

ROANOKE VALLEY RESOURCE AUTHORITY
Tinker Creek Transfer Station
1020 Hollins Road, N.E.
Roanoke, Virginia 24012-8011
Minutes
July 21, 2020

The Roanoke Valley Resource Authority met electronically this day, Tuesday, July 21, 2020, at 12:00 p.m. at the Tinker Creek Transfer Station, 1020 Hollins Road, N.E., Roanoke, Virginia, the seventh meeting for the calendar year 2020.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Call to Order: Chair Hiner called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. The roll call was taken.

Members Present: Broaddus Fitzpatrick, Joey Hiner, Rob Light, Dan O'Donnell, Timothy Martin, Rebecca Owens, Jeffrey Powell, and Mike Tyler

Members Absent: Dan Webb

Guests: **AECOM:** Dustin Brookman, Rob Dean, Ian McElhone, Scott Hodge
FMR: Randy McFarland, Bob Raber
HDR: Bob Rella, Jeff Murray, Emily Tucker
Also present: Susan Bandy

Staff Present: Dan Miles, Chief Executive Officer; Steve Barger, Director of Operations, Peggy Bishop, Board Secretary; Jim Guynn, General Counsel

Requests to Postpone Add to or Change the Order of Agenda Items

None.

RAIL SPUR CONVERSION REPORTS

1. AECOM Report

Mr. Light Roanoke County hired AECOM to do an independent review of the rail conversion plan which is a big component of the project.

Scott Hodge presented the AECOM design which recommends a 28 foot wide roadway and construction with 26 feet paved and 2 feet of shoulders. AECOM also recommends using a larger aggregate base for a thicker width than HDR's design.

2. HDR Report

Mr. Rella and Mr. Murray presented the HDR design which recommends a 25 foot wide roadway construction with 20 feet paved and 2.5 feet of shoulders. One of the significant differences between HDR's plan and AECOM's was the re-use of ballast stone which will reduce

construction time. It also will incentivize and provide a fast track schedule for the construction. It will provide for an 8 ½ month total construction timeline versus a 12 month construction window, saving RVRA time and money.

Mr. O'Donnell asked what items are not included in HDR's report and Mr. Murray outlined the items. Mr. Martin questioned what the incentive would be to get the project down to 8 months. The way the contractors salvage the rail drives their schedule. HDR discussed with contractors removing the rail and stock piling it on site at Smith Gap Landfill, allowing them to market it at will. HDR is not proposing paved shoulders – just a gravel shoulder. Mr. Miles said the average would be fifty trucks a day - fifty in each direction. Mr. Martin suggested requiring the contractor to provide a GPS based system which can send an alert anytime a truck goes over a particular speed or if they fail to stop at a stop sign.

Mr. Martin said he is concerned about the depth of the pavements and the width of the road. Mr. Hiner questioned whether there was enough ballast and Mr. Murray said we might have more than we need. Mr. O'Donnell questioned maintenance issues on gravel shoulders. Mr. Murray said the twenty foot section is adequate for limited traffic and a paved shoulder and/or wider paved lanes would add costs. Mr. O'Donnell said we ought to do it as well as we can the first time even if it is going to cost a little more. Mr. O'Donnell said it does appear that we have a buildable, viable solution here and it is going to work if we have to do it.

CLOSED MEETING

Ms. Owens, seconded by Mr. Fitzpatrick, requested that the Authority convene in a closed meeting for discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically being related to the interpretation and possible renegotiation and/or amendment of the terms and conditions of a solid waste transportation contract and alternatives pursuant to sections 2.2-3711.A(29) Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

AYES: Broaddus Fitzpatrick, Joey Hiner, Rob Light, Daniel O'Donnell, Timothy Martin, Rebecca Owens, Jeffrey Powell and Mike Tyler
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Dan Webb

Mr. Hiner moved with respect to any closed meetings just concluded, that each member of the Authority certify to the best of his or her knowledge that: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in any motion by which any closed meetings were convened, were heard, discussed or considered by the Authority.

AYES: Broaddus Fitzpatrick, Joey Hiner, Rob Light, Daniel O'Donnell, Timothy Martin, Rebecca Owens, Jeffrey Powell and Mike Tyler

NAYS: None
ABSENT: Dan Webb

MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Powell asked for verification of what is being asked of Dan Miles. Mr. Miles said that he has been asked by the Board that he re-work the budget projection models for the flat cars and shipping containers as well as the road conversion. On the road conversion, look at the range of high and low using the AECOM and the HDR capital numbers respectively. Also, he will look at the cost impactors if we delay the project in subsequent years. The Board would like Mr. McFarland and Mr. Raber to go to Norfolk Southern requesting a 20 year contract and best offer by Friday, August 7, 2020.

Mr. O'Donnell said he just needs to really understand the different options, the pros and cons so it is a very concise argument why we are making this decision. If we have the facts and explain it in detail and listen to the concerns at the upcoming Bradshaw Community Meeting, we will be okay but it is just a process. Mr. Powell asked to see Mr. O'Donnell's slides before presenting them to the community meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

At around 2:00 p.m. the meeting adjourned Tuesday, July 21, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Peggy L. Bishop
RVRA Board Secretary