

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF AVERY**

The Avery County Board of Commissioners held a Special Meeting on Monday, March 20, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Board Room, Avery County Administrative Complex, 175 Linville Street, Newland, NC. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and take any action necessary regarding the Landfill Feasibility Study and to discuss and take any action necessary regarding the design elements of the Swimming Pool.

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

Members Absent: Tim Phillips (illness)

Call To Order

Chair Hicks called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Tim Greene, County Manager, introduced Mike Brinchek and Stacey Smith with Smith Gardner Engineers who Avery County engaged a couple of months ago to do a feasibility study for the landfill. We have a construction and demolition landfill and haul all of our municipal waste which is household garbage to Bristol and we bury all of the C&D. We have opened cells approximately one acre and we will fill that up and close it and cap that off and then construct a new cell. It is expensive to do that. Last year we were going to open another cell (3) and we had not budgeted quite enough money for that and as a result we budgeted the money to open up cell 3 in this current budget. During this current year, Smith Gardner came up and did another volume study and that is just seeing how much room there is in the remaining cell. We have a little more air space in the current space than what we thought so we have delayed on opening cell 3. As a result, we engaged Smith Gardner to do a feasibility study to see if we wanted to keep burying the C&D and if we did, did we want to finish out 2 and open up 3 and then ultimately go on to phase 4. This is farther up the hill and the farther we go up the hill the more problematic it becomes. This is why we have engaged Smith Gardner to give us recommendations and then it is up to the Board to decide what to do.

Stacey Smith stated that one of the things that we did when we came to Avery County was develop a ten plus year life facility with only about an acre or two impact at the stream. That was an idea at the time. There was only about 3 dollars a ton difference. In 2008/2009 and through the recession we seen a lot of people tighten down the dollars and I think it was good to review what we had done in 2007. We have seen the development uphill in the current landfill to be difficult and it is mainly due to the geology and the seepage that occurs from the snow melt. This has driven up the cost and cost for construction has increased.

Mike Brinchek, Smith Gardner, presented a power point presentation with three options. Option 1 was to continue the C&D landfill until phase 2/3A reaches capacity and begin

transferring C&D Debris and municipal waste in 3 years over to Bristol or some other landfill facility.

Option 2 basically says stop disposal in the landfill July 1 and start transferring all of C&D and municipal waste to Bristol.

Option 3 is going up the hill in the next seven acres or so and begin operations upward.

All of these options are in the 2017 dollars. This is being used as a decision tool and not necessarily a budget tool.

Discussion regarding the three options.

Option 1 is the least cost option; grinding may extend the life of the current phase; deferring C&D debris transfer for one year would save over \$230,000.

Waste Hauling is one of the County's largest expenses. Current hauling costs are approximately \$23/ton. Smith Gardner estimates hauling costs will increase to \$26.50/ton once the County begins hauling C&D debris. Current and future hauling costs are significant enough to consider contract hauling options.

Option 3 is the highest cost option; terrain becomes more challenging as C&D landfill expands; construction and operations will become more difficult and expenses associated with these functions are less certain. This is construction of additional cells without hauling.

Eric Foster stated that there was about 4500 ton/year of C&D that comes into the landfill. Our compaction rate has gone up via the volume study.

Smith Gardner is recommending Option 1. Regardless of the disposal option selected, Smith Gardner recommends the County consider increasing the current \$45.00/ton tip fee.

Motion by Faith Lacey and second by Blake Vance to choose Option 1 for the C&D Landfill. Motion unanimously approved with those in attendance (4-0).

Recess

Chair Hicks called for a brief recess.

Chair Hicks declared the meeting to be back in order after a brief recess.

Avery County Swimming Pool Project

Mary Isaacs, Isaacs & Associates Architects, did a power point presentation showing different options for pool layouts, pool enclosures and pool features. At the community meeting the majority of the people present expressed that they would like to have a competition pool. The competition pool would require that the pool be approximately 78 feet in length. The pool layout options were rectangular, "L" shape and "T" shape.

The rectangular shape provides segregation of toddlers/young children. The rectangular shape would require a chair lift for accessibility; limited use of deep end while lap swimming in session; this design would require multiple filtration system. The "L" shape accommodates multiple functions; areas can be segregated; allows for zero entry; allows for deep end diving; one filtration system required. The "T" shape accommodates multiple functions; areas can be segregated; zero entry; deep end diving; one filtration system but requires more deck area than other options. There was discussion regarding the pool support spaces that could include equipment rooms, chemical room, locker rooms, concession stand, community room, etc. Ms. Isaacs discussed the schematic options for the pool. Option 1A included 5986 square foot of pool area; 9768 square foot of deck area, and 3732 sq. ft. of building area. Option 1B included 5828 sq. ft. pool area; 9344 sq. ft. deck area; 4481 sq. ft. building area. Option 2A included 5828 sq. ft. pool area; deck area 9227 sq. ft. ; building area 4123 sq. ft. Several options for enclosures were discussed. Mary Isaacs stated that the "L" shaped and the "T" shaped pools would be approximately \$700,000 for just the pool and the infiltration system with just minimal deck. Discussion about all of the options involving the pool. Tim Greene stated so this project has grown bigger than what we had planned previously just as the ag. building project did so at some point we would need to decide what we want to do if we want all of this or if we need to trim back.

Discussion regarding a water quality grant through North Carolina State University. This has been applied for recently.

Discussion about the parking lot for the pool.

Ms. Lacey stated that she would like to see this project tabled at this point because she couldn't put 3 million dollars on the taxpayers.

There was further discussion about the options.

Consensus by a majority of the board for an outdoor "T" shaped pool with competition lanes using the schematic option 2B with the parking lot switched to near the rock gym and the intention of enclosing the pool as soon as grant monies are available.

Ms. Isaacs will be back in two weeks with the estimates for the above pool with and without an enclosure.

Closing the current pool will be discussed at the next regular meeting.

Adjourn

Motion by Blake Vance and second by Wood Hall Young, Jr. to adjourn this meeting at 5:02 p.m. Motion unanimously approved.

Martha Hicks, Chair
Avery County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
Cindy Turbyfill, Clerk