

Graham County
Public Meeting - USDA Funding
April 30, 2019

County Manager Rebecca Garland presented a statement to the public on Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC for potential USDA Funding. Commissioner Connie Orr was present.

Manager Garland stated Graham County is in the process of applying for Community Facilities funding in the form of a combination of grant funding (approximately \$50,000) and loan funding (approximately \$300,000 and \$350,000) to make the following purchases/improvements at the Graham County Sanitation located at 400 Snowbird Road, Robbinsville, North Carolina.

These will include a purchase of at least one front loader garbage truck at an approximate cost of \$300,000 due to the fact that the two out of the three front loader trucks we currently own are between 18-20 years of age and one truck is 7 years old. The county has had to expend approximately \$82,000 in repairs on the older trucks for this current fiscal year. In addition, the fuel economy on the older trucks has diminished over time and the sanitation department has expended over \$60,000 in fuel for the fiscal year.

In addition, the over the road tractors at Sanitation are nearing one million miles so the County will need to consider the purchase of an over the road tractor in the near future. These trucks haul garbage from our transfer station located at 400 Snowbird Road Robbinsville, NC to the landfill at Ballground, Georgia. The cost of a good used tractor is approximately \$50,000-\$85,000.

Graham County is also considering the purchase of self-contained roll off trash compactors to be placed at sanitation dumpsites to both encourage recycling and to help the station become more efficient in moving solid waste to the dump. In addition, the county needs to replace dumpsters and the approximate cost of these units are \$65,000.

USDA Community Facilities grant/loans are available to Graham County with interest rates of between 4% and 5% with terms up to 40 years. Graham County would consider a term of between 5-10 years based on the useful life of the equipment.

Manager Garland asks for public comment. No public comments were made.

Rebecca Garland, Graham County Manager / Finance Officer

ATTEST:

Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board