

A Report of the Operations and Planning Committee Meeting

January 8, 2020

A meeting of the Operations and Planning Committee was held on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. at the Authority's Administrative Office in Conway, South Carolina. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, notices setting forth the date, time, and place of the meeting were mailed to the news media.

Present was Committee Chairman Michael Campbell and Committee Members Michael Hughes and Norfleet Jones. Also present were Board Members Pam Creech, Bo Ives, and Carl Schwartzkopf.

The following were also in attendance: Danny Knight, Executive Director; Jan Bitting, Director; Mike Bessant, Director; Esther Murphy, Director; and staff members Stephanie Todd, Richie Stetter, Cecil Terry and Cindy Keith.

Mr. Campbell called the meeting to order and rendered the invocation. Mr. Jones led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Committee Chairman Campbell asked for any revisions to the Agenda as contained in the Meeting Packet.

Mr. Jones moved to approve the Agenda as presented. There was a second by Mr. Hughes and the Motion was carried.

Operations and Planning Committee Meeting

Mr. Campbell explained that the Committee was meeting to discuss the purchase of a compactor for the landfill. Mr. Campbell then turned the meeting over to Mr. Bessant. Mr. Bessant stated that the SWA purchased a compactor in FY20 which was delivered in December 2019. He explained that the approved budget for the compactor was 1.2M, and the purchase price of the recertified compactor was \$650,000.00. Mr. Bessant remarked that there is also a compactor in the FY21 budget. He stated that each time one of the existing compactors has 10,000 hours on it and there is total maintenance and repair contract that will expire, the compactor goes back to the manufacturer who has agreed to buy it back. Mr. Bessant stated that one of the compactors is scheduled for buy back in August. Mr. Bessant explained that the compactor manufacturers are having maintenance and repair issues with Tier 4 compactors, so staff would like to purchase a recertified Tier 3 compactor similar to the one purchased in FY20. Mr. Bessant remarked that the last compactor purchased weighs 107,000 lbs. and that staff is hoping to find a 123,000 lb. recertified Tier 3 compactor, which would make the weight closer to the compactors currently being used. Mr. Bessant indicated that the process to purchase a compactor takes approximately

six months, so he is requesting permission to request proposals for the compactor to be purchased in FY21.

Mr. Bessant stated that the SWA has an Aljon compactor with 15,000 hours on it. He said the engine failed in this compactor, #345, about three weeks ago. Mr. Bessant explained that it takes 36,000 machine hours, over a 5 year period, to manage the SWA's C&D and solid waste landfills. He stated that if the SWA only has three compactors and each has 10,000 available hours before they are returned to the manufacturer, a 6,000 hour shortage exists. Mr. Bessant remarked that the older unit has been used to fill in when a compactor is down as well as to make up the shortage in available hours. He explained that staff would like to refurbish #345 by installing remanufactured wheels and a new motor with a 10,000 hour warranty. Mr. Bessant stated that the chassis has been inspected by a manufacturer who recertifies units and it is in good condition. He explained that the compactor can be rebuilt for \$175,000.00. Mr. Bessant commented that staff would like Board approval to use a portion of the \$550,000.00 savings from the compactor purchased in FY20 to rebuild #345 and permission to request proposals for a recertified Tier 3 compactor. Mr. Bessant explained that one of the reasons that staff prefers buying a recertified Tier 3 compactor in lieu of a Tier 4 compactor is that the Tier 4 compactors have had emission problems. Mr. Campbell asked if \$175,000.00 would be enough to make the necessary repairs on #345. Mr. Bessant stated that the new engine with a 10,000 hour warranty costs \$65,000.00 and the wheels cost about \$85,000.00. He said that staff allowed extra funds for shipping and unanticipated expense. Mr. Knight remarked that he was impressed by the efforts of Mr. Bessant and Mr. Setter to save the SWA money. Mr. Knight explained the equipment replacement account was running low on funds as discussed in the Budget Workshop, adding that an additional tipping fee will still be necessary to fund the account.

Mr. Knight asked Mr. Bessant to explain the change in the SWA's bid process. Mr. Bessant explained that the SWA is now using BidNet as are many of the municipalities and the County. He stated that the service is free for the SWA to use and that the bid is published to a lot more vendors than it would have been previously. Mr. Bessant explained that a list of SWA bidders has been forwarded to BidNet.

Mr. Hughes asked how long it would take to repair #345. Mr. Bessant replied that it would take two or three months. Mr. Hughes asked how many compactors will be in use during the repair process. Mr. Bessant explained that there will only be three. Mr. Bessant remarked that the reason the decision was made to ask for permission to use the savings from the FY20 compactor purchase is so the repairs can begin prior to July 1, 2020.

Mr. Jones moved to recommend to the full Board acceptance of staff's recommendation to utilize savings of \$175,000.00 to repair #345 and to allow staff to release a Request for Proposal for a recertified Tier 3 compactor. There was a second by Mr. Hughes and the Motion was carried.

Mr. Campbell asked Mr. Bessant to update the Committee on the MRF rebuild project. Mr. Bessant explained that Machinex was scheduled to begin updating the MRF on January 9, 2020. He said that on Friday, January 3rd, the old sort line went down and despite Mr. Stetter's best efforts, would not come back up. Mr. Bessant explained that the decision was made not to purchase parts to repair the line, but to implement the plan in place to divert commingle to the C&D processing facility a week earlier than anticipated. He remarked that C&D material is processed during the day and commingled material is processed at night. Mr. Bessant stated that due to diverting the material earlier than anticipated, Machinex was able to start disassembling the MRF two days early and plans to be finished by February 10th. Mr. Knight remarked that the SWA employees are what make the SWA what it is. He stated how hard and how many hours Mr. Stetter and other employees worked to get the MRF ready for the rebuild and to try to repair the broken sort line.

Mr. Campbell told the other Board Members that he understood that that they are often approached by compactor salesmen when they attend conferences and workshops. He said they often want the opportunity to bid on the SWA's equipment needs. Mr. Campbell explained that the sellers need a performance bond and they need to have someone who can repair the equipment, and not every company is qualified to bid.

SWA Recycling Grants

Ms. Murphy discussed the recycling grant applications. She explained that the deadline for grant requests was January 3, 2020, and the requests were being addressed at the Operations and Planning Committee meeting due to timing. Ms. Murphy noted that after the grant requests are approved or denied by the Committee, they still have to go to the full Board. Ms. Murphy stated that next year grant requests were going to be due in November instead of the first week of January which would allow more time for review and for the grant recipients to utilize the funds which must be used by the end of June.

The City of Myrtle Beach - Ms. Murphy stated that the City of Myrtle Beach submitted a grant request for \$6,000.00. She explained that they received a \$24,000.00 grant from DHEC to purchase containers to place at recreational facilities. Ms. Murphy remarked that the cost of the containers is \$30,000.00. She explained that with the SWA grant, the cost of the containers would be fully covered. Ms. Murphy stated that they City of Myrtle Beach said they had achieved a 7.5% increase in recycling last year and they anticipate another 2%-3% increase once the new containers are in place. Mr. Hughes asked if the containers would only be placed at recreational facilities. Ms. Murphy responded that their goal was to have recycling containers available at each of their nine recreational facilities.

Buck Creek Foundation - Ms. Murphy remarked that last year the Buck Creek Foundation had requested a grant to assist with funding their gardening/composting facility, the purpose of which is to provide a place for the special needs community to gain a skill which gives them more confidence. She stated that last year, the Buck Creek Foundation received a \$10,000.00 grant and they were requesting \$10,000.00 this year as well. Ms. Murphy stated that they want to build a storage facility, purchase additional composting containers, and expand their existing security fencing. She explained that they hope to tear down their existing greenhouse and replace it with a storage building constructed, in part, with material from the greenhouse. Ms. Murphy said that the Buck Creek Foundation purchased composting containers with last year's grant funding and the composting program has done very well in the community necessitating additional containers. She remarked that the existing containers are full most of the time, so they have no room for growth. Mr. Ives asked if perhaps they should use hedgerows in lieu of bins. Mr. Knight remarked that they currently do not have enough room to use hedgerows. Mr. Ives asked if they had been to the landfill to see how the SWA handles composting. Mr. Knight answered that they have seen the composting area. Mr. Knight remarked that the Buck Creek Foundation's application was the most informative of any he has seen. Mr. Hughes stated how impressed he is with this program and how exciting it is. Mr. Hughes said they are getting more and more businesses involved.

City of Conway - Ms. Murphy explained that the City of Conway has submitted a request for \$10,000.00 to purchase 200 additional 65 gallon recycling roll carts to supplement their recycling program. She stated that they City of Conway reported that after the purchase of the first round of roll carts last year, their recycling tonnage increased by 20 tons each month. Ms. Murphy said they hope to see an additional 2 to 3 tons each month after the dissemination of the new roll carts.

Mr. Hughes moved to recommend to the full Board approval of the grant requests as submitted by the City of Myrtle Beach, Buck Creek Foundation, and the City of Conway. There was a second by Mr. Jones and the Motion was carried.

Mr. Schwartzkopf showed the Committee a gift he received from Marjorie Thompson with the Department of Philanthropy at Coastal Carolina University. He explained that the slate roofs were replaced on several buildings at the University. Mr. Schwartzkopf remarked that Ms. Thompson cut the discarded slate into pieces to be used as coasters instead of having the material disposed of in the landfill. Mr. Schwartzkopf said that a letter should be sent by the SWA to Ms. Thompson to thank her for her resourcefulness. Mr. Knight agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 A.M.