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## Work to begin on removing railroad ties

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WAYNESBURG -- Greene County Industrial Development Authority took care of one final detail Wednesday that was needed before work could begin on removing railroad ties from the Mather coal refuse dump reclamation site.

The authority agreed to amend a contract with the company supplying the scales that will be used to weigh railroad ties at the refuse dump site. The ties will be weighed at the site and at the landfill where they will be deposited. This will insure all ties are accounted for at the landfill.

The authority approved adding \$1,410 to the bid price submitted by Brechbuhler Scales Inc. for work to construct a pad for the scales at the site. The company's original bid of \$6,200 for use of the scales for a month had not included the cost of preparing a pad.

Robbie Matesic, authority acting director, said work on removing the ties should begin within the next two weeks.

The authority in October awarded a \$490,500 contract to Piccolomini Contractors Inc. to remove part of the more than 200,000 railroad ties from the property.

Though the authority originally had opened bids for the removal of all ties from the site, the costs and limited grant money forced the authority to reduce the project scope to removing ties from only two of four areas of the site. These are the two areas closest to Mather.

The project is expected to take about a month to complete. Piccolomini has proposed using 10 trucks to remove the ties, each making three trips a day from Mather to the Westmoreland Waste landfill near Belle Vernon.

The authority plans to remove the ties to eventually prepare the property for development and to abate any possible fire hazard. It is using grant money to fund the project.