

Southwest Central Regional Solid Waste Management District

**Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday 15 January 2025, 10:00 am

Hot Springs, Arkansas 71901

The meeting of the Southwest Central Regional Solid Waste Management District: Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, in Hot Springs, AR at the West Central Arkansas Planning and Development District Office.

Members Present: **Bill Burrough, Judge Tucker, Judge Mahoney, Judge Thornton**  
Members Absent: **Mayor Weldon, Mayor Thomerson, Gary Brinkley**  
Guests: **Billy Sawyer, Samantha Jones, Gerry Burke, Ryan Hayden**  
News Media: **N/A**  
Staff: **Dwayne Pratt, Carrie Pratchard, Courtney Decker**

Chairman Bill Burrough called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes for the November 20, 2024, meeting required approval. Judge Mahoney made the **motion** to approve, seconded by Judge Thornton and carried unanimously.

**Financial Report:**

Financials needed to be approved. Carrie Pratchard provided an update on financials and bills that are currently due, noting that Heritage Environmental Services did not provide an explanation of the rebill that occurred for the 2024 Fall HHW Event after numerous requests. Judge Mahoney made the **motion** to approve and seconded by Judge Tucker and carried unanimously.

**Used Tire Report:**

Judge Mahoney provided an update on the Used Tire Program following Senator John Payton's presentation to the Public Health, Welfare, and Labor Committee on December 13, 2024. Judge Mahoney expressed concerns about the privatization of the program, citing potential negative financial impacts on constituents due to high profit margins and the lack of a financial oversight plan.

A meeting of the Legislative Committee and the four tire districts is scheduled for January 16, 2025, at 10:30 AM. Judge Tucker provided insight on the missing details that will be addressed during the meeting. Chairman Burrough suggested that, following the upcoming legislative developments, a special meeting may be required to determine the Board's official stance on the Used Tire legislation. Courtney and Dwayne will coordinate communication if a special meeting is called.

**ADEQ Update:**

Ryan Hayden, Compliance Branch Manager at the DEQ Office of Land Resources, briefed the Board on the significance of the Environmental Officer program. He presented detailed reports on the status of illegal dump sites, waste tonnage processed through scales, revenue generated, and property acreage returned to productive use following informal enforcement of environmental codes across the state for 2024. Ryan highlighted the ongoing challenge of fostering open communication between Solid Waste Districts and DEQ as a critical area for improvement. He also expressed his appreciation for Courtney Decker's appointment as the new Environmental Officer.

**Chair Report:**

No update.

**Staff Report:**

Courtney was not able to attain Heritage Environmental attendance for an explanation of bill processing following multiple requests. This item will continue on the Board's agenda until completed.

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**Recycling Advisory Committee:**

Chairman Billy Sawyer reported the Recycling Advisory Committee's recommendation to accept and sign the ESCO contract. Following a brief discussion, Judge Mahoney moved to approve the ESCO electronics waste disposal services contract, seconded by Judge Tucker. The **motion** carried unanimously.

A **motion** to release the Request for Proposal (RFP) for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) was made by Judge Thornton, seconded by Judge Mahoney and carried unanimously.

Additionally, a **motion** to set the date for the Spring Household Hazardous Waste event as May 17, 2025, was made by Judge Mahoney, seconded by Judge Tucker and carried unanimously.

**Prior Business**

Gerry Burke ensured that all Board members were properly informed about the Saline County Landfill's hours of operation during the inclement weather event on January 9, 2025. He emphasized the need for effective communication to ensure all relevant parties were notified in a timely manner.

**New Business**

Annual Board of Directors' Officers Selection:

The **motion** to maintain current Officer positions as Bill Burrough, Chairman; Judge Tucker, Vice Chairman; and Judge Mahoney, Secretary was made by Judge Thornton, seconded by Judge Mahoney and carried unanimously.

**Adjournment:**

The **motion** to adjourn the meeting began with Judge Tucker and seconded by Judge Mahoney. This motion was carried unanimously at 11:02 am.

*Bill Burrough*

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Bill Burrough, Chairman