

Workshop Session – September 19, 2023

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. for their regular monthly workshop session in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC. All board was present.

1. Chairman Nelms called the workshop session to order.
2. Chairman Nelms asks Sanitation Director Gavin Colvard to speak. Director Colvard presented the board with preliminary numbers for the proposal of a new sanitation plan. Director Colvard gave the following information to the board.

2023/2024 BUDGET \$1,449,920.00 (including two Kenworth's \$447,000.00)

Beginning budget without trucks \$1,002,920.00

- (9) UNMANNED SITES
- (3) FRONT LOAD GARBAGE TRUCKS
- (2) ROAD TRACTORS
- (1) YARD TRACTOR
- (1) 420 RUBBER TIRE BACKHOE
- (1) KX80 KABOTA
- (2) PICKUPS
- (1) ROLL OFF TRUCK FOR RECYCLE
- (1) ROLL OFF TRAILER FOR RECYCLE

*Example: Monday morning (1) truck to Ballground GA; Frontload goes out to pick up cans and one pickup truck with two men go out to pick up garbage. Once Ballground trip is back he takes other front load truck and picks businesses and other sites. Repeats after lunch and sometimes takes another load to Ballground GA.

Total miles for pickup county wide begin at Snowbird Site goes to Hwy 28 then back to Bear Creek; then if full, dump; then to Gladdens Creek; then back to Buffalo; then Snowbird then back to site. On Tuesdays and Fridays, the trip includes Fontana, Meadow Branch and back to site. Depending on condition of sites a return trip may be needed to other sites except for Fontana/Brooks Cove.

At the Sanitation site; yard man and usually Supervisor on site all day. They run scales, load trucks, pick up garbage on premises, handle recycling, maintenance of floors; bale cardboard, assist (weigh) camper disposals if any.

PROPOSED PLAN

- (3) MANNED SITES: 400 SNOWBIRD ROAD; BUFFALO AND HWY 28
- (1) FRONT LOAD GARBAGE TRUCK FOR RECYLING BECAUSE MUST STAY CLEAN AND DRY
- (2) FRONT LOAD GARBAGE TRUCKS TO PICK UP CANS AND BUSINESSES
- (1) ROLL OFF TRAILER FOR CARBOARD – ESTIMATED SAVINGS \$5,000.00 PER YEAR FOR LANDFILL PLUS, ADDITIONAL REVENUE \$15,600.00 PER YEAR

TIPPING SCALES ADDITIONAL REVENUE \$450.00 DAILY = \$2700.00 WEEKLY = \$140,400.00 YEARLY. We already know of several businesses that use green cans for out of county trash. On fuel, we will save on one front load truck at least \$40,000.00 per year not counting tires, brakes, oil, etc.

If we are recycling at Sonoco, American Recycling they will allow for a discount if we sell our cardboard to them which can equate a check for \$100.00 per load instead of paying \$54.00 per ton to dispose. The more we take, the more discount we receive.

METAL: If we man the sites, all appliances, metal will come to the county which will increase our metal recycling funds and keep it out of the landfill. Estimated metal picks up by scavengers is 2/3 versus 1/3 and will eliminate persons placing the refrigerators, etc. in the green can. Estimated revenue \$15,312.00.

TIRES: Everyone is entitled to dump 5 tires per person per year. You can charge a fee per tire after the five for any individual; this will not include commercial.

TV's, Monitors and Laptops needs to charge \$5.00 or \$6.00 per unit. Possible revenue would pay for the disposal which is \$1,500.00 per pick up.

MATTRESSES: No charge.

FENCING AT THE (9) SITES MUST BE REPAIRED. If we man them, we will be looking at fixing (3) sites instead of (9). If the sites are manned and someone backs into the fencing, they are liable to pay instead of taxpayers. Estimated savings \$72,000.00.

ACCESSIBILITY: If we man three sites the hours of operations could be: Monday – Saturday three sites; Sunday opens at 400 Snowbird Rd 1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.; There are several options that can be done to save money and accommodate taxpayers.

By having the sites manned, the taxpayers, the disabled and elderly can have assistance unloading their garbage. We can charge out of state and out of county people a fee per bag for disposal of their garbage. This could include a lot of VRBO's that we are currently paying for by taxpayers. Estimated revenue: \$24,960.00.

We will also save on cans which are \$1200.00 each plus shipping and we purchase a truckload every three years. We will have enough excess if we go to three sites to last many years.

Estimated guess for a future budget with manned sites: \$689945.45 which calculates to a savings of around \$317,974.55 or more depending on revenue per year. If we increase the per ton fee to \$80.00 like the surrounding counties, we will gain an extra \$145,680.00 bringing the savings now to 463,654.55.

This is just an estimated guess of the savings by manning three sites. These numbers are not set in stone and can provide more revenue as we adjust to the new plan. We do need to have discussion on brush and debris, this can be stored in the impound yard if the new plan is in place to keep it from going into the green cans. We can consider purchasing a mulch/grinder in the future using the savings to purchase. This would also eliminate Cherokee County and Swain County residents and business owners from dumping for free at our green cans. If the sites are manned, they would be turned away back to their county. Any business dumping would be required to go to the transfer station per state law. This would cut out residents from disposing of garbage collected from another county in one of our green cans.

3. Chairman Nelms asks for further discussion. No further discussion.
4. Chairman Nelms asks for a motion to adjourn the workshop session. Commissioner Williams made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

Jacob Nelms, Chairman

Natasha Williams, Vice-Chair

Lynn Cody, Member

Keith Eller, Member

Connie Orr, Member

ATTEST:

Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board