

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF AVERY**

The Avery County Board of Commissioners held a Special Meeting on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Board Room, Avery County Administrative Complex, 175 Linville Street, Newland, NC. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss and take any action necessary regarding the following items:

1. Presentation of the outstanding balance of the 2017 delinquent taxes and approval for advertising.
2. Proposals for Hauling and Disposal of Solid Waste.

Members Present: Martha Hicks, Chair; Blake Vance, Vice-Chair; Faith Lacey; Tim Phillips; Wood Hall Young, Jr.

Members Absent: None

Call To Order

Chair Hicks called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
Chair Hicks led prayer.

Presentation of Outstanding 2017 Delinquent Taxes

Bruce Daniels, Tax Administrator, presented the Board with the 2017 delinquent taxes. The total outstanding balance was \$534,258.66 with a collection rate of 98.48%. Mr. Daniels stated that he should have reported this to the Board in February but had overlooked this. He asked that the Board approve the advertising of the outstanding taxes in the local newspaper.

Motion by Blake Vance and second by Wood Hall Young, Jr. to approve the advertising of the outstanding delinquent taxes for 2017 in the local newspaper. Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

Proposals for Hauling and Disposal of Solid Waste

Eric Foster, Director of Solid Waste stated that he had given the Board a presentation earlier. In that presentation was the current spending for hauling the municipal solid waste. Currently the County of Avery hauls an average of 13,200 tons of MSW (municipal solid waste) for disposal from the transfer station. We had a feasibility study done which showed we were disposing of the county's refuse for \$51.06 a ton. RFP's were sent out for contractors to bid on the transportation and disposal of MSW. Those were turned in on March 22nd, 2018. The bids were opened on March 23rd, 2018. The bids were as follows:

1. Dirty Diamond Trucking- \$27.00 a ton with no fuel surcharge included in the RFP. This would be added on top of the current tipping fee of \$17.10 per ton at the Bristol Landfill.

2. Republic Services- \$45.00 a ton which includes the tipping fee for Foothills Regional Landfill. Also includes fuel surcharge per load.
3. Mike Nelson- The RFP that was accessible was not filled out and completed.

Contract in the RFP is for 5 years. Each year the fuel surcharge is re-evaluated.

The County currently travels 67.3 miles one way to Bristol landfill which is 134.6 miles per truck per day.

The tractor trucks average 3.5 miles of fuel per gallon. We used \$65,910 in fuel over a year's time. We used 20,280 gallons of fuel.

The county spends an average of \$18,000 a year for tires for 3 trucks and 3 trailers.

The county spends \$1500 a year for mounting and balancing tires.

The county spends \$6000 a year in servicing for all trucks [Oil changes, brake replacements and miscellaneous.]

The county spends \$12,500 a year in tarps for the trailers.

If the county accepts the contract hauling, the county would take all trash from the sites to the transfer station. This would save 49,140 miles per year on our roll off trucks. This would reduce the amount of fuel by 10,920 gallons, which would be a savings of \$35,490 in fuel costs. This would also reduce the maintenance, and tire replacements by \$20,000 in the budget line item for auto supplies.

We would not lose the employees we currently have working for the county. One would move to the open weighmaster position and the other would move to a heavy equipment operator. This would fully staff the landfill to run at the optimum level needed.

Contract Hauling	Current Spending
13,200 tons of MSW Proposed \$45.00 a ton	\$250,000 budgeted tipping fee
	\$65,910 fuel used for hauling
	\$18,000 tires replaced (3 trucks and 3 trailers)
	\$1500 tire mounting and balancing
	\$6000 servicing trucks
	\$12,500 in Tarps
	\$97,113 Wages and Benefits for 2 drivers

	\$220,000 New Truck and Trailer
	\$35,000 Fuel savings for roll off trucks
	\$20,000 Budget line item for auto supplies
Total: \$594,000 (this is an average)	Total: \$726,023

Blake Vance questioned if the new truck and trailer was included in the \$726,023.

Eric Foster stated that the truck is \$130,000 and the walking floor trailer is about \$75,000 not including the tax.

Wood Hall Young, Jr. stated that this would just be a savings per year of \$22,000 not the full \$220,000.

Mr. Foster stated that there are quite a few other counties that contract out for these services and that he considered this because of the savings that would be accomplished.

Wood Hall Young, Jr. asked if the C&D would be hauled ground or whole. Mr. Foster stated that it would be hauled whole.

Faith Lacey questioned what would happen in five years if we went with this contract and we haven't replaced our equipment and the company increases the price on us. We only have a contract for five years.

Mr. Barrier stated that there are seven counties that contract haul. In Watauga's contract there is a fuel escalator in it.

Mr. Young asked what would happen with our contract with Bristol. Mr. Foster stated that the contract with Bristol expires June 2020. There was discussion regarding hauling of the C&D and the MSW.

Blake Vance stated that this gets very convoluted because Republic is paying the county for trash disposal and then the county is turning around and paying Republic to haul it if we contract with them.

Mr. Foster said the point he is trying to get to is that no matter what at the end of two years he is going to have to have 4 trucks and 4 trailers running.

Blake Vance stated that Republic is trying to make money and we are trying to provide a service and it is hard to get a good deal with a company that is trying to make money.

Wood Hall Young, Jr. questioned Mr. Foster if he could get more of an idea of the cost; what it would cost the county for us to provide the equipment , the trucks, trailers, manpower, etc. to haul it. You are talking about adding three trucks and five trailers in three years.

Tim Phillips stated that his concern was about long term and where it is going to lead and if we are going to have any guarantees. I don't want to "hang the people out to dry if we think we are going to save money in the short term".

Blake Vance stated that he was leery of this. There are sometimes unintended consequences happen as a result of our action.

Tim Phillips said there is an unknown and it makes me leery also.

Faith Lacey stated that she didn't think we should do this contract because we can't foresee what this entails.

Wood Hall Young, Jr. said if we contract this we don't have any options and that concerns me.

Consensus by the Board to place the solid waste contracting on the May Commissioners Meeting agenda.

Adjourn

Motion by Faith Lacey and second by Blake Vance to adjourn this meeting at 11:16 p.m. Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

Martha Hicks, Chair
Avery County Board of Commissioners

Attest: _____
Cindy Turbyfill, Clerk

