

FEBRUARY 9, 2010 – WORKSHOP

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a workshop on February 9, 2010 at 3:00 p.m., at the Walton County Courthouse Annex in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida to discuss the Solid Waste Strategic Plan.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner Scott Brannon, Chair; Commissioner Cecilia Jones; Commissioner Kenneth Pridgen, Commissioner Sara Comander. Mr. Lyle Seigler, Interim County Administrator; and Attorney Lynn Hoshihara, Interim County Attorney, were also present.

Chairman Brannon called the meeting to order.

Mr. Greg Graham, Engineer Walton County Public Works, presented the Walton County Solid Waste evaluation and stated that the last evaluation was performed in 1993. He introduced Mr. Cliff Knauer, Preble Rish; and Mr. Jeff Brown, Brown, Burdine & Associates, who would be giving more information on the evaluation.

Mr. Cliff Knauer, Preble-Rish, gave an overview of the existing facilities services and the evaluation performed in 1993. There were six different collection alternatives considered. In 1995 the one cent sales surtax was enacted to pay for waste collection. He briefly reviewed the 1993 Study Recommendations. The fees charged in 1993 are the same as what is being charged today. He discussed the purpose and need for a new evaluation.

Mr. Jeff Brown, Brown, Burdine & Associates, used an aerial photograph to review the areas that are presently being utilized as landfill. He stated that the landfill sits above a water table aquifer. A lot of the waste cells are only 20 to 30 feet deep which is well above the water table which is at 50 feet. He reviewed the uses of the original cells. He discussed the new lined cell construction which is designed to allow the water to drain toward a specified collection area

for treatment. Those areas will be regularly checked by quality assurance. The monitoring activities include water quality monitoring, gas monitoring, and remediation. Mr. Brown reviewed the ground water cleanup. He briefly discussed the history of major solid waste legislation. He stated that there is a goal in Florida to have 75% in-house recycling by 2020. He discussed the Northwest Florida landfill changes that have occurred from 1970 to 2010.

Mr. Knauer discussed the operational details of the Walton County Landfill. He stated that Mr. Rusty Floyd, Landfill Manager, ran a very organized operation. He recommended that the Board continue evaluation for all options; consider a RFP for waste services; move forward with a concurrent analysis of county operation – in-house solid waste service; and review an additional presentation after data collection and analysis.

Chairman Brannon asked what the height of the closed high-rise cell site was, what determined the height; and the life span of a cell that size. Mr. Knauer stated that the height is approximately 115-125 feet. Mr. Brown stated that the shape and size of the site determined its height with a three to one slope. He also reported that the site in question is approximately six acres. Mr. Graham said that there was a two to three year life span of what is currently used on a five acre cell. The permitted 40 acre site has an approximate life expectancy of 17 years. Mr. Knauer stated that it took a year to get the new cell site operational which included the storm water ponds.

Commissioner Comander asked if the earth work had been done on the entire parcel. Mr. Floyd said that it had not. Commissioner Comander then asked where the rain water would flow. Mr. Brown stated that the rain water is drained to an area that will be designated and prepared to collect the water for treatment.

Commissioner Pridgen questioned the depth of a cell. Mr. Brown stated that the water table beneath the landfill fluctuates therefore the depth of each cell will be determined by the water table. He added that Mr. Floyd has been performing monthly water table checks since 1993.

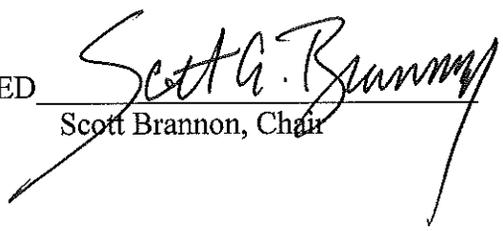
Commissioner Pridgen questioned what became of the excavated dirt. Mr. Brown stated that the dirt is kept on site to be used for cover. Commissioner Pridgen commended the Landfill Staff on the great job they are doing.

Chairman Brannon stated that a draft RFP has been provided to the Commission for review and will be brought back to the February 23, 2010 Commission meeting for action. He also directed that data continue to be collected regarding this issue.

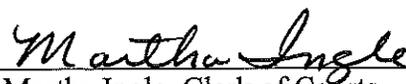
Commissioner Pridgen raised questions regarding the public/private partnership. Mr. Knauer stated that there have been a number of presentations over the past years that gave different types of solid waste technologies. The RFP will be used to seek tangible ideas and costs for solid waste services and landfill uses.

There being no further information to be presented, the Board adjourned the workshop at 3:44 pm.

APPROVED


Scott Brannon, Chair

ATTEST


Martha Ingle, Clerk of Courts