

# Solid Waste Committee

## Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2021 – 6:00 P.M. – Trousdale County Courthouse – 2nd Floor Courtroom

Present: Richard Johnson, David Nollner, Mary Ann Baker, Beverly Atwood, Coy Dickey, Gary Walsh, Steve Whittaker, Cliff Sallee, Dwight Jewell, Stephen Chambers  
Absent: Ken Buckmaster and Bill Fergusson  
Others Present: Becky Caldwell and Chris Gregory

### 1. Open Meeting

Chairman Richard Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

### 2. Review Minutes from October 20, 2020

Minutes from the October 20, 2020 meeting had been distributed. Gary Walsh made a motion to approve the minutes, Seconded by Coy Dickey.

MOTION CARRIED

### 3. Update form Director of Sanitation, Cliff Sallee

Director Sallee advised that the committee would be reviewing the Solid Waste Audit done by Becky Caldwell of Caldwell Environmental Solutions, LLC. That had been conducted over the past few months and her recommendations. Some current practices have not been changed in the past 15-16 years. Items needing discussion were damage/loss off the roll off trash carts in town as well as roll off rental agreements being updated in an effort to improve the existing system.

### 4. Review Audit by Caldwell Environmental Solutions

Becky Caldwell, President of Caldwell Environmental Solutions presented members with the report and advised that Federal and State regulations require local government to provide solid waste services. In 2015 Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) presented a 10-year plan (2025 Plan) for sustainable materials management in Tennessee. The recommendations were

1) *Add backyard composting and grass recycling information to the county website.*

2) *Increase the frequency and topics covered in employee safety training.*

3) *Assess the out of the fleet vehicles for salvage value.*

Discussions had been had about saving some equipment from these vehicles before selling them and what they are valued at. Director Sallee advised that the last one sold the received around \$3,500.00 for it. However, scrap metal prices were high now and it would be a good time to sell them.

4) *Update policy to require customer to pay the cost to replace rollout containers, as needed.*

Current cost of each container is about \$100.00 each. Several have been taken when residents move from the property.

5) *Increase the price for leased roll-off containers.*

Currently property owners / contractors can rent a roll off dumpster for \$216.00 which is \$150.00 for the dumpster and \$66.00 for 2 tons of garbage up front.

6) *Increase service fees for commercial customers with dumpsters.*

Currently business that have a dumpster are charged the same rate as customers with roll out carts.

- 7) *Redefine service areas to include dense residential developments in the urban services area, instead of general services.*

Discussion of expanding urban service district for solid waste service such as Sulphur College, Ridgecrest and Bridal Path.

- 8) *Charge general service households a monthly access fee for convenience center use.*

Currently residents in the general services district do not pay to use convenience center. Committee discussed how that would be billed/collected such as adding to monthly water bill, charging at arrival of center, property taxes, etc. As well as how much would be charged and how that would be checked.

- 9) *Visit the Chester County Solid Waste & West Tennessee Recycling Hub.*

- 10) *Re-route automated sideload truck to provide services 3 days each week (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday).*

Currently services are offered 5 days a week. If changed could decrease large truck traffic and allow employees to conduct other duties.

- 11) *Create bid specifications for potential outsourcing curbside, residential, solid waste and/or recycling services.*

Perhaps having an outside company provide some services and compare to cost of equipment (example Sideload trucks are about \$375,000.00 and Rear loaders are running about \$225,000.00)

- 12) *Exchange open top and/or 8-cubic yard dumpsters for compactor units, to collect recyclables.*

Currently we have cardboard. Director Sallee advised that he would like to get one for plastics as well as one more for household trash.

- 13) *Feasibility study for development of a regional recycling processing hub (MRF).*

Committee members discussed recycling options as well as how much materials were worth.

Commission Chairman Jewell asked if the recommendations needed to be addressed in a particular order the committee was advised they were ranked by time frame as to how they could be implemented and recommendations did not need to be done in a particular order.

Commissioner Atwood added that perhaps notices could be sent out to all customers explaining what and when changes would take place to avoid customers feeling only, they were being affected.

Commissioner Walsh asked Director Sallee with all the construction going on in the county how many roll off dumpsters were being used and was advised all of them and there is a waiting list as well.

Commissioner Jewell asked about most of the recommendations seemed to address increasing revenue and were there any that are cost saving? Director Sallee advised the re-routing side load truck from 5 to 3 days a week.

## 5. Other Discussion

Mayor Chambers advised that he will be adding a link to the Ag Extension site regarding composting information to the county website soon.

He had also found a resolution in 2013 that had replacement of county owned trash cart in urban services must be paid by property owner. However, he was going to check to see if it had passed.

Director Sallee advised the committee that the need for clarification of Roll off Carts in the Urban Services district and prices on Roll off Dumpsters needed to be addressed as soon as possible. Discussion was had about getting process and having a called meeting.

**6. Public Comments**

None

**7. Adjourn**

Gary Walsh made a motion to adjourn, Seconded by David Nollner and the meeting was adjourned.