

ACCOMACK COUNTY SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING
February 12, 2025

The Accomack County Solid Waste Committee met in the Public Works & Facilities Office on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: **Committee Chairman Ron Wolff**
 Honorable Jeff Parks – Accomack County Board of Supervisors
 Honorable Robert Crockett – Accomack County Board of Supervisors
 Marilyn Ailes- WasteWatchers

Members Absent: **Michael Smith**
 Terre Hendricks – WasteWatchers
 Monty Pugh

Others Present: **Stewart Hall -Deputy County Administrator- Public Works & Facilities**
 Greg Duncan - Deputy Director of Solid Waste
 Dawn McGuire – Departmental Administrative Coordinator
 Trystan Wagner- Recycling & Litter Control Specialist

Call to Order

Chairman Ron Wolff called the meeting to order.

Consideration of Minutes –November 13, 2024

The Honorable Robert Crockett made a motion to accept the November 13, 2024 minutes. Marilyn Ailes seconded the motion. The motion was carried with three members absent.

The vote on the motion: ALL Ayes

Old Business & Updates

Trystan stated that we have now have glass recycling containers at all convenience centers with the exception of Makemie Park. He also stated that he has the electric run for the new Painter Convenience Center compactor. The addition of that compactor will save our drivers a lot of time and fuel. A discussion ensued.

Trystan stated that the Courts have not assigned any new probationers to the Assign-A-Highway Program (roadside litter pickup) in the last six months. He stated that the probationers in the Community Corrections program have been doing fairly well, although their numbers have decreased. A discussion ensued.

Trystan stated that the County’s Roadside Litter Crew has been doing fairly well despite the weather that we have been having recently. He stated that the crew members have averaged about

100+ pounds per day per person and they are on the roadsides whenever conditions permit. A discussion ensued.

Marilyn stated that WasteWatchers has conducted three roadside litter pickups with nonprofit organizations, local ones, so the money has been staying here in the County. Marilyn stated that WasteWatchers has received some interest from the Rotary Club. Marilyn talked about expansion of the program and the Honorable Robert Crockett asked if the expansion by Northampton County will be paid by Northampton County. Marilyn confirmed that was indeed the case. Marilyn stated that they have 30 surplus red bins that they would like to give away. Chairman Ron Wolff asked how soon they needed to be picked up and Marilyn stated that they are currently in storage. Chairman Wolff suggested that the new Rails-to-Trails route may be a good location for locating these for waste disposal by visitors. Stewart recommended stationing the containers away from road intersections to avoid the dumping of household waste. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Greg stated that he would like to pursue grant money next year for the purchase of a glass recycling container for Makemie Park, the only convenience center that does not yet offer the service. He stated that landfill capacity is currently being reviewed and it appears that the current waste cell at the Northern Landfill will be full in approximately 5 ½ years, versus the 7 years that was originally planned. This is due to an overall increase in the amount of waste being received. He stated that we are still trying to find a vendor for the recycling of agricultural plastic that is brought to the landfill. Greg stated that he wanted to thank the Board of Supervisors for the equipment that was approved for purchase last year. A lengthy discussion ensued.

New Business & Other

The Honorable Jeff Parks stated that he wanted to present an idea to the Board and the Committee regarding the aspects of recycling. He would like to see a few PSA's targeting different topics. For instance, the PSA for the first quarter could be plastics recycling. He stated that he would be willing to help write a PSA that could be broadcasted on WESR. The announcement could simply say that the Accomack County Solid Waste Committee would like to remind everyone to recycle plastics whenever possible. The Honorable Robert Crockett stated that the Honorable Jeff Parks would be a good person to write the PSA and read it. A discussion ensued.

Member Comment Period (roundtable)

Chairman Ron Wolff stated that he had talked to Stewart about adding this section on the agenda and that they had always done this on the Board of Supervisors.

Greg stated that people might respond better to positive signage regarding not littering versus the standard regulatory signage. He suggested brainstorming ideas for signage and installing signs along two roads as a test.

Marilyn stated that WasteWatchers sponsors an annual essay contest throughout both counties and the winning kids get to record their submissions for public broadcast at WESR. She stated that there are other radio stations on the Shore and perhaps the public service announcements should be broadcast through multiple stations. The Honorable Jeff Parks stated that the script isn't fixed we just need it to correspond with the current national recycling elements.

Adjournment

The Honorable Robert Crockett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The Honorable Jeff Parks seconded the motion. The motion was carried with three members absent.

The vote on the motion: ALL Ayes

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Chairman Ron Wolff

Date