hamblen County Health Department Conference Room

**Board Members Present:** Tom Rush-Chairman, Patrick McGuffin-Vice Chairman, Chris Cutshaw- (Ex-Officio/Interim County Mayor), Dennis Barnes-(Ex-Officio/Director), Mike Bell, Bob Garrett, Tim Horner, Matt Lacy, Ventrus Norfolk and Will Sliger.

**Others Present:** Amy Hemminger, Steve Bostic, John Burgin, Ron White, Paul Brown, Andrew Ellard, Tyler 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 September 20, 2024 minutes and Mr. Bell seconded the motion with all board members in favor.

### **Financial Report: Amy Hemminger and Tom Rush**

1. Review of September Financials- Ms. Hemminger stated that a couple of items do not reflect final balances on the financials because we are getting ready for the auditors. On the statement of net position, we transferred funds to LGIP for the Ettl retainage. First and Second quarter 2024 debt service and capital fees will be transferred to LGIP next month. Other income includes insurance claim proceeds just under \$17,000. Capital expenditures included the undercarriage for the Cat 320 in the amount of \$14,000. We paid Ettl pay app #5 in October for the expansion.
2. Mr. Rush stated that First Horizon interest rate was 2.15% and LGIP interest rate was at 5.15%. He also stated that interest rates are expected to decrease as the Federal Reserve continues to lower rates.

### **Manager's Report: Dennis Barnes**

1. The TDEC inspection went well. Mr. Barnes thanked the board for their support.
2. Mr. Barnes stated to the board that he was having trouble naming the building after the late Keith Jackson and that he wanted to do more. A plaque or something to put at the

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entrance so people can see it would be another suggestion. For example, the sign or plaque could say:

Dedicated in honor of R. Keith Jackson, Thank you for your years of service and dedication.

Or

Expansion progress in honor of R. Keith Jackson.

3. Mr. Barnes stated that ETTL found some tires buried and had to dig them up, so we are going to use them to block roads.

### Engineer's Report: Steve Bostic

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

Mr. Bostic stated that there has been no response from TDEC regarding the permit.

Mr. Bostic stated that the estimate for the rock removal is high, and soil is low. We will be over budget on the soil excavation. Bid is already over \$300,000 for the rock removal.

Mr. Bostic stated that we would not need pond 2 on GFL property for 10 to 15 years and may cut it out of the contract to compensate for the rock removal.

Mr. Bostic stated the submittal to TDEC Knoxville looks complete. We are estimating \$450,000 in contingency funding for the expansion costs. After the next pay request, we should have a better idea. At the next board meeting, we should have something from TDEC in Nashville regarding the status of the expansion permit approval.

Mr. Rush stated that we should look at the Class III for future expansion planning. Mr. Bostic stated that they would do another flyover and see how many years we have left. Our 50 acres are not surveyed with the deeds and pins.

TDEC has notified the HCMSWB by a letter dated October 9, 2024 that the Hamblen County Municipal Solid Waste Region (Region) achieved the 25% waste reduction and diversion goal as presented to Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA) §68-211-861 and Tennessee Solid Waste Processing and Disposal Rule (TN Rule) 0400-11-01-.09. According to the 2023 Annual Progress Report, the Region achieved a 58% diversion rate.

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### **Unfinished Business: Dennis Barnes**

Mr. Barnes stated that the two policies we were looking to implement are not legal, and we could not collect the fees. Attorney, Chris Capps suggested to issue fines instead. We will not consider these policies at this time.

### **New Business: Tom Rush, Dennis Barnes, Paul Brown, and Andrew Ellard**

1. Mr. Rush stated that the bond proceeds for the expansion are being held at the county. Mr. Rush would like to transfer the bond proceeds to LGIP in a designated account if approved by the City and County. Mr. Rush stated he would need a motion to move the remaining bond proceeds from the City and County to LGIP in a designated account. Mr. Lacy made a motion to move the proceeds to LGIP and Mr. Horner seconded the motion with all board members in favor.
2. Mr. Rush stated that now he would need a motion to open a new account at LGIP for the remaining bond proceeds. Mr. Bell made a motion to open a new account at LGIP for the remaining proceeds and Mr. McGuffin seconded the motion with all board members in favor.
3. Mr. Rush stated that the debt service funding for the last bond issue was not put in the 2024-2025 budget in the amount of \$210,939.58 due to the timing of the bond issue. Mr. Rush asked for a motion to amend the 2024-2025 budget for this amount. Mr. Horner made a motion to amend the 2024-2025 budget and Mr. Lacy seconded the motion with all board members in favor.
4. Mr. Barnes asked the board to be closed on Christmas Eve because both City and County will be closed. Mr. McGuffin made a motion to close on Christmas Eve and Mr. Lacy seconded the motion with all board members in favor.
5. Mr. Brown stated to the board that after the aftermath of the Hurricane Helene Disaster they are going to save space in the landfill by making a burn site off site at the Cherokee Radio-Controlled Airplane Park which has been approved by the State of Tennessee. The proposal is that the landfill can send clean vegetation brush from commercial businesses in Hamblen county to save more room in the landfill. The dates will end in March, but it will all be cleaned up by December. Mr. Ellard stated that the city council had approved the site on October 7, 2024 for the city and county to use. Mr. Ellard stated that private contractors would come across our scales and pay us \$50 a ton to dump at the burn site instead of the landfill. We have staff on hand taking care of the brush that the city and county brush trucks are picking up. The landfill would be required to give the

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contractor’s tickets to show they have paid and show it to the employees on the burn site before they could dump. Mr. Ellard discussed with the board what would be a fair price to pay to use the burn site, and after discussion amongst the board members, they decided that \$40 a ton to the city for using their burn site would be reasonable. Mr. Lacy made the motion to pay the city \$40 a ton to use the burn site and the policy will sunset when the city and county are done collecting all the debris. Mr. Sliger seconded the motion with all board members in favor. Mr. Rush stated that the landfill would have to set up a new location and customer in the system for the burning site only and send the copies to the city daily.

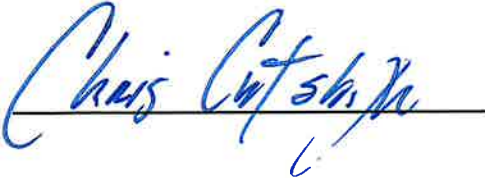
**Adjournment: Tom Rush**

Mr. Rush adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

**Tom Rush-Chairman**

Handwritten signature of Tom Rush in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

**Chris Cutshaw**

Handwritten signature of Chris Cutshaw in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.