

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF AVERY**

The Avery County Board of Commissioners met in a Special Meeting on Tuesday, November 27, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Board Room, Avery County Administrative Complex, 175 Linville Street, Newland, NC. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Solid Waste Presentation by Reclaimed Resources; the Avery County Personnel Policy; and capital outlay for Avery County Sheriff's Office.

Members Present: Kenny Poteat, Chairman; Phyllis Forbes, Vice-Chair; Scott Heath; Martha Hicks; Glenn Johnson

Members Absent: None

**Call To Order**

Chairman Poteat called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.  
Scott Heath led prayer.

**Avery County Personnel Policy**

Robert Wiseman, County Manager, stated that the second agenda item is the Avery County Personnel Policy. He said that it was the intention to have everything in place for the personnel policy to become effective January 1, 2013. There are some issues that have arisen that need to be discussed before the document is put on the table for consideration. Mr. Wiseman advised that the discussion on the personnel policy should be tabled at this time because there is not sufficient time or information at this time.

Glenn Johnson said after we tweak the personnel policy and have a final draft he felt that the Board should have a workshop to go over the final changes prior to coming into a "full blown" Board meeting.

Martha Hicks suggested that she would prefer a draft of the personnel policy showing what the current policy is and how the new policy is being changed.

**Consensus by the Board to have the Avery County Personnel Policy become effective no later than July 1, 2013 possibly sooner if time allows.**

**Reclaimed Resources – Buddy Norris; Ted Cox**

Ted Cox, CEO of Reclaimed Resources, gave a presentation on a new waste energy facility to accept solid waste in this region. Mr. Cox stated that he had managed a recycling company in Bristol, Virginia for the past few years. He said that he started a research project with his own funds to figure out a way to make recycling not only cost effective but to reduce the carbon footprint that we as Americans put on the rest of the world. After a very long investigative process, I came across some technology that is very intriguing to me. This facility will be the first in the United States and we have a tremendous amount of documentation on how clean these facilities are and how profitable they are. The University of Georgia did research on this technology and there are many documents showing how clean this technology is. Mr. Cox explained the reason why he was here in Avery County. In our technology we are required to do ongoing research on a frequent basis and in that research we have to be able to manipulate our flow of waste into our plant. That flow of waste has to be researched to a point that where we can predict with a certain amount of proof as to what will be coming into the plant. If we go to Bristol, Tennessee and we ask them to be the host community; the problem is Bristol, Tennessee is a typical city. Bristol, Tennessee has a tremendous amount of documentation on exactly what is in their waste stream. Avery County has four very distinct seasons here and very distinct population because of the seasons. We have put together a program for Avery County to be able to become a host community. We have to take very specific samples, process them and send them to Germany. We have chosen to offer Avery County a proposal that within three years would save your budget almost one million dollars. By year five, Avery County savings would be 1.285 million dollars by becoming a host community. The first 24 months of the plant being in operation Avery County's waste would be received at zero charge. We would not charge any tipping fees. The basic contract that Avery County has now, Reclaimed Resources would be saving \$20.85 per ton for every ton that goes to the landfill for the first 24 months. In month 25 through month 84, Reclaimed Resources would charge you 40% of the tipping fee of the advertised rate of the Bristol, Virginia landfill rate. The first 24 months would show a savings of \$750,600 and at the end of year three, the savings would be \$975,780. This would be in a contractual agreement with Avery County. In the contractual agreement, Reclaimed Resources will manage the waste stream until the plant is in operation. Reclaimed Resources has contractual agreements with two different landfills that can take any waste that is generated by Reclaimed Resources. We have to have this contract as an agreement to fall back on. Avery County will not get caught in the middle outside of a

contract. The technology information can be provided to prove that this is a very clean operation. This gives Avery County the opportunity to be a 100% recyclable community. We are asking Avery County to allow our company to come into the school systems, churches, public meetings and give presentations on what the company can do for Avery County. This would teach and inform to make the public understand that one way of recycling is not the only way there is.

This system would separate out things such as a chunk of metal, aluminum can, glass bottle, etc and puts in another system. For example, the chunk of metal goes through a grinder and that is then sent to a recycling center and the same thing happens for each individual thing. All of the waste water treatment sludge and the hospital hazardous waste can be accepted also.

Another reason for coming to Avery County would be that because of the population there is enough waste generated to expand a plant. This new plant would produce many jobs and a tremendous amount of tax revenue. The State of Tennessee and the City of Bristol has invested \$28,000,000 in this project.

Mr. Cox suggested that if the commissioners had a list of questions that they would want answered to give them to Mr. Norris and he would send the questions to them to be answered.

Chairman Poteat stated that there were assurances given in the contracts that in case something were to happen the waste would be taken care of. Mr. Cox answered that it would not be any different than contracting with any of the other top waste management companies. We will have the contracts in place for the waste to go to an alternative site.

Mr. Norris stated that a letter of intent had been sent to Mr. Cox with no obligation to the county just to continue discussing the possibilities and it was notarized and signed by Chairman Poteat.

Chairman Poteat stated that the questions that the Board has should be given to Mr. Norris on Monday and then the Board would continue after this.

Mr. Cox said the letter of intent was to be able to give this presentation to the full Board today. He said that moving forward he needed something to give to the investors that show that this county is serious about moving forward.

#### **Capital Outlay – Avery County Sheriff’s Office**

Tim Greene, Finance Officer, explained that when he worked up the budget amendment for the last meeting he had inadvertently put the match for the grant as coming out of fund balance and that was incorrect it actually is coming out of the sheriff’s capital outlay account. This is a 75% grant with a 25% match. This was approved in an earlier meeting. This is a \$79,972 grant for the NC Department of Public Safety. This grant will be used for laptops in each patrol car.

**Motion by Glenn Johnson and second by Martha Hicks to adopt the Budget Amendment for the \$79,972 grant from the NC Department of Public Safety Governor’s Crime Commission with a debit of \$62,149.00 to Capital Outlay- Equipment (105100.7410); debit of \$9,375.00 to Maintenance Contracts (105100.1540); debit of \$8,448.00 to Cell Phones (105100.1560) and a credit of \$59,845.00 to Crime Control Grant (103611.0000) and a credit of \$20,127.00 to Capital Outlay-Auto (105100.7400). Motion unanimously approved.**

Chairman Poteat presented Scott Heath with his nameplate and thanked him for six years of dedicated service.

#### **Adjourn**

**Motion by Scott Heath and second by Martha Hicks to adjourn this meeting at 4:22 p.m. Motion unanimously approved.**

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**Kenny Poteat, Chairman  
Avery County Board of Commissioners**

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cindy Turbyfill, Clerk

