

CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NEW MEXICO
Tuesday, January 10, 2012

WORKSHOP

Minutes

TIME & PLACE: The Truth or Consequences City Commission and the Sierra County Commission held a Joint Workshop on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 5:30 P. M., at the Ralph Edwards Auditorium Civic Center 400 W. 4th Ave., Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, for the purpose to discuss the Solid Waste Collection Center Project.

PRESIDING OFFICER: City of T or C Mayor Montgomery welcomed everyone to the Workshop to discuss the Solid Waste Collection Center proposal, and stated she would go around the table to have everyone introduce themselves.

ATTENDANCE: Lori S. Montgomery, Mayor City of T or C
Evelyn Renfro, Mayor Pro-tem City of T or C
Steve Green, City Commissioner City of T or C
Jan Porter-Carrejo, Sierra County Manager
Walter Armijo, Sierra County Commissioner
Alvin Campbell, Sierra County Commissioner
Bobby Allen, Sierra County Commissioner
Rolf Hechler, NM State Parks
Kay Dunlap, NM State Parks
Patrick Peck, Director South Central Solid Waste Authority
Leonard Carrillo, T or C Solid Waste Director
Mike Crepeau, Project Manager, Gordon Environmental
Juan Fuentes, T or C City Manager
Mary Penner, Clerk, City of T or C
Jay Armijo, Executive Director SCCOG
Alan Briley, City Manager Elephant Butte
Kim Skinner, Councilor Elephant Butte
Ron Hoskins, Trustee Village of Williamsburg
Carol Schuiling, Mayor Village of Williamsburg
Freddie Torres, City Commissioner City of T or C
Auralie Ashley-Marx – By telephone

Mr. Mike Crepeau with Gordon Environmental stated at the City's request we put together a feasibility analysis for the collection center and a preliminary cost analysis of the proposed facility. And stated they were provided with two prepared scenarios for both the anticipated costs of constructing the collection center adjacent to the present recycling center, and estimated annual expenses to operate the facility.

He stated the first scenario is what he wants to call a full blown cost, and referred to Table 1.0 is the construction costs that we estimate for the collection center, and that the 2 main tasks is the site work which is basically the dirt work, and the actual construction of the structure itself, and on the bottom right hand corner of that first table...1.2 million for construction of site work, and comparison to scenario 2...\$841,000, and explained the

difference is item 1.3 asphalt roadways at the request of the City we went ahead and eliminated that one line item from the site work as potential future work that the City or the County or whoever comes in on this would be at a future time.

Mr. Crepeau stated that Table 2.0 is a list of additional capital costs, equipment list we call rolling stock, and stated rolling stock will be provided we hope at this point by Mr. Patrick Peck so we eliminated that, and the extension to the far right 2.0 site equipment, and stated they included a couple pieces of equipment that are necessary for a collection center of this size which includes a front-end loader, integrated tool-carrier, and stated they will update the cost for a backhoe. Table 3.0 stated is the capital cost summary...again the site work roughly 1.5 million capital costs, and as for comparison scenario 2...1.1million, and again the difference is the...roadways on site. Table 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 are all of the operating costs that we were able to itemize, 4.1 equipment, 4.2 staffing, and 4.3 operating costs for utilities, maintenance and debt service. He stated the \$144,000 for the debt service was a figure provided by the City so we dropped that in there so at any time these numbers could change.

Table 5.0 is our comparison for the haul cost, and on the left hand side of the page is the proposal from South Central SWA.

Table 6.1 & 6.2 are the tipping fees, and Table 6.1 is a summary of all the operating costs, staffing as well as the debt service, and that the daily operating costs are almost \$1,500 a day, and that they want to look at is the \$79.92 per ton and stated this takes into consideration the haul costs...as well as operating costs of the transfer station.

Commissioner Allen stated his question is on the tipping fee, and asked if he would explain that to the audience.

Mr. Crepeau stated what the tipping fee is...it takes into consideration all of your capital costs as well as your operating costs, and the haul costs, and that it breaks it out by ton.

He stated Figure 1 is a graph showing the Transfer Station Unit Disposal Costs vs. Waste Acceptance Rate, and stated Table 7.0 is the collection center feasibility analysis which shows the breakdown of each scenario, the operating cost breakdown, and stated they did a percentage breakdown of entity costs...per entity assuming that these five entities will be part of the JPA.

Mr. Rolf Hechler, Regional Superintendent with the NM State Parks stated that the current estimates would double the parks annual solid waste expense, and questioned how they could reduce these fees.

City Manager Fuentes stated one way we could reduce the fees is what we presented to Senator Smith, and the question to our legislators is to assist us with capital outlay funding, and sharing of equipment.

County Manager Carrejo stated she agreed with Juan, and that it would be great if the State Legislature would get us funds so that we can reduce these costs...but seriously doubts that is going to

happen, and stated the one thing that we have to look at...is yes I know your fees were \$18,000 last year, but what has happened is we have greatly under charged for solid waste services in Sierra County over the past 25 years, and although it is a rough reality check we're gonna have to have them.

Commissioner Green stated another way to reduce everyone's costs is to increase our recycling efforts.

Mr. Patrick Peck Director with the South Central Solid Waste Authority stated he runs landfills, and indicated he is also the NM Recycler of the Year, and stated optimizing a system is what you are after...and that they don't want to have too much or too little. He stated looking at your estimated tonnage that is coming out of this area...you're kind in a catch 22, but running a quick number... what you want to go for is 9,360 tons per year, and basically that is two semi loads a day pulled out of here on 5-days a week, 40 hours a day.

He stated that requires for a recycling stand point that you divert 22% of your waste stream in recycling or beneficial use. And stated he had a meeting with Mr. Fuentes and Leonard last week, and stated the concept of a "clean fill" which was noted to include materials such as asphalt, cinder blocks and concrete, and stated clean fill is the key to this whole system because it's heavy. He stated clean fill material is something we need to look at or you need to look at...at your landfill out here what are we going to do for final cover and caps...do we need drainage can we use that material, and indicated it requires processing but it has a beneficial use.

Mr. Peck stated "white goods"...TV's, electronics that type of mix you're gonna take those things in...you're doing those now, and that white goods we can crush. And the other thing we need to talk about is "green waste", and that is yard trimmings, and indicated I know we live in the desert...but you know that's got to come out, and you have to separate that out because it takes up air in the trailers, and stated that could be used as mulch for the composting program, and the popular number you're looking at is 9,360 tons per year...two trucks a day, 5 days a week.

Mayor Montgomery stated let's go back to recycling...so we talked about yes we know it's a good thing...it's the right thing that we need to do...so how do we get the money from the recycling back to the entities to offset their fees.

Mr. Peck stated the Solid Waste Authority...the South Central Waste Authority the JPA between Dona Ana County, and the City of Las Cruces...we exist solely on the fees that we collect, and that the City of Las Cruces doesn't get anything out of us...out of their General Fund nor does Dona Ana County, and stated they do pledge their environmental gross receipts tax. And stated if you're looking at a JPA between these five entities you want to try and make the system (inaudible)...And stated they don't try to give the money back to the entity...we actually...all the money that we take in we have a separate fund...it's separately accounted for... everything that comes back in goes back into the authority to offset our operational costs.

One of the questions from the panel was disposal of tires.

Mr. Peck stated tires is something we all deal with, and I don't have an answer to that, and that it is still legal to dispose of tires at a landfill in the State of New Mexico, and stated that is one of the least expensive ways to do it. He stated he sponsored research with NM State University on getting chrome rubber tires included in the asphalt mix, and the research has shown that the asphalt last longer, and it offsets the higher up front cost...those things are coming on the State level, and that those are seen all over the State...and again the regulations allow for a "mono-fill" tire fill as well.

Commissioner Allen...and you're speaking of going back into a dirt fill...putting tires back into a dirt fill...I mean a landfill.

Mr. Peck stated we don't call it a landfill it's a "mono-fill"...it's only for tires...it's dug it's dirt...a landfill is dirt, and stated it is a special type of operation where it's only for tires, and only allowed to go in that way...nothing else can go in there...you can't mix the clean fill or anything else but "mono-fill" it doesn't require a liner.

Mayor Montgomery – is that a separate permit also.

Mr. Peck stated I would actually yield to Auralie on that but I believe it is.

Auralie stated under the current rules it does, and stated other smaller communities in the same situation as your County and T or C are looking at other ways to banish tires, and I have better news on that, and that we do have an annual recycling, and illegal dumping grant fund, and that they award that on a regular basis for tire project or to assist communities to help them banish tires, and that it depends on the amount you're generating in your community, and what official options there are, and stated that is something we can explore, and they don't require at this time a permit to open a tire mono-fill.

Mr. Peck stated there is a company in Denver City, Texas which is on the other side of Hobbs, and stated in Texas they actually include the rubber in the asphalt mix, and that company will bring a trailer and park it, and for a small fee with pull those as well, and stated there are a lot of communities that use that facility.

He stated on the State level he sits on a couple of grant boards, and on the State level we understand there is a problem with tires, and that we are working desperately to try to find a solution for that.

Commissioner Allen stated we covered tires and white goods...it is the same answer for the rest of it for plastic...glass...

Mr. Peck stated you can throw every plastic bottle into my landfill, and there is no law on the books that requires us to recycle. And stated I push recycling because of the fact that it is...you mentioned glass, and glass is another problem child that we all have because it's heavy, and that the best proposal he has ever seen is the Village of Angel Fire where they crush glass, and ??inaudible to a spec that is equal to crusher fines, and use it for pipe bedding in their utilities, and he would encourage them to look at that as glass crushers are pretty cheap and proven technology, and the specs are there, and it's local and not moving the glass anywhere.

Commissioner Green stated in regards to the glass he and Leonard visited a company in Albuquerque that are in the market to buy glass, and that they are exploring that possibility.

Commissioner Green stated once you get the go ahead...this is to Mike...what is the time duration to build out the facility...what are we looking at.

Mr. Crepeau replied "4-6 months".

City Manager Fuentes thanked everyone for attending the Workshop.

Mayor Montgomery also thanked everyone.

County Manger Carrejo thanked everyone, and stated several months ago we had our Attorney prepare a draft JPA to consider for a Solid Waste Authority, and would ask everyone to please review that, and that she has copies of the said draft.

APPOVAL: PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2012, on motion duly made by Commissioner _____, seconded by Commissioner _____, and carried.

LORI S. MONTGOMERY
MAYOR

ATTEST:

MARY PENNER
CITY CLERK

