

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OFFICIAL MINUTES  
WORKSHOP  
DECEMBER 20, 2010  
3:00 P.M.**

**The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners held a Workshop on the above date at 3:00 p.m., Commissioners' Chambers, David R. Sandifer Administration Building, County Government Center, Bolivia, North Carolina.**

PRESENT:                   Commissioner Phil Norris, Vice-Chairman  
                                  Commissioner J. Marty Cooke  
                                  Commissioner Charles Warren  
                                  Commissioner Scott Phillips  
                                  Commissioner William Sue, Chairman

STAFF:                     Marty K. Lawing, County Manager  
                                  Steve Stone, Assistant County Manager  
                                  Debby Gore, Clerk to the Board  
                                  Ann Hardy, Fiscal Operations Director

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Sue called the Workshop to order at 3:00 p.m. Marty Lawing, County Manager, indicated that the Board would receive information regarding the Construction and Demolition Landfill, Curbside Recycling and the Carolina Shore Wastewater Treatment Alternatives. (Attached to these Minutes is an item called Board Action containing all items on this agenda and those items are incorporated herein.)

**II. CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION LANDFILL**

Marty Lawing, County Manager, introduced Dewberry & Davis Inc. Vice-President, Chris Brown who presented a power point presentation regarding the Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Landfill Expansion. Mr. Lawing referred to the required Siting Study before a permit is obtained to construct or expand a landfill indicating that a significant amount of work has been done by Dewberry and other consultants. The Manager informed that one requirement for the site is to have the site rezoned to Industrial-General. The Planning Board held a Public Hearing last week and all adjacent property owners have been notified.

Chris Brown, PE, gave an overview of the proposed expansion discussing the current C&D debris disposal situation, Siting Study, the sites north and west of the existing landfill. Mr. Brown offered a comparison of these sites and presented the action plan that concluded the site west of the existing landfill is suitable for C&D debris landfill expansion based on current available information and that an additional study would be required to determine if the site north of the existing landfill is suitable for C&D debris. The existing landfill is rapidly approaching ultimate capacity. Mr. Brown discussed an action plan to submit the Siting Study for review (13 months) obtain a permit to construct (12 months after Siting Study approval), construct the first cell (6 months after issuance of permit to construct) and C&D debris disposal (31 months from now).

There was discussion that included costs to replace the drip area site located near the existing landfill and how it would affect surrounding areas, the possibility of holding community meetings

to receive input, the costs of horizontal vs vertical expansion, comparing expansion of the north expansion with the west expansion in regards to capacity, and a larger footprint compared to vertical expansion.

Chairman Sue asked if there were any members of the audience who wished to address the Board. The following citizens spoke:

1. Michael Vereen indicated that the county owns 884 acres in the vicinity of the existing landfill and wanted to be sure that all of the surrounding land had been considered as a possible site for expansion. Ms. Lewis answered that in the 2007 preliminary study it was discovered that there would be extensive costs with one site so another site was explored. Mr. Vereen also voiced concerns with water quality, noise pollution and reduced tax value of property.

2. Curtis McMillian spoke in opposition to the proposed expansion stating that the 190 foot vertical height of the landfill would be unsightly for the neighborhood and voiced concerns that other types of trash would be dumped at this site. Ms. Lewis informed that every load is monitored and weighed to meet state requirements.

3. Jeff Earp, voiced concerns with landfill height, noise and environmental pollution. Mr. Earp stated that it's hard to keep his adjacent property clean from windblown debris coming from the existing landfill and asked the Board to consider the north tract because it has less impact on future commercial use.

4. Alfonso Robinson, owns property on Middle River Road and voiced concerns with current water quality and that it will probably get worse with the proposed expansion and also devalue his property. Mr. Robinson was concerned that the smell and unsightliness of the landfill would affect patients and visitors in the nearby hospital.

5. Dennis Reynolds, voiced concerns that if the property was rezoned, anything could be on this land devaluing his property and causing possible flooding after hurricanes suggesting that if community members had not present today the Board would have passed this without their knowledge.

Chairman Sue indicated that the comment part of the meeting was now concluded.

Staff was directed to receive input from the community and to explore the comparisons that were discussed and bring recommendations for an expansion that will provide the capacity with minimal impact on the surrounding area.

### **III. COUNTYWIDE CURBSIDE RECYCLING CONTRACT/FUNDING**

Marty Lawing, County Manager, updated the Board of the proposal from Waste Industries to provide Curbside Recycling indicating that staff had met with some of the municipalities to receive input and feels that if recycling costs were included in the tax rate, municipalities would be more inclined to participate. Some towns were concerned about the source of revenue and size of recycling cans. Steve Stone, Assistant County Manager, discussed solid waste services funding indicating that staff had previously considered a fee to be placed on tax bills and in further review found that state statutes do not authorize counties to charge a mandatory recycling fee. Another option considered was to charge a solid waste availability fee pay costs of service out of the general fund which is staff's recommendation.

After discussion staff was directed to have individual meetings with municipalities and discuss different funding alternatives for curbside recycling come back with recommendations with the consensus that it is not the desire of the Board to increase the tax rate.

#### **IV. CAROLINA SHORES WASTEWATER TREATMENT ALTERNATIVES**

Jerry Pierce, Utility Operations Director, presented a power point presentation and discussed the Carolina Shores wastewater treatment alternatives.

Mr. Pierce reminded that in November 2010 the consultant gave an option for the Carolina Shores Wastewater Treatment Plant recommending a new pump station at the plant, a 12-inch force main from the plant to a 24-inch force main at Highway 904, upgrading the plant (\$1,385,000) to an expected plant treatment capacity of 530,000 gallons per day.

Mr. Pierce recommended a revision to that option to build a pump station at the plant, construct a 12-inch force main from the plant to a 24-inch force main at Highway 904, and construct plant upgrades in phases, Phase 1 (\$300,000) immediate upgrade and Phase 2 (\$1,095,000) long term upgrade. The advantages of this revised option would maintain up to 530,000 gallons per day of wastewater treatment capacity, minimize the allocated capacity in the West Brunswick Regional Facility, minimize short-term expenditures on upgrades to Carolina Shores plant, provide maximum flexibility to ensure permit compliance, reduce overall project capital costs to \$3,900,000 and would best fit with long-range wastewater master plan.

Vice-Chairman Norris moved to approve the revised option as presented. The vote of approval was unanimous.

#### **V. OTHER BUSINESS**

Steve Stone, asked for input to schedule community meetings for the Proposed Landfill Expansion and suggested the date of January 3, 2011. Commissioner Warren indicated that he would not be here on that date. It was consensus to look at other possible dates, advertise and notify adjacent property owners and to hold the meeting at the Utility Operations Center.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Cooke moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 4:43 p.m. The vote of approval was unanimous.

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William M. Sue, Chairman

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Deborah (Debby) Gore, Clerk to the Board