

Columbia County  
**BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of County Commissioners met in a scheduled workshop  
**February 13, 2008** in the School Board Administration Building at 5:30 p.m.

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

Ronald Williams District 1  
Dewey Weaver (Chair) District 2  
George Skinner District 3  
Stephen Bailey District 4  
Elizabeth Porter District 5  
(Commissioner Porter arrived at 5:40 p.m.)

**Others in Attendance:**

County Manager Dale Williams  
Marlin Feagle, County Attorney  
Sandy Markham, Deputy Clerk  
Asst. County Manager Lisa Roberts

The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Ordinance. More specifically, to review the first draft of the Columbia County Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Ordinance, and to discuss issues such as franchising of Construction and Demolition (“C&D”) debris.

Attorney Marlin Feagle gave a review of the draft ordinance. This ordinance began as a revision to Ordinance 91-7, which is commonly known as the Flow Control Ordinance and the Solid Waste Ordinance. The revision will incorporate definitions according to state law, and the definitions will change along with changes to Florida Statutes.

The county will honor its current franchise with Waste Pro, which will not expire for another 3.5 years. Others will be allowed to provide services for construction and demolition debris collection.

It is the county’s intention to control all locally generated waste, and to ensure all haulers are licensed and insured to do business in Columbia County.

There was discussion that the ordinance needs a litter provision that will address trucks hauling debris without proper cover. There should also be penalties and fines for those who do not comply. The creation of a C&D cell at the current landfill is not certain, but will be given great consideration.

Citizen Stewart Lilker questioned why the county would want to restrict the consumer and the home owner from dumping outside the county when it may benefit them financially. Mr. Lilker mentioned a landfill in Live Oak, Florida where he was told a truckload could be dumped for \$100. He also asked if it was legal for the county to restrict waste flow from leaving the county. Commissioner Weaver replied that Live Oak is a possible disposal site, but that if Columbia County decides to require the C&D be disposed of in Columbia County, the prices will be competitive. Commissioner Williams said the authority to control the flow comes from the Supreme Court.

Citizen J.B. Parrish expressed that the county should not regulate where the waste should be dumped as long as it is at a landfill that meets the required criteria to operate and receive waste. Additionally, Mr. Parrish said that if an ordinance is going to be drafted, it should be an ordinance with “teeth in it.” He told the Board that those following the letter of the law cannot compete with those who are not. He used as an example, that he went through a three month process to obtain his competency card as a painter, but that paint companies are selling commercial quantities of paint to those who do not have their cards. He said out of 50 known commercial painters using Sherwin Williams, only 13 have competency cards. He also challenged the Board to investigate the possibility of using incinerators to dispose of waste.

Citizen Gary “Ham-Bone” Wilson said the current landfill rates at Columbia County are an issue. He also expressed it is hard to compete with those who are illegally operating.

The Board offered that there is more to consider. By controlling the flow of waste and ensuring all haulers are licensed and insured will among other things, eliminate a lot of the problems with illegal dumping and may eliminate potential safety hazards.

Citizen Avery Roberts would like to see a level playing ground created and rules enforced for all. He said that his business put a dumpster at Idaho Timber several months ago, but once a decision is made that their container would be picked up if need be.

Landfill Director Bill Lycan was asked how long it would take to get a C&D portion of the landfill up and running if the Board decides to move in that direction. Mr. Lycan responded approximately a year. Mr. Lycan said that he is not certain the county could be competitive with their prices, and that this may not be the best time to get into the C&D business.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

ATTEST:

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P. DeWitt Cason  
Clerk of Circuit Court

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