

**LANDFILL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
June 7th, 2022
2:00 P.M.**

Present: Ben Bridges, Nathan Pilgreen and L.W. Nolan. Absent: DeWayne Ramsey. Also present: Milas Davidson, Brenda Abercrombie and Scottie Shreve.

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

Mr. Shreve requested an agenda addition. Mr. Shreve would like to extend the Landfill scale hours by 30 minutes. **Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Nolan and declared adopted by unanimous vote to approve the agenda with the following addition:**

- **Discuss and make recommendations, if necessary, regarding the Landfill Scale hours.**

Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Nolan to approve the minutes of the April 12th, 2022 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding third-party garbage collections. Mr. Shreve presented a couple of options which involve reducing manpower. Mr. Shreve presented a proposal which consisted of eliminating eight employees and four trucks which would provide a savings of \$388,188.52 (salary, retirement, Medicare/FICA, workers comp and insurance). Mr. Shreve proposed that he would like to keep 2 grapple trucks and manage the sites.

Mr. Shreve presented a second option which would eliminate six employees and four trucks which would provide a savings of \$300,555.77 (salary, retirement, Medicare/FICA, workers comp and insurance). Mr. Shreve stated that every truck that could be eliminated from the routes will save the parish money. When questioned how he had arrived at the eliminated employees, Mr. Shreve stated that he had no particular reason for listing the employees would be eliminated.

Mr. Shreve has already contacted a third party regarding the collections. McLemore is very interested in handling the collections for Union Parish. McLemore is interested in renting the parishes garbage trucks. Mr. Shreve is estimating a monthly rental of \$4,000 (3 trucks) which would bring in an estimated \$144,000. McLemore would be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance.

Mr. Shreve stated that McLemore is already bringing all of their garbage to the Union Parish Landfill. McLemore is bringing in more tonnage than Jackson Parish. McLemore might be interested in hiring the better drivers who the parish would terminate. Mr. Pilgreen suggested buying a front load truck instead of paying a third party to pick up the garbage.

Mr. Shreve stated that he has noticed at least one driver who has not been running his route in a timely fashion. Mr. Shreve is able to review the garbage truck GPS devices and does not think

this particular driver is doing his job. Mr. Shreve just provided the GPS information to Mr. Davidson. Mr. Shreve has had the ability to locate the garbage trucks for several weeks.

Mr. Bridges asked Mr. Davidson why this hasn't been addressed. Mr. Davidson stated that he has not had access to the program. Mr. Bridges stated that he has no problem in reprimanding employees for not doing their job, and Mr. Bridges further stated that he is disturbed that we are discussing eliminating six to eight employees who have worked for the parish for years for low wages. They have worked for low wages for all these years and now the parish is considering letting them go on a chance that they might get hired to work for a third party. Mr. Bridges also stated that there is no guarantee that a third party will hire them. Mr. Bridges said these guys have sacrificed a lot to work for the parish. Mr. Bridges is not comfortable laying off employees just to save money. If we have GPS capability and know they are not running their routes accurately then why are we not addressing it. The whole reason for the GPS devices is to hold them accountable.

Mr. Bridges stated that the parish should be looking at different options if contracting out is decided on. The Secretary/Treasurer stated that she does not know if the parish could rent out their equipment. There could be a potential liability issue. Mr. Shreve has talked with McLemore and Jordan Powell (Trash Guys). He is also going to talk to McGivens. Mr. Bridges suggested that the third-party pickup be bid out. Mr. Bridges stated that he had no idea that employees would be eliminated. He thought we were looking at supplementing, but not eliminating. **No action was taken on third-party pick up.**

Mr. Shreve asked could the Landfill hours be extended. The Landfill is permitted to be open from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM for six days a week. The scales are shut down at 3:30 PM and a five-minute backup is performed. Mr. Shreve is requesting to weigh trucks until 4:00 PM and then do the backup. There may be some overtime associated with keeping the scales open until 4:00 PM. Mr. Bridges stated that if the trucks are coming in and the Landfill is collecting tipping fees then he has no issue with the scales being open until 4:00. **No action taken on extending the Landfill hours.**

There being no more business to come before the committee, Mr. Bridges declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Nolan and duly seconded by Mr. Pilgreen on this the 7th day of June, 2022

Ben Bridges, Chairman
Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer