

CUBMERLAND COUNTY POLICY COMMITTEE
MAY 23, 1991, 5:30 PM

PRESENT: Members: Chairman Ralph Barber
Commissioner Juanita Gonzalez
Commissioner Johnnie Evans
Others Present: Rollin Shaw
Cliff Strassenburg
Juanita Pilgrim
Marsha Fogle
G.B. Johnson
Bob Stanger
Robert Bartelt
Larry Carter

Chairman Barber called the meeting to order.

1. Consideration of Policy for the Procurement of Professional Services

Mr. Strassenburg presented some recommendations concerning the procurement of professional services as follows:

1. For new projects where the estimated cost of services exceeds \$7,500, an RFQ/RFP process be utilized. Statements of qualifications will be solicited from a minimum of 3 firms. To the maximum extent possible, professional firms located in the county will be solicited.
2. For new projects where the estimated cost of services is less than \$7,500, selection will be at the discretion of the County Engineer in consultation with the County Manager subject to approval by the Board of Commissioners. To the maximum extent practicable, the selection process will be on a rotation basis to ensure that there is no favoritism shown to a particular firm. To ensure that a reasonable fee is negotiated, the Engineering Department will keep on file a schedule of direct labor costs and multiplies for each firm in the county.
3. For projects that are a logical extension, addition or renovation of an existing project or facility, the same design firm that did the original work will be selected subject to the ability to negotiate a reasonable fee.
4. In emergency or highly time sensitive situations requiring the procurement of professional services as quickly as possible, selection will be at the discretion of the County Engineer in consultation with the County Manager subject to approval by the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Gonzalez noted she had a problem with number three and that it should perhaps have a cap. Mr. Strassenburg pointed out that the Board has the final say.

Mr. Strassenburg noted that the County will have to secure professional services for the extension of water and sewer to Maidenform in the County

Industrial Park and it would helpful to have some direction about how to proceed. He noted this is a very time sensitive project.

MOTION: Commissioner Evans offered a motion to adopt the above policy as outlined.

SECOND: Commissioner Gonzalez

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Barber said he thought there should be a monetary limit on #3.

Commissioner Gonzalez withdrew her motion. Motion died for lack of a second.

MOTION: Commissioner Evans offered a motion to take this item under advisement and give it more thought and study and that the Policy Committee consider it at the next meeting.

SECOND: Commissioner Gonzalez

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

County Attorney G.B. Johnson asked the Board to consider approving a policy on outside attorney services as follows:

- 1 Bidding may be appropriate for highly specialized legal talent not available locally and where the fees are expected to be in excess of \$10,000.
- 2 Bidding is not recommended for local counsel where the anticipated fee will be less than \$10,000 and where the negotiated hourly rate is \$100.00 or less.

It was the consensus of the Committee to consider this at a later date.

2. Discussion Solid Waste Management Ordinance/Fees

Members of the Committee asked questions and discussed some of the points of the proposed ordinance and fee schedule. Questions were asked concerning how escrows would be handled at mortgage companies for the garbage fee, what is the cutoff reference apartments and mobile home parks as to whether they will pay the \$204 or the commercial fee, and would the legal dumps now operating be put out of business by this ordinance.

Commissioner Gonzalez pointed out a couple of items in the Ordinance she wanted to change, i.e., pick up from once a week to twice a week and change the collection fee from \$12.00 to \$10.00 per month. She also stated she favors voluntary participation.

In responding to some of the questions, legal dumps will not be put out of business by this ordinance, the cutoff on the number of apartments and trailer spaces is 8, anyone having eight or more apartments or trailer spaces will pay the commercial fee as opposed to the \$204 (proposed) rate. Answers concerning escrows for payment of tax bills and now the garbage fees seemed confusing as no one seemed to know the official answer to the question.

Chairman Barber noted that the perception by the public of the fees is that it is a hidden tax and that the reason for the fees is to free up funds for other purposes. He said the Board should address property taxes if funding is needed for other purposes.

Chairman Barber stated that the recycling project will require education of the public and that the entire project should be phased in.

No action was taken by the Policy Committee on the Solid Waste Plan.

Commissioner Evans stated he would like to discuss how long to keep applications received for appointments to boards/commissions at the next Policy Committee meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:20PM