Subject: Dialog with Ira Dove - failed attempt to extract information about Francis Farm Landfill.

On June 2, 2015, several Haywood County Taxpayers paid a visit to DENR in Swannanoa regarding the White Oak and Francis Farm landfills, and a couple of other topics. In attended from DENR were Deb Aja, Andrea Keller (no longer there, i.e. gone) and Elizabeth Werner.

[re: See http://haywoodtp.net/pubTP/T150617.pdf for questions presented to DENR].

Some of the questions were responded to, others not. It was suggested by Deb Aja that we ask Haywood County about some of these questions. This is Part I of a two part series, providing information that the county has responded to on these landfills, which is practically nothing.

- Part I - Francis Farm Landfill
- Part II - White Oak Landfill

Since all I mainly have are questions, this dialog will summarize what has transpired to date with Ira Dove via e-mails Requesting Public Information. Additionally, two field trips were made to the Francis Farm landfill:

- 1/22/2015, Terry Ramey and myself
- 6/29/2015, Terry Ramey, Jeremy Davis and myself.

I am including a photo montage, describing each photo in as much detail as required.

The e-mails speak for themselves.

This is an ongoing process, and since I am getting no where with Ira Dove, a lawyer, I have requested a sit-down face-to-face meeting with him (date pending).

E-mails first, then photos.

David Francis has already jacked up your accessability fee from $92 to $164 without even offering a plan to fix this thing. Unless people take a deeper interest in what Francis, Dove, Ensley and Swanger are doing, you are likely to continue to be gouged in your wallet.

Monroe Miller
Haywood County Taxpayer.
Mr. Dove, Francis and Pruett,

This is a request for Public Information. The following list contains both specific requests, and also questions. Let me know if you need additional clarity with the questions I am presenting.

Questions regarding Francis Farm Landfill.

During your December 2014 Budget workshop, you had David Francis give a presentation on Francis Farm [re: see attach - 7 - Francis Farm.pdf]. Francis proposed $10M (2015*2025) for Francis Farm.

During your Budget Presentation slide show on May 18, 2015, you bulleted the following items - [re: http://haywoodtp.net/pubII/150518BudgetPresentationFY15-16ppfinal.pptx]

- Begin saving for Construction. 2015. What Construction?
- Continue to develop Assessment of Corrective Measures to be approved by NCDENR. 2015-2016. What Assessment of Corrective Measures have been developed?
- Begin Construction 2018-2019. What are you going to construct?


- Where did he get this number?
- Is Haywood County paying any daily fine for the Francis Farm Notice of Violation? Please note that I don’t have a copy of this NOV yet, but working on it.

Thank you,

Monroe Miller

Pursuant to Proper Etiquette and N.C.G.S. § 14-196.3, this e-mail conforms to Section (e) which applies to any peaceable, nonviolent, or nonthreatening activity intended to express political views or to provide lawful information to others. This section shall not be construed to impair any constitutionally protected activity, including speech, protest, or assembly.
Mr. Dove, Francis and Pruett,

Please note that this is a different Request for Public Information than the first one I sent last Friday, which you acknowledged. This request is for the Francis Farm Landfill. Please acknowledge.

Thank you,

Monroe Miller

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Mr. Blevins, Francis and Pruett,

I can't seem to get a response from your boss, Ira Dove, regarding my Request for Public Information regarding the Francis Farm Land Fill. This request is uniquely different that my request regarding the White Oak Landfill. Can you, Mr. Blevins, as Assistant County Manager, acknowledge this Request for Public Information, on behalf of your boss, Ira Dove? Don't forget, Mr. Francis and Pruett, feel free to jump in any time.

Thank you,

Monroe Miller

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Mr. Miller,

This is to acknowledge your request for information. We have planned as part of the ongoing budget information to present more information on Francis Farm at the next BOCC meeting. After the meeting, any written materials will be forwarded to you. Also, you requested design drawings. These have not yet been developed for the full remediation.

Ira Dove  
County Manager  
Haywood County Government  
215 N. Main St.  
Waynesville, North Carolina 28786  
(828) 452-6625 office  
(828) 452-6715 FAX  
idove@haywoodnc.net

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 132, Public Records, this electronic mail message and any attachments hereto, as well as any electronic mail message(s) sent in response to it, may be considered public record and as such are subject to request and review by anyone at any time.
Mr. Dove,

I would appreciate your sending any written materials tomorrow, prior to Monday's 5:30 pm Board of County Commission meeting. That way, you see, I would have a chance to study them and perhaps use the public comment period to ask a question or two.

What do you mean, regarding drawings - "These have not yet been developed for the full remediation"???
Have drawings been done for a partial remediation? Please forward all the drawings that you currently have that you have spent Haywood County Taxpayer dollars preparing.

Please don't forget to incorporate all of my questions into your update at Monday's BOCC meeting.

Thanks,

Monroe Miller

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Ms. Aja, Keller and Werner,

I hope you are getting a sense of how difficult it is to extract information out of these Haywood County officials. So, kick back and relax, you have a front row seat on seeing some of this new information.

Monroe Miller
Mr. Dove,

I see that David Francis is slated as VI. Administrative/Agency Reports, Update on Francis Farm Landfill – David Francis, Tax/Solid Waste Administrator on the agenda for Monday's Commission meeting [re: http://haywoodnc.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1847:commissioners-agenda-for-june-15&catid=1:latest-news].

Evidently, written materials will not be forthcoming prior to this meeting.

Note to the folks at DENR on this copy list - Ms. Aja, Keller and Werner:

I hope you are getting a sense of how difficult it is to extract information out of these Haywood County officials. So, kick back and relax, you have a front row seat on seeing some of this new information.

Monroe Miller

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Mr. Dove,

[?]  

Written materials from this afternoons County Commission Meeting?

Monroe Miller

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Mr. Blevins (Assistant County Manager),

Once again, Mr. Dove appears too busy to send me the written material he advised I would be receiving after Monday's County Commission meeting - "After the meeting, any written materials will be forwarded to you."

You attended the Monday commission meeting, and David Francis, Tax/Solid Waste Administrator, presented a power point presentation, so I would like to get that presentation and examine it further. While at the meeting, I was unable to correlate David Francis' December budget work session projections and Ira Doves Budget presentations to the plethora of bullet points David Francis presented last Monday.

I did record David Francis' comments and posted them on www.haywoodtp.net -

mp3 audio. David Francis, the guy you voted out as Tax Collector, re-appointed as Tax/Solid Waste Administrator for $78K by Kevin Ensley and Mark Swanger, opens another box of band-aids in the latest round of "solutions" for the Francis Farm Landfill at the 6/15/2015 county commission meeting. Attempts to justify $92 $164 Availability Fee - 78.3% Increase by comparing it to your Verizon bill. 6/16/2015...

Can you please shoot that Power Point presentation over?

Thanks,

Monroe Miller

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Ms. Way,

I am attempting to get the power point presentation David Francis gave at last Monday's county commission meeting regarding the Francis Farm Landfill. I have had no response from Ira Dove or Mr. (Stonewall) Blevins. Would you be kind enough to provide that power point presentation?

Thank you,

Monroe Miller

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Ms. Way,

[?]

Monroe Miller

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Good Morning Mr. Miller,

Attached is written material from the Commissioner’s meeting related to Francis Farm meeting.

Ira Dove  
County Manager  
Haywood County Government  
215 N. Main St.  
Waynesville, North Carolina 28786  
(828) 452-6625 office  
(828) 452-6715 FAX  
idove@haywoodnc.net  

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Subject: Re: 6th Request for Public Information - Francis Farm Landfill
Date: Fri, 19 Jun 2015 08:30:50 -0400
From: Monroe Miller
To: David Francis <DBFrancis@haywoodnc.net>, Marc Pruett <MPruett@haywoodnc.net>, Stonewall Blevins <tsblevins@haywoodnc.net>, Ira Dove <IDove@haywoodnc.net>
CC: Candace Way <ecway@haywoodnc.net>, Chip Killian <CKillian@haywoodnc.net>, Leon Chip Killian <chip.killian@nelsonmullins.com>, L. Kevin. Ensley <lkensley@bellsouth.net>, Mark S. Swanger <markswanger@bellsouth.net>, Michael T. Sorrells <sorrells@cbvnol.com>, Bill L. Upton <billupton@bellsouth.net>, J W. Kirkpatrick <kirk@jwklaw.net>, Vicki Hyatt <vhyatt@themountaineer.com>, Becky Johnson <becky@smokymountainnews.com>, Jonnie Cure, Eddie Cabe, Denny King, Andrew Jackson, Jeremy Davis, Deb Aja <deborah.aja@ncdenr.gov>, Andrea Keller <andrea.keller@ncdenr.gov>, Elizabeth Werner <elizabeth.werner@ncdenr.gov>

Mr. Dove,

Good morning to you also. Thank you for sending the power point presentation given by David Francis last Monday. However, I am still awaiting your responses to the original questions I presented in the 1st Request for Public Information - Francis Farm Landfill. Let me offer to review (although they remain at the beginning of this e-mail dialog, and are re-copied here) ...

During your December 2014 Budget workshop, you had David Francis give a presentation on Francis Farm [re: see attach - 7 - Francis Farm.pdf]. Francis proposed $10M (2015*2025) for Francis Farm.

During your Budget Presentation slide show on May 18, 2015, you bulleted the following items - [re: http://haywoodtp.net/pubII/150518BudgetPresentationFY15-16ppfinal.pptx]

- Begin saving for Construction. 2015. What Construction?
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- Where did he get this number?
- Is Haywood County paying any daily fine for the Francis Farm Notice of Violation? Please note that I don’t have a copy of this NOV yet, but working on it.

Additionally -

What do you mean, regarding drawings - "These have not yet been developed for the full remediation"??? Have drawings been done for a partial remediation? Please forward all the drawings that you currently have that you have spent Haywood County Taxpayer dollars preparing.

Awaiting your response.

Monroe Miller

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Subject: Automatic reply: 4th Request for Public Information - White Oak Landfill
I am no longer with NCDENR Solid Waste Section. Please contact either the Asheville Regional Office Solid Waste Field Operations staff at (828) 296-4500, or Deb Aja, Western District Supervisor, at (828) 296-4702 or deborah.aja@ncdenr.gov.

[Editor’s Note: Thus ends the current exchange with multiple county people attempting to extract Public Information, being thwarted at every turn. More to come ... ]
This was a point in time where David Francis had hired a bunch of dump trucks to haul in dirt from the new DOT Interchange work. Dirt was loaded at the interchange, and dumped at the edge of the landfill, and onto one of the properties the county purchased.

http://haywoodtp.net/pubTP/T150703.pdf

It was brought to my attention that a local had taken picture after picture of these dump trucks that were only half or two-thirds filled going into the landfill. Decided to go out and take a look. Terry Ramey accompanied.

Standing on top of the landfill. Notice a depression off to the right in the distance. I think this is one of the concerns DENR had. They seem to want a nice rounded dome.

That is one of Haywood County Schools garages off in the distance. Also shown is a monitoring well.
This is the road that goes around the top of the landfill. Old school buses parked along the side of the road.

Roof of the School Maintenance building barely visible at the end of the hill. Again, note a depression in the top of the landfill.
Looking back to the garage.

Looks to be an access road to the top of the landfill. This is what trucks were using on our second visit.
Terry performing a comprehensive visual inspection.

This is where dirt from the DOT interchange project was being hauled to. Locals brought to my attention that these trucks were only between half and 2/3 full [re: photos available]. There were no scales visible, so the presumption is that these truckers were being paid by the truck load. This location is off on a side road before you get to the Haywood County School Maintenance building, and presumably rests on land purchased by Kevin Ensley, Mark Swanger and David Francis.
After going down this little road, dirt was being leveled with a bulldozer.

One of the trucks returning from dumping the dirt and going for another load.
Perspective view looking down the road, landfill is up to the right.

Zoom shot. When we returned on 6/29/2015, this area had been widened, had drainage installed around the outside perimeter, and planted with grass. It did not appear that any of this dirt was being used for placing on the top of the landfill.
After getting practically nothing out of Ira Dove, David Francis, Kevin Ensley or Mark Swanger, we decided to visit the Francis Farm Landfill to see “progress”. Additionally, DENR personnel had indicated that the Haywood County Maintenance Building was due for a new Gas Monitor, so that was on our list. We again drove to the top of the landfill, past the maintenance building, to a new driveway on top of the landfill that trucks were using to haul the dirt.

This is the entrance to the top of the landfill off the perimeter road.

Same location, looking to the right.
Same location, looking over to the left.

This is one of the multiple wells on top of the landfill. Obviously, these will have to have extension risers installed to elevate them to a new ground level.
Look at those boulders! What a minute, while at our meeting with DENR, we thought they said only dirt was supposed to go on top of the land fill - no boulders. A dump truck was leaving as we started our walk on top of the landfill. The dozer operator was in his cab, on his cell phone. Mysteriously, all truck traffic halted, and no more trucks made any more deliveries while we were on site. We must have coincidentally arrived at break-time.

These were pretty [expletive deleted] boulders. Where were they getting this dirt? It sure was not from the little stockpile that Frances said they purchased the property for to use as a temporary stock pile.
More boulders...

Some of the dome had more dirt to go.
What’s this? Why as anyone knows, this is a trailing from a Dayco radiator hose. Ramey found two of them. Right below our feet. Where is David Francis getting this dirt? When we took a closer look at the dirt, it had shinny mica and was fine silt, just like you would dredge out of Lake Junaluska. I thought this was supposed to be the dirt from the Interchange construction site? Where was David Francis getting this dirt.

This is the silt. Off in the distance is the roof of the Haywood County School Maintenance building.
This was the edge of where the dozer operator reached. He is sitting in his A/C cab, still talking on the cell phone with the engine running.

This is the new Honeywell Gas Monitoring equipment.

This is a close up of the Dayco radiator hose ends. One of the guys kindly placed the only paper we had on my truck seat, so that it did not get dusty from the silt.