

**MINUTES OF THE  
GREENSBORO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION  
JULY 14, 2015**

**Members Present**

Mark Taylor, Chair  
Kay Brandon  
Tony Davies  
Godfrey Uzochukwu

**Staff Present**

Dale Wyrick  
Chris Marriott  
Sheldon Smith  
Alex Arnett  
Nancy Lindemeyer

The Solid Waste Management Commission met on Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. in the Field Operations Training Room. Bob Davis was excused. City Councilmember Marikay Abuzuaiter and Mary McClellan with ReCommunity attended the meeting.

Chair Mark Taylor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Approval of minutes of March 10, 2015 meeting**

Chair Taylor stated that the March minutes were approved by acclamation.

**Old Business**

**a. Staff Updates**

Dale Wyrick stated that the Cone-Nealtown thoroughfare connector project has been let for bids. Bids should be back towards the end of July for review.

He stated that the proposed White Street Landfill solar project continues to move forward. The project is scheduled for City Council's July 21 meeting agenda for authorization to amend the city's agreement with Petra to include a solar project at the White Street landfill. A potential site for the solar facility is at a former borrow pit area at the southwest corner of the property.

Mark Taylor asked if the borrow pit area was the best location for a solar farm and whether it would support the needed structure. Dale said that he believed the borrow pit area was a viable space for solar capacity. Mark suggested staff prepare a planning

exercise to identify potential usage for areas of the WSL and rank the areas according to potential use.

Mark Taylor asked if any items were on the horizon that the SWMC may need to respond to. Dale stated that Councilmember Nancy Hoffmann recently asked him about food waste composting, and encouraged the Commission to re-engage on that topic to see if it could be a viable practice in Greensboro. Dale informed Councilmember Hoffmann that staff and Commission members are aware of the concept and continue to monitor its progress in NC. While other U.S. cities offer food waste composting, Charlotte is the only NC city that does and the service is provided by a private facility.

Mark Taylor asked about the disposal and hauling contract schedule. Dale replied that he and Chris Marriott hope to issue the request for proposals in early 2016, and that there is the potential for an operating landfill in Randolph County at the time that the current contract extension expires in October, 2016. Staff may look at extending the current disposal and hauling contracts if the Randolph County landfill isn't going to be operational by that time.

Mark Taylor brought the topic of a potential conflict of interest to the Commission's attention. Mr. Taylor believes that a conflict of interest may exist due to his employment with S&ME and his role as project manager for the design of the Randolph County landfill. Mr. Taylor stated he may have to recuse himself from future deliberations that involve the City's solid waste management services contract. Mr. Wyrick stated that he would follow up with the City's Legal Department to determine whether a conflict of interest exists.

Chris Marriott stated that the City Council has approved the resurfacing of the Transfer Station's concrete floor. The project will start in the next 2-3 weeks at a cost of about \$330,000.

## **b. Recycling Update**

Kay Brandon asked when the ReCommunity contract ends. Dale stated that it expires in April 2018; however, ReCommunity has requested that the city discuss making changes to the current contract. The downtrend in recycling revenue and the large amount of non-recyclables received have made it difficult for ReCommunity to recoup their costs. Dale said the city is talking with ReCommunity to discuss solutions to these issues.

Tony Davies asked about the cause of the recycling downtrend. Alex Arnett gave a presentation that reviewed the causes, as well as an update on the current state of recycling (see attachment).

Mark Taylor proposed that the Commission hire a consultant to perform a cost benefit analysis of Greensboro using blue recycling containers instead of brown. Kay Brandon endorsed the proposal and members unanimously approved.

**New Business**

**a. SWMC Meeting Schedule**

Mark Taylor brought forward the idea of a quarterly meeting schedule. Tony Davies stated that he would like to continue with the monthly schedule. Kay Brandon agreed and stated that she would be concerned with 3-month intervals between meetings. Mark suggested the Commission meet again in August and review what they want to do at that time.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m. The next scheduled Commission meeting is Tuesday, August 11 at 3 pm.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Taylor, Chair