

IN THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WOOD COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: MINUTES OF MEETING HELD  
THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 1992

PRESENT: PRESIDENT STEVEN A. GRIMM  
COMMISSIONER HOLMES R. SHAVER  
COMMISSIONER JEAN GRAPES

On this date, the County Commission met in regular session. They signed purchase orders, invoices and correspondence. The Commission approved Personal Property Improvers for Herbert & Mavis Hoover and Glendale Gym Club.

At 9:00 A.M., the County Commission met with Dan Marshall and Tom Yeager to discuss the Wood County Courthouse Annex Project. Mr. Yeager discussed the sources and uses of funds from the Revenue Bond Issue to refund the annex bonds. They also discussed the interest on the bonds.

At 9:30 A.M., the County Commission held a hearing for Lucy Bueter, Incompetent, to appoint a successor committee. Attorney was George Cosenza. Harry A. Bradley is presently the Committee for Lucy Bueter but is unable physically to be it any longer. Betty Ann Deem, niece of Lucy Bueter, was sworn in. She stated that Mr. Bradley is her step father and has severe arthritis, heart failure and a blood disorder. Mrs. Deem is willing to be the Committee for Lucy Bueter. Fred Fitzner will post the new bond. Ms. Bueter's assets are in the amount of \$88,278.00. Upon a motion made by Holmes R. Shaver, seconded by Jean Grapes and made unanimous by Steven A. Grimm, the County Commission removed Harry Bradley as Committee for Lucy Bueter. Upon a motion made by Holmes R. Shaver, seconded by Jean Grapes and made unanimous by Steven A. Grimm, the County Commission appointed Betty Ann Deem as Successor Committee with an \$85,000.00 bond.

At 10:00 A.M., the County Commission met with John Lichiello and Roger King for a Solid Waste Authority update. They discussed a memorandum (attached to these minutes) in regard to the increases in taxes or tipping assessment

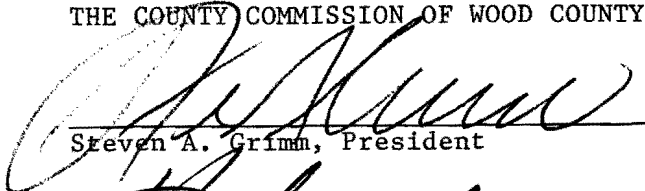
fees at the Northwestern Disposal Landfill. They also discussed the Solid Waste Management Plan for Wood County. (Letter discussing this is attached to these minutes).

On this date, the County Commission, upon a motion made, seconded and passed, appointed Clarabelle Pierce (Republican) and Wanda Sams (Democrat) as Emergency Absent Voter Ballot Commissioners to perform the duties and functions as set forth in Chapter 3, Article 3, Section 5c of the WV Code. These appointments are for the Primary Election to be held in Wood County on Tuesday, May 12, 1992 and is pursuant to a letter of request from Carole Jones, Wood County Circuit Clerk. An Order was prepared regarding this matter. (Nunc Pro Tunc April 27, 1992)


Having no scheduled appointments or further business to attend to, the County Commission adjourned at 12:00 Noon.

Approved:

THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WOOD COUNTY



Steven A. Grimm, President



Holmes R. Shaver, Commissioner



Jean Grapes, Commissioner

PURCHASE ORDERS SIGNED ON APRIL 30, 1992

No. 15607	Parkersburg Office Supply	\$ 957.13
15880	Otis Elevator Co.	377.09
15905	Broadwaters Motorcar	134.22
15941	Dils Ford	40.05
15947	Buckeye Sports Supply	117.35
15948	Fuller Wholesale Electronics	54.00
15949	Williams & Co.	172.00
15952	Broadwaters Motocar	12.79
15969	General Glass	4.22
15971	Atlas Steel	33.24
15972	Parkersburg Office Supply	122.40
15973	Parkersburg Office Supply	160.12
15976	Perry's Alignment	18.45
15977	Tune-Up Centers	56.00
15978	Broadwaters Motorcar	227.61
15984	Miller Communications	20975.54
15985	Skaggs Telecommunications Service	2537.66



## **Wood County Solid Waste Authority**

P.O. Box 2371

Parkersburg, West Virginia 26102

Phone (304) 428-2703

DATE: APRIL 21, 1992  
TO: WOOD COUNTY COMMISSION  
FROM: WOOD COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY  
SUBJECT: POSITION STATEMENT

The Wood County Solid Waste Authority (WCSWA) at its regular meeting, April 9, 1992, went on official record opposing any imposed increases in taxes or tipping assessment fees at the Northwestern Landfill. The following is a summary of our reasoning.

1. SB 301 passed in 1989 allowed the County Commission to levy up to \$.50/ton assessment on all solid waste disposed of in Wood County. These fees would be used for program development and administration of the Wood County Solid Waste Authority. We respectfully requested this action, but no action was taken at that time, because we were told the time wasn't right.
2. In 1990 when HB 4364 gave the Solid Waste Authorities the authority to impose this assessment fee, the WCSWA placed it into effect and we are using the funds generated in a most constructive manner to coordinate solid waste activities in Wood County, including recycling projects, cleanup of illegal dumps, educational programs, and a vast array of solid waste management activities. Instead of reviewing the projects and program in detail at this time, we would like to present, for your consideration, a notebook exemplifying a few of our activities and accomplishments during the past year.
3. Recently the \$165,000 settlement from the Graham landfill lawsuit was released to the County Commission for distribution and the WCSWA suggested that it should be used for solid waste projects as restitution to Wood County residents. The Commission chose to distribute these funds mostly in bits and pieces and, while we know that the recipient agencies are worthwhile entities and know these funds will be well received, we note that the WCSWA's reasoning and proposals were ignored. We refer to and note a letter presented to Wood County Commission dated January 21, 1992, detailing our proposal.

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4. SB 18 passed in 1991 was primarily a reactionary piece of legislation responding to a whipped-up theme of "no out-of-state waste." This bill mandates many things, including PSC appointments to SWAs, changes in approval authority for class A & B landfills, tonnage limits and moratoriums, and a variety of other changes including several additional fees upon solid waste disposal. This bill allows up to a total of \$13.25/ton of additional fees. And these would be imposed over an already increased base disposal rate at Northwestern Landfill approved by the PSC in 1991 and the local and state fees which were already in place prior to 1991. This makes the cost of proper disposal of solid waste prohibitive for many people. Every increase in fees at the landfill decreases compliance with mandatory disposal laws and increases the incidence of illegal dumping and burning. Also from a business standpoint, the reduction of influence or the distance from which material comes to the Northwestern Landfill facility decreases. As volumes continue to decrease, cost of disposal must increase to cover the cost of doing business. When the cost of operation at the landfill increases, it must be passed along to the haulers. The haulers, in turn, must pass it on to the customers, including the citizens of Wood County. As the cost of disposing increases, the number of residents and businesses who are not in compliance with disposal laws increases, making it almost impossible to encourage people to comply or to enforce the solid waste laws now on our books. This vicious cycle is even further amplified by the ever popular "out-of-state" trash syndrome. We must not lose sight of the fact that we are dealing with a commercial business establishment in a free enterprise system. Also, we must not lose sight of the fact that the Northwestern Disposal Class A facility, located in Wood County serving the citizens of Wasteshed C and beyond, has invested millions of dollars to establish, operate and maintain a state-of-the-art solid waste management facility. Imposing the allowed county fee of \$2.00/ton, \$5.00/ton, or whatever for waste from out of the wasteshed would be detrimental in our judgment. The WCSWA has worked closely with Northwestern Disposal with regard to developing an integrated solid waste management process facility at their Class A site on Dry Run Road. Everything from tire recycling, composting, and white goods collecting to the more traditional recycling programs has been discussed and considered. However, a business that is being constantly bombarded by unjustifiable taxes and fees has a hard time looking at and considering further long term investment and effort. Again, who suffers the most? The citizens of Wood County and Wasteshed C. The revenues generated would be an unvoted tax upon the citizens of Wood and surrounding counties. And any benefit derived from infrastructure capital improvements from these funds would most probably be far overshadowed by increased costs to handle mismanagement of solid waste.

5. We also work closely with the other SWAs in our wasteshed who use the Northwestern Landfill, coordinating our efforts and viewing solid waste management, as is logical, from a regional perspective. And since we are a border county, this must include the influence of disposal fees on importation of waste from or exportation of waste to near-distance Ohio as well as West Virginia counties. Additional taxes and fees at this time would be unjustly penalizing non-Wood county residents who have traditionally used Northwestern Landfill. Belpre, Marietta, and other neighboring communities across the Ohio river are traditionally as much a part of our wasteshed as any other area or geographical entity. We should not ignore their needs or tax them unfairly but continue to support the concept of inter-state commerce which has been the cornerstone

of our relationship so many years.

IN ADDITION:

The Wood County Solid Waste Authority expresses its deep concern that, as with the current negotiations between the Commission and the landfill owners, the County Commission has circumvented the WCSWA, ignoring its previous efforts in this regard.

We feel justifiably proud of what we, as a volunteer appointed body, have accomplished to date. We have developed a Comprehensive Solid Waste and Litter Control Plan and a Siting Plan for Wood County, both of which have been approved by the West Virginia Solid Waste Management Board. We have negotiated an agreement with Northwestern Landfill, duly signed by Landfill Manager, Tim Haaf, and past WCSWA Chairman, Earl Burgess, Jr., to guarantee ten years of landfill space for Wood County waste. Together we have accomplished numerous education, cleanup and recycling projects in the county and have many more planned. In the past Northwestern Disposal has donated thousands of dollars in the effort of cleaning up Wood County. Recently, they accepted, free of charge, 297 tons of material from an open dump project on Crawford Ave. and Kanawha St. in south Parkersburg. This eyesore, which has been ignored and denied for many years, is only one example of the involvement of Northwestern in our county's solid waste management program. We are actively coordinating efforts with municipalities, local, and state agencies, industries and individuals to meet state mandated goals of reduce, reuse and recycle.

Working in conjunction with the West Virginia Association of Solid Waste Authorities, the WCSWA has lobbied for fair and equitable legislation to allow all Solid Waste Authorities to function and perform their job as mandated by law.

We therefore respectfully request that the Wood County Commission support us in our efforts to do what we know to be the lawful job we were appointed to perform.

Roger King

Roger King, Chairman

Sandra C. Kerbow

Sandra Kerbow, Secretary

Max (Jake) Burnside

Max (Jake) Burnside

Virgil W. Flinn

Virgil Flinn

Rita M. Vasta

Rita M. Vasta



## **Wood County Solid Waste Authority**

P.O. Box 2371

Parkersburg, West Virginia 26102

Phone (304) 428-2703

January 21, 1992

The County Commission of Wood County  
Wood County Court House  
Parkersburg, WV 26101

Dear Commissioners,

As you know, the Wood County Solid Waste Authority is mandated by law to develop and implement a Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan here in Wood County. The solid waste projects and programs the Management Board has considered to date are numerous and multifaceted, and in most cases very costly. Of course, any program has to be reflective of certain budgetary constraints, therefore, not all programs can be funded equally all the time. The Wood County Solid Waste Authority has several on going programs which may be of particular interest to you at this time and other programs which we hope to begin work on in the near future.

It is with these most worthy efforts in mind that the Wood County Solid Waste Authority would respectfully suggest for your consideration, the possibility of designating funds from the recently distributed "Landfill Settlement" monies to support solid waste projects and programs in Wood County. It would seem logical to assume that it may be difficult at best to equitably redistribute these funds to each and every citizen in Wood County who was affected by this litigation. However, a solid waste project or program which would benefit the greatest number of people might be applicable. What makes the concept even more attractive is the fact that these funds are a result of litigation involving solid waste and would be used to address the many solid waste problems we are facing today. This is even more pertinent, considering the accelerated evolvment of solid waste legislation in West Virginia, particularly the most recent, Senate Bill 18.

As I mentioned, there are many program options that could be considered. For example, the Authority has an active open dump clean up program established. We have identified, charted, and prioritized many problem sites in our county. With an excess of 200 such sites known to exist and each site costing several thousand dollars to clean up, you can understand the magnitude of the problem and the expense of the program. That is only one of many, many solid waste issues that must be addressed. We are looking at the possibility of establishing a county recycling facility to handle not only the common recyclables, but also the more difficult items such as cars, old appliances (white goods), used motor oil, batteries, and tires. This would be an expensive, but valuable service to offer the citizens of Wood County.

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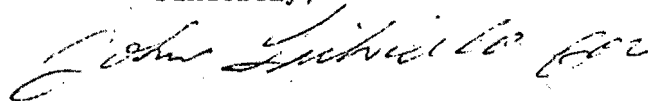


Other possibilities include the establishment of a Wood County Environmental Education Center, a collection and disposal service for "household hazardous waste," implementation of a mandatory disposal program, the extension of our drop off recycling project, a county composting facility, and the list could go on and on.

If you feel these suggestions are viable alternatives for expenditure of the "landfill settlement" funds, we will be available at your convenience to further discuss the various possibilities and details.

Thank you in advance for your continued concern and considerations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Schubert".

Wood County Solid Waste Authority