

**LANDFILL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
April 6th, 2021
5:15 P.M.**

Present: Nathan Pilgreen, Brenda Abercrombie, DeWayne Ramsey and Ben Bridges. Also present: Johnny Buckley, L.W. Nolan and Tracy Houck.

Mr. Pilgreen called the meeting to order. Mr. Ramsey led the group in prayer.

Motion Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie and declared adopted by unanimous vote to approve the agenda as written.

Motion Mrs. Abercrombie, seconded by Mr. Bridges to approve the minutes of the March 2nd, 2021 meeting (March 4th cancelled due to lack of quorum). Motion carried unanimously.

A brief discussion was held regarding the Waste Handler bids. Two bids were received:

- Louisiana Cat (Hi-Track) in the amount of \$419,500
- Doggett in the amount of \$375,500

The machine from Louisiana Cat has all the requested specifications. The Assistant Landfill Superintendent is going to test drive both machines. The machines are located in different parishes and will require at least one day. **Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to table the decision until the Assistant Landfill Superintendent can test drive both machines. Motion carried unanimously.**

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the Landfill Engineer. Mr. Bridges addressed the committee regarding the topography survey that was recently done at the Landfill. There had previously been a lot of discussion regarding drone photography versus aerial photography and how accurate the drone photography was. It turns out the drone footage was very accurate. The intention was to compare the drone footage calculations to what Mr. Dumas had done. The drone footage cost \$2,000 and the airplane footage would have cost \$7,000. Mr. Dumas would not share the original data with the surveyor. Mr. Houck is of the opinion that if the jury paid for the data then the jury owns the data.

Mr. Bridges has researched possible alternatives to Mr. Dumas. Jonathan Fourrier is an engineer who does landfill work for a living. He is well versed in dumpster sites and with DEQ. Mr. Bridges stated that there have been numerous instances where the jury could have been more proactive. Mr. Bridges provided the committee with a packet from Mr. Fourrier. Mr. Bridges also provided a copy of the packet to Mr. Houck for his approval. Mr. Houck made a couple of suggestions that would help protect the jury with regards to questions of owning information that we have paid for. Mr. Bridges suggested that the committee cease its services with Dumas and Associates and hire Fourrier & de Abreu Engineers, LLC after the thirty-day notice to Dumas

and Associates has expired. Mr. Fourrier runs 17 out of the 24 Landfills in the state, one of them being the West Carroll landfill. He would bring lots of experience to the table.

Mr. Buckley addressed the committee and said that Mr. Dumas has been the Landfill engineer for twenty-five years and does not think he should be terminated.

Mr. Bridges stated that he does not believe that Mr. Dumas has the best interest of Union Parish in mind. Mr. Bridges stated that he has several issues that include the following:

- Landfill hours are too narrow. The permit should have broader hours that would allow the Landfill to be open on weekends.
- Committee members not given proper information on dumpster sites.
- Temporary permit for wood waste.
- Mr. Dumas not providing information that has been paid for.
- Notice of Deficiency letters.

A brief discussion was held regarding the permit that Mr. Dumas is working on. Mr. Bridges stated that Mr. Dumas is 95% complete with the permit and he should finish it.

Mr. Houck stated that Mr. Dumas' contract has a thirty-day termination notice. The contract can be terminated by either party. The general engineering contract that Mr. Dumas has been operating off of was signed in 2000 and automatically extended for a period of two (2) years. Mr. Houck is recommending that a letter be sent to Mr. Dumas giving him a thirty-day notice if the jury moves forward with termination.

Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to recommend to the full jury to provide Dumas and Associates a thirty-day notice that the Union Parish Police Jury will no longer utilize their services for the Union Parish Landfill. Dumas and Associates will be allowed to complete the following projects: Loch Lomond pipe replacement project and Scotts Hideaway Road engineering design portion. Dumas and Associates will be paid for the engineering portion of the Leachate Cleanout System and the Detention Pond Cleanout that were approved and bid in 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no more business to come before the committee, Mr. Pilgreen declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mrs. Abercrombie and duly seconded by Mr. Bridges on this the 6th day of April, 2021.

Nathan Pilgreen, Chairman
Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer