

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
APRIL 3, 2017**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a work session on Monday, April 3, 2017 in the Community Room at the W.C. Witherspoon Memorial Library.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cecil Perry, Chairman
Dr. William R. Sterritt, Vice-Chairman
Jeff Dixon
Joseph S. Winslow, Jr. (arrived 2:25pm)
Frankie Meads
Bettie J. Parker

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lloyd E. Griffin, III

OTHERS PRESENT: Rodney Bunch, County Manager
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney
Sheri Small, Finance Director
Lynn Scott, Clerk to the Board

The work session was called to order at 2:00 PM by Chairman Perry.

1. PRESENTATION ON LANDFILL EXPANSION:

Mr. Pat McDowell stated that he is trying to choreograph and set in place a process that will help the County with not only the current needs at the landfill, but in the future as well. He said the future in landfilling and solid waste is important and one of the things the state tells us is once a county has a particular site, they should stay at that site as long as they can. Regulations ebb and flow. Right now they are getting softer, but it is a lot easier to grow an existing site than it is to go to a new site.

Mr. McDowell reported that we received a Life of Site Permit in December 2016. This is new regulations that help localities and tries to soften the regulatory process. Once you get a Life of Site Permit, technically speaking, if your solid waste stream slowed down enough so that you never filled up where you are currently, you would never have to renew the permit again. Leading up to this, we had to receive a permit every five years. He said currently we need to expand the hill, so we need to modify our current Life of Site Permit.

Mr. McDowell said a public notice will go in the paper this Sunday, followed up by notices being mailed to property owners. A public hearing will be held on May 15, 2017, followed by adoption of a resolution for the C&D Expansion. He stated that the Boshier property is being evaluated for possible borrow material to extend the life of the existing C&D landfill unit. Samples bores thus far look reasonably positive. He explained that they are dealing with a FEMA process. There was a 100-year contour line in the area that they are currently trying to expand to. They have received tentative approval, but they cannot take advantage of that until the maps are republished next year.

Mr. McDowell said when looking into the future, there may be some consideration to look at some other adjacent areas to consider for borrowing. He said if we can change the area currently designated for borrow and grow the hill in the direction of Fun Junktion, it will add a whole lot more time to the life of the hill. In order to do that, we need to get borrow from somewhere else. Currently, we are trying to see if we can purchase the Boshier Property. Ideally, the borrow should be as close to the hill as possible. There is land adjacent to the hill that is owned by different people and therefore the County would have to negotiate with the landowners if that is the direction they wish to take.

Vice-Chairman Sterritt said he expects a large majority of the people that live on Simpson Ditch Road to come to the public hearing if we purchase the Boshier Property to use as a borrow pit. He asked what type of buffer would be required. Mr. McDowell said probably 50-100'. It would be up to the County's discretion. He noted that the property is over 70 acres. He said there are trees existing that can provide a screen. He stated that the pit will be remote to Simpson Ditch Road because of the existing wood line. Someone driving down Simpson Ditch Road will never see it.

Mr. McDowell explained that if the Board approves the expansion, the current C&D Landfill Unit will possibly be expanded from 15.1 acres to approximately 37.9 acres subject to borrow material availability. There is no change in the existing (2005) approved maximum height of 125 feet, mean sea level. He said this C&D Landfill Unit will serve an area up to a 50 mile radius around the site. The primary service area is Pasquotank County and secondary areas (subject to the C&D Landfill Unit include, Currituck, Camden, Perquimans, Gates, Chowan, Hertford, Northhampton, Bertie, Washington, Tyrrell, Dare, Martin, Beaufort, and Hyde. The unit is estimated to receive approximately 20,000 ton per year of C&D waste primarily from residential house construction waste or from residential house demolition. He stated that the life of this C&D Landfill Unit with the indicated potential expansion area is estimated to be approximately 40 years.

Mr. McDowell said in recent times he has talked to a lot of state officials in Raleigh and locally and they speak very well of our landfill and how it is run. He stated that they lift it up to other localities when they want people to see how things are done well.

2. PRESENTATION ON DAMAGED WALKING PATH AT FUN JUNKTION PARK:

Mr. McDowell explained that over the years the walking path over an LC&D area at Fun Junktion has deteriorated and become unusable. He said one of the ways of dealing with the path is to consider relocating it near the old roadbed, which will help comply with the Fun Junktion, Part F Grant Program which the County has utilized in the past. He said vegetation and riprap around the lake may help prevent further deterioration in the future.

3. OTHER PROJECTS:

Mr. McDowell updated the Board on the Newland and Weeksville Recycling Center Improvements. He said both sites are back open, but there is still work to be done. He said we need to continue to evaluate possible acquisition of property adjacent to the Wellfield Road Recycle Center to improve the existing site and develop a possible emergency storage area for extreme storm events. County Manager Bunch said after further discussion with the utility owner of the tower, they are reconsidering the County's request to purchase property from them. He said they are not local and communication is difficult.

Mr. McDowell said we need to move relatively quickly to get this next permit. He stated that we are trying to craft this so we do not bring anything up that will drag it out. He said the land we are talking about is for borrow, which is a lot simpler and easier to do than if we were buying land to put waste on. He said we are trying to inform the public that it is the County's intent to set up a procedure such that in the future it has the option to grow the landfill one way or the other, not by buying property, but on property we currently own. Coincidentally, we have other things going on at the same time, such as investigating the Boshier property. He said this is not part of the public hearing; it is just something that is in the mill being evaluated right now.

Mr. Bunch reported the Solid Waste Director position has been advertised and the plan is to review the application on April 21st.

The work session was adjourned at 2:50 PM

CHAIRMAN

CLERK TO THE BOARD