

**MINUTES OF THE
GREENSBORO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
DECEMBER 18, 2013**

Members Present

Mark Taylor, Chair
Vic Nussbaum, Vice Chair
Kay Brandon
Tony Davies
Bob Mays
Tom Phillips
Godfrey Uzochukwu

Excused absence: Bob Davis

Staff Present

Dale Wyrick
Mary McClellan
Nancy Lindemeyer
Gail Hay
Sheldon Smith
City Council Representatives
Marikay Abuzuaiter
Jamal Fox

The Solid Waste Management Commission met on Wednesday, December 18, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. in the Field Operations Training Room.

Chair Mark Taylor welcomed everyone to the meeting. Two guests were in attendance: Wayne Sharpe and Stan Joseph, Waste Management of the Carolinas.

Sheldon Smith introduced Mary McClellan with ReCommunity. She is a public outreach person dedicated to assisting with education of the City's program. She is currently working to assess past and current performance by using key indicators, establish benchmarks to measure progress and identify areas for improvement.

Approval of minutes from November 20, 2013 meeting

Mr. Mays moved approval of the November minutes, seconded by Mr. Phillips. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Old Business

a. White Street Landfill LFG Update

Dale Wyrick reported that a recommendation to hire Petra Engineering under a 15-year contract was presented to the City Council for the Landfill Gas Project. The recommendation will be taken back to Council on January 21st for an official vote.

Chair Taylor acknowledged the three members who served on the task force and selection committee.

b. Discuss/Finalize Supplemental Rules of Procedure

Chair Taylor stated that the terms of appointment and the Chair/Vice Chair clarification remain to be finalized in the draft Supplemental Rules of Procedure. He agrees with Tom Phillips that the terms of appointment be concurrent with the 5-year commission appointment terms because of the nature of the commission and the benefit of having continuity for those members willing to serve a full 5-year term. He stated that the 2nd sentence about expiration of terms could be deleted since it would not be relevant with a 5-year term. After a short discussion with Tom Phillips, it was decided that the sentence should read as follows: "Terms of Appointment shall be for 5 years. Any vacancy shall be filled only for the unexpired portion of the term." Relating to item 3D, Chair/Vice Chair clarification, it was decided that "The Chairman and Vice Chairman shall serve at the pleasure of the Commission." Mr. Phillips moved the adoption of the Supplemental Rules of Procedure as amended, seconded by Mr. Mays. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

c. Discuss/Finalize Policy on use of the Commission's delegated funds

Chair Taylor read Section II of the policy and asked Dale Wyrick for his interpretation about Council or City Manager approval before making expenditures. Dale Wyrick stated that he reads this as getting approval on expenditures that would obligate the City over a certain amount of time, but he would get further clarification.

Dr. Uzo asked how the \$50,000 per year designation had been decided upon, and Chair Taylor stated that it came from the Rules and Bylaws and was decided by City Council. Dale Wyrick added that he was charged with coming up with an annual budget and factored in the possible need for a study, field trip or conference trip. Chair Taylor stated that SWANA (Solid Waste Association of North America) has a North Carolina Chapter which hosts a spring technical conference that several members may want to attend.

Under Section III A. Chair Taylor stated that he specified “two (2) or more commissioners” because he felt the commission would like to have two people at a conference so there wouldn’t be one person that’s trying to get all the information or relying on one person for all the interpretations. Also many of the conferences have dual tracks and with two people, each could attend concurrent sessions. For the statement referring to purchase of reference or educational materials, Chair Taylor asked if the “Board” mentioned in the comment referred to the Solid Waste Management Commission and it was decided that it was. Chair Taylor stated that referring to electronic or mobile devices, developing technology may offer useful devices needed by the Commission but when purchased they would be owned by the City and the statement should end “Such devices shall be owned by the City...” Tony Davies moved to approve and adopt the Policy on use of the Commission’s delegated funds as written, seconded by Tom Phillips. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

d. Discuss formation of work groups for SWMC 2014 Work Plan

Chair Taylor stated that he intended to establish work groups in January, however, he wanted to bring the matter up at this meeting to determine which groups the Board members wanted to serve on. He further stated that the work groups will consist of Board members as well as staff members and that some would serve in more than one group. Bob Mays stated that he felt the Board members should think about the subject and e-mail the Chairman their preferences. Each group will have a leader to ensure accountability and further progress.

e. Update on consultant review of WSLF post-closure restrictions

Dale Wyrick stated that engineering consultant, Joe Readling from HDR, would attend the January meeting and lead a discussion about developing a scope for this topic. A small regional study was done with the Forsyth County Commission and Mr. Readling will discuss that as well. The study looked at some of the local facilities and highlighted some potential opportunities to pool either resources or contracts.

Jamal Fox wanted to know what the consultants were looking at as far as the post-closure for the WSLF. Bob Mays responded that they are trying to figure out if there are state and Federal rules that prevent things being done on the closed areas of the landfill such as industrial development.

f. Other Old Business

There was no other old business.

New Business

a. Mayor's priorities for SWMC

Chair Taylor stated that in a meeting with Mayor Vaughan he asked her how the Commission could best serve the current Council and what she saw as priorities. The Mayor listed three items as follows.

The first is to deal with MSW disposal, the short-term transfer contract and regional collaboration with Randolph, Winston-Salem and Rockingham. Since this contractual situation is a priority for the Mayor and the City Council, it will likely be a work group.

The second is a strategy to increase diversion through recycling. This is on the Commission's work plan under item III-C, recycling and reduction strategies and is a high priority for the Commission as well. There is \$74 net gain to the City of Greensboro for every ton of waste that goes to the MRF rather than to the transfer station, making it a big incentive to reduce, re-use and recycle.

The third item is alternative strategies for the White Street Landfill which is in the charge of the Commission's creation and its top priority item.

Dale Wyrick stated that he has also had meetings with the Mayor and has found that she is very interested in the City's recycling education and promotion efforts. The Mayor is looking forward to some significant educational and promotional information. In January, a survey will go out with the City's water bill related to recycling and the information received will drive some promotional efforts starting around February.

Tom Phillips stated that recycled items don't have to be cleaned like they did in the past and that information should be passed on to the public. Also he suggested tracking the amount of recycled items received by route or truck and focus on the routes where the least amount is received to encourage more recycling. Dale Wyrick stated that that will be an area of emphasis and that some areas have already been identified.

It was suggested that the proposed survey going out with the water bill be physically attached to the statement to increase its visibility and to get a higher response rate to the survey. Nancy Lindemeyer stated that an opportunity to win a \$50 gift card would be included for returning the survey.

Dr. Uzo suggested some type of competition among the City's universities to encourage more recycling on their campuses. Tom Phillips stated that there is currently an outreach program with the public schools and some universities.

b. Future presentation on Greensboro's Solid Waste Challenges

Chair Taylor stated that the City advertised for a new position called Deputy Director of Field Operations that would be in charge of Solid Waste Management. Mr. Taylor applied for that position and in the interview process was asked to prepare a presentation relating to solid waste management challenges facing the City of Greensboro and recommendations for facing those challenges. He prepared a 25-minute PowerPoint presentation and is offering the Commission an opportunity to see the presentation at some point in the future.

c. Other new business

Dale Wyrick stated that at the most recent City Council Work Session he was asked to give an update on the city's Solid Waste Management contracts - solid waste hauling, solid waste disposal and recycling. The details of the contracts were presented to the Commission in a handout along with a fact sheet containing information the Board members should be familiar with. Some of the information includes contract dates, tipping fees and recycling revenues. He distributed the handouts to the Commission.

Bob Mays stated that this information was difficult to obtain in the past, and Mr. Wyrick and staff have done a great job monitoring and recording this information for the Commission and City Council.

Chair Taylor reminded the Commissioners that if anyone is approached by a vendor requesting time on the agenda the correct response would be to "contact Dale Wyrick".

The next scheduled meeting of the Commission is scheduled for January 22, 2014.

Proposed agenda items

- a. City contracts for MSW disposal
- b. Assign work groups

Comments from Commissioners, Staff, Council Representatives

Dale Wyrick stated that along with the other handouts there was a suggested format for quarterly reports for the Commission for review and comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Taylor, Chair

MT/jd