

he Carroll County Economic Development Authority held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at the Carroll County Governmental Complex in Hillsville.

Members present: Chairman Larry Edwards, Vice Chairman Richard Sowers, Ronnie Collins, Mandi McCraw, Kaye Carter

Others: Cellell Dalton, Crystal Adams, Sandy West

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Edwards called the meeting to order and lead in the pledge.

Mr. Collins led in invocation.

MINUTES

Mr. Sowers made a motion to approve the August 3, 2020 minutes.

Ms. Carter seconded the motion.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES

Ms. West presented all invoices to be paid.

Ms. McCraw made a motion, seconded by Mr. Collins to pay invoices as submitted.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

TREASURERS REPORT

Mr. Sowers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Collins to approve the Treasurers Report as presented.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

SIGNATORY ON RESERVE ACCOUNT

Ms. West explained that on the Reserve Account that the auditors requested we have, we will need another signature on the account. There will be no checks but these people can authorize the account.

Mr. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sowers to approve signatures on the Reserve Account by Larry Edwards, Sandy West and Richard Sowers.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

CITIZENS TIME

Mr. Lowell Bowman explained that they have a roll off dumpster service in the County. We haul trash for New River Polymer and I wanted to bring to your attention that the Solid Waste Authority has quadrupled the rates of NRP trash. They sent a letter that it would start October 1. That makes it go from \$55 per ton to \$220 per ton. One of your jobs is to help retain business in the County.

Ms. McCraw asked what their reasoning is.

Mr. Bowman stated that the material that they take is fluffy and it is not allowing them to get the compaction that they want. I think that is the primary reason. I do not know if there is anything we can do. I have not spoken with the Director, but I have talked with some Board members and they were not able to give me a lot of information. For us, that is a large portion of our business. We have one full time person just hauling for NRP. I am assuming he is probably not going to haul trash to the landfill, he will have to come up with something else. He just recently put an addition on his building to expand his business and how the landfill is limiting what he can do. In my opinion, they are discriminating against him because they are not doing it to anyone else.

Ms. McCraw asked, do you know if he is the only one in our area that would have that product.

Mr. Bowman replied, I don't know that for sure. He is in the recycling business, but I don't think there is another company doing that. He has not told us definitively what he is going to do, but he can't afford that price per ton.

Mr. Edwards asked if the Landfill gave any additional information such as if it is going to fill quicker.

Mr. Bowman told that they did send a letter from Draper Aden. It is going to take some life off of the Landfill I am sure. What if we have an industry that comes in with 2000 jobs and they have a lot of trash. We would not turn them away just because the landfill would be full sooner. I think they said it may knock off 3 years, I am not sure what the life of the landfill is.

Mr. Edwards responded so they have done some engineering studies.

Mr. Bowman replied, I am sure they have an argument.

Mr. Dalton explained that they have dumped a couple loads to test. They also did a study so check the compaction. There are other ways to do it and other alternative efforts and we should be supportive of those requests. The life of the landfill is compaction. Those discussions need to happen and I would be happy to go with you.

Mr. Sowers asked what the average weight of a load.

Mr. Bowman replied about 2 tons. We haul about 10 ton per day. The DEQ wants it in the landfill. By law, we can't take it anywhere else, is that correct.

Mr. Dalton replied, I had that discussion when I saw the letter. My opinion is and I have asked the County Attorney to look into it. The flow control is if you work directly for us it is required to be taken there, but if you are private you can take it anywhere you want to. The cost of trucking when you add \$4.00 a mile you have lost the cost. You are in a no-win situation.

Mr. Bowman told he has checked with Pulaski, but they cannot accept it because Carroll is not a member entity.

Ms. McCraw asked if they could accept it if we were a member and how much would it have been.

Mr. Bowman replied yes, and it is \$32 per ton.

Mr. Dalton stated even if it is fluff, the more weight you put on it the higher the landfill goes, but it shrinks over time.

Mr. Edwards suggested shredding it and mixing it with the other garbage.

Mr. Bowman told that is an option. We would have to look at the cost of it.

Ms. McCraw asked what the next step is.

Mr. Dalton replied that Mr. Phillips needs to talk to the Solid Waste Board. We need to be supportive and send someone. I would like to understand how you come up with four times the value.

OLD BUSINESS

WOODLAWN SCHOOL PROJECT

Mr. Dalton stated that Mr. Durbin is working with the Title Insurance Company. Their capacity is \$7.5 million, and they are trying to find a secondary market so they can get the full investment of the project. We are currently just waiting, and it is causing a few problems because you have to have an up to date building permit and other things. Hopefully, it will be complete soon.

LIDDLE TYKES

Ms. McCraw asked if we have a date for appraisal for Liddle Tykes.

Mr. Dalton told that he had been in contact with Wampler Eanes and I will contact them again. Do you know any local people that might be interested in doing it if Wampler Eanes is too high?

Mr. Edwards stated that he knows a couple and he will get the numbers to you.

NON-DISCLOSURE

Ms. McCraw explained that she has been thinking about this but seeing the invoice where we were billed from Sands Anderson for discussion regarding the Non-Disclosure agreement. I wonder if all our Board has signed that document.

Ms. Adams stated that we were lacking three as of tonight. One has been turned in and one is being emailed.

Mr. Collins responded, here is another.

Ms. Adams stated that makes all of them accounted for.

NEW BUSINESS

CARES ACT

Mr. Dalton explained that the CARES Act allows us to provide funding for Small Businesses through an application process. The Board of Supervisors is proposing to put \$400,000 into the Small Businesses of 20 people or less who have not had the opportunity to get CARES money. The Board of Supervisors are prohibited by law to provide grants to businesses, the EDA can do that. If that is approved on Monday night, we will start taking applications. You all would have to review those and then dole out the money. If you would form a committee to work on that we can move forward.

CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 2.2-3711

Mr. Collins made a motion to enter Closed Session under Section 2.2-3711 A7 and A8.

Ms. McCraw seconded the motion.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

COME OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Collins made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCraw to come out of Closed Session.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Edwards certified the following:

WHEREAS, the Carroll County Economic Development Authority convened a Closed Session this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and on the motion to close the meeting in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board of Supervisors that such Closed Session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Carroll County Economic Development Authority hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (I) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Session to which this certification applies, and (II) only such business matters as were identified in the motion by which this Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

Roll call certification as follows:

AYES:Larry Edwards
Mandi McCraw
Ronnie Collins

Kaye Carter
Richard Sowers

VA PRODUCE

Mr. Collins made a motion to honor the current lease agreement between the EDA and Virginia Produce through the stated term of the agreement of 2023. We would ask Virginia Produce to give us more detail of the expenses submitted, and those expenses will be evaluated by the EDA Board and accepted or rejected as acceptable expenses. Further, all expenses from this point forward will follow the agreement and receive prior approval before expenses and approval must be in writing between the two parties.

Ms. McCraw seconded the motion.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

SMALL BUSINESS GRANT COMMITTEE

Mr. Edwards appointed himself and Mr. Sowers to serve on the Review Committee for the Small Business Grant Applications.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. McCraw made a motion, seconded by Mr. Collins to adjourn the meeting.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

