

**SANITATION & SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 20, 2020 1:00 P.M. ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Justice Neil Burge; Justice, Jo Ann Henton; Justice, Alvin Clay; Justice, Molly Jackson; Justice, Michael White; Justice, Betty Hepler; Justice, Bill Nelson; Finance, Kelli Jones; Treasurer, Peggy Meatte; Tobye McClanahan; Sally Bennett; County Clerk, Janice Currie; Public Affairs, Steven Savage.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice, Neil Burge. Justice Burge handed out a spreadsheet on the landfill budget. Total revenue for the first 6 months was \$1,617,451.25. Expenses for the 6 months total \$994,527.33. 42% against the operating budget. Operating margins \$622,924.92. \$546,122.40 was paid on the new cell construction. Cash on hand \$2,169,101.61. \$1,700,000.00 due on the construction project. Revenue down from 2019 around \$48,465.10. Justice Burge stated due to the circumstances with COVID-19 and business being shut down these were good numbers. Expenses were up \$41,487.86. Permit modifications in May the final payment was made on the contract for Taylor Hendrix. Margins are \$89,961.96 off. Landfill is running smooth.

2. Leases were up on two pieces of equipment for the landfill. A compactor and a 963 dozer. Both have been delivered. Justice White stated there was an increase of payments of \$785.82 per month. Justice Burge stated Judge Nelson has worked with Riggs on both the leases and does not know if the equipment was upsized.

3. Justice Jackson asked if the County was still offering the cities a discount. Justice Burge stated the City of Blytheville was being offered a 30% discount. Justice White asked if the Sanitation & Solid Waste Committee had approved the discount. The committee did not approve the discount. Tipping fees set by an Ordinance have not changed. Justice Jackson stated tearing down the houses was a good thing. Justice Burge stated the Judge was working on information about raising the tipping fees. The increase needs to be done before the cities begin their budgets. Justice White stated the committee had discussed raising the fees every year so it would not be as impactful on the cities. There was a major increase 5 years ago with another .50 the next year. There has not been another increase since. Justice Nelson asked if the committee had ever plotted what a .50 or \$1.00 increase would do. 90,000 tons are averaged a year. A .50 increase would be around \$45,000.00. Overtime pay is down \$10,000.00.

4. Notice could be given at any time for the closure on phase 1. Leachate is being pumped and disposed of properly and the cell is covered. The cell construction has had trouble getting started. When cell 15 was done they excavated some of cell 16. Seep water has been standing all spring. Justice Burge, Judge Nelson, J. T. Harris met with the contractor 3 weeks ago. Equipment has been moved on site. Agreement was signed by the Judge and contractor that the start date was July 20, 2020. 120 days to complete the project. 2 cells are being built. Class 1 and Class 4.

5. Leachate hauling. \$10,000.00 was budgeted per month. The hauling fell off but is now back on track.

6. Justice Ash asked about a bill from Waste Pro for Armorel. Justice Burge stated he noticed there was about 30 loads to the landfill. Cash tickets with no charge. Material from tearing down the old elementary school. The dumpster was charged to the landfill. 57 no charge loads to the road department. Mr. Roundtree stated that was for things that are picked up by the road department. Justice White stated the landfill would be \$150,000.00 down from last year if it keeps going the same. Justice Burge stated the landfill has been averaging \$1 million per year net profit. The Judge has held up on a disc that he would like to purchase. Kelli Jones stated road department tickets have always been zero. The loads were weighed because it has to be reported. Landfill tipping fees are approved by Ordinance and anything else should be approved by the committee.

7. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George