



**Chatham County Environmental Review Board
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: September 16, 2010

Location: Dunlap Classroom

Board Members Present:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Tara Alden (Co-Chair) | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Lin Andrew | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sonny Keisler |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Catherine Bollinger | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Allison Weakley |
| | Raj Butalia | <input type="checkbox"/> | Vic D'Amato |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Elaine Chiosso (Chair) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Steve Wing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Martha Girolami | | |

Present: Fred Royal, County Environmental Resources Division
John McSween and Doug Carver with SWAC
Dan LaMontagne, County Solid Waste Director
John Graybeal, PB
Camp, Dresser, McKee staff

Copy:

Note: Motions and resolutions are noted in red

Elaine opened the meeting.

1. Approval of Environmental Review Board (ERB) meeting minutes from August 19, 2010.

Allison Weakley moved to approve. Martha Girolami seconded. All approved.

2. Public Input

No input.

3. Presentation about Landfill site search by Camp, Dresser, McKee (CDM)

Fred introduced Dan LaMontagne (Chatham HW Director) and several staff from CDM.. Dan gave a brief summary of the landfill site elimination process that CDM is conducting for the County which has reduced the number of sites from 564 to nine. Letters have now been sent to these property owners.

Martin Sanford from CDM then gave a detailed presentation on this selection process. This presentation will be posted on the County website .

Martin explained the need for a 100 acre site with contiguous 400 acres total. This is to allow the county the option of receiving waste from other counties (500Ton/day), the need for dirt, roads and other structures besides the landfill itself. In response to Steve Wing's question as to why sites in a triangular area around Hwy 15/501 just south of Orange County had been eliminated, he said these sites were thought to be too close to the buffers applied to schools and protected lands and a county line.

He said that these nine sites now under consideration meet the requirement of single ownership and all regulatory requirements for buffering schools, protected lands, floodplains, airports, towns, etc. and minor decision criteria (for example, buffering county lines). Once these viable sites were located, then environmental justice criteria and other criteria will guide the final rankings. These ranking criteria applied to the nine sites will be part of the next presentation to SWAC.

He said the selected site will be purchased before obtaining the SubTitle D landfill permit. There must be a site suitability study and public hearing, approval by the BoC, a Permit to Construct and finally a Permit to Operate.

Allison Weakley pointed out the need for the Environmental Assessment early on in this process. Steve Wing said in operating a landfill there is the conflict of profit versus amount of waste. Waste reduction and recycling need to be paramount goals.. He supports the county in dealing with its own waste and not exporting it.

Tara Allden spoke about the closed County landfill site having potential problems such as groundwater contamination.

John McSween said SWAC will be going public soon with the presentation viewed in part tonight and asked for input on content. Some suggested keeping it simple and short . He wants these meetings to explain what a landfill is, why it is needed and where does our trash go, and the disposal cost. Chatham used to be 3rd in the state in volume recycled but has fallen to 27th. This may be due in part to additional private recycling efforts.

4. Staff Report (Fred Royal)

a. Hampton's Development

This development has been fined by the USACE for \$5000 for violations of its permit involving extensive stream impacts.

Motion to authorize Elaine Chiosso with Catherine Bollinger to write a brief letter to the BoC asking them to ask the Corps for the maximum penalty of \$11,000 for Hampton's violations. Allison Weakley moved to approve. Catherine Bollinger seconded. All approved. (Tara Allden recused herself from this vote.)

b. Update on State Permit Extension—Local Opt-Out

Fred Royal supplied the ERB with a table of development permit deadlines including the new deadlines if the 2010 extension is accepted by the County. The one year State extension of permits affects all types of activities that involve a permit – development, storm water, buffers, zoning, etc. The Planning Board will take up this issue. Elaine agreed to send a memo to the PB.

Rachel Thorne is willing to join the ERB as an ex-officio member. She is in favor of the County opting-out of an additional year of permit extensions.

Motion that Chatham should opt-out of the State permit extensions. Allison Weakley moved to approve; Catherine Bollinger seconded. All approved.

c. Confirmation on Briar Chapel field visit

Prior to the regular ERB meeting on October 21, 2010, available ERB members plan to meet at the Briar Chapel office at 5 to 6 pm to view stream repair and stabilization work. Directions will be supplied by Fred Royal before this meeting..

d. NE Park

Habitat for Humanity tore down the old barn and recycled 1000 board feet of lumber and the trusses making \$3000. The county was saved \$5000 for avoided demolition costs. The general contractor is Modern South and will begin work on October 1, 2010. Clean Water Trust fund grant monies were awarded for this project -- \$208,000 as well an additional \$40,000 for BMP retrofit

5. Information on EPA public hearings on Coal Ash regulation and Comments on Fracking (Elaine Chiosso)

Coal Ash:

There was a EPA deadline in a few days for public input on two regulatory proposals –coal ash treated as hazardous waste versus treated as municipal trash. Neither prevent dumping of coal ash down mine shafts.

Fracking:

An EPA comment period is open for a study on mining shale natural gas using hydraulic fracking. Elaine says EPA is not looking at sites in NC for the study, but it is hoped that they will include regions of the county with similar geology. She will send a link to the ERB.

6. Sludge Materials Notification for County Website (Steve Wing)

Steve Wing emailed the ERB a draft on-line sludge document, map and spreadsheet on the 8/31/2010. After some discussion, Catherine will rewrite parts of the document possibly to include a preamble emphasizing the value of sludge field application to local farmers and that the County cannot regulate this activity. She asked how to set up links to permits and maps. Some issues discussed were the format of notification by applicers to county staff (Fred Royal?), handling public complaints to staff, the County Health Department, others and the delay of the statement on notification until BoC approval.

7. Announcements and updates from ERB Members

Allison Weakley states that the Conservation Plan model and mapping are complete and is available on the CCP Wikispace. She will send us this link. On October 4th, the Draft Plan document will be presented. The plan will also be presented at the CCP meeting on October 15th. Agriculture and Water will be added by November 15th and presented at a community meeting on November 16th.

Tara said she thought the precautionary principle should be explored as a future project.

8. Adjourned

Martha Girolami moved to adjourn. Tara Allden seconded. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Next meeting:

Date: October 21, 2010

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Dunlap Classroom

Note Meet at Briar Chapel at 5:00 pm for tour.