

**Clark County
Solid Waste Advisory Commission
Regular Meeting**

Thursday August 4, 2011

Clark County Auto License Office
1408 Franklin Street
Vancouver, WA

SWAC Members Present: Don Ebbeson, Dan Kaler, Mike Carnahan, Brandon Vick, Jeanne Stewart

SWAC Members Absent: Lisa Schmidt, Jack McClary, Richard Baker

Staff Present: Mike Davis, Gary Bickett, Rich McConaghy, Sabra Hall-Nelson

Others:

I. Roll Call, Approval of Minutes

Mike Carnahan made a motion to approve the July 7, 2011 SWAC minutes. The motion was seconded by Brandon Vick. The minutes were approved as written.

II. Updates

County Solid Waste – Mike Davis

Updates:

Environmental Services is in the process of applying for the CPG Funds. August 31st is the deadline to submit the application.

Environmental staff will be actively participating in the Clark County Fair. The main focus this year is on Clean Water, as well as recycling and solid waste. We will be in our normal spot so feel free to stop by.

Normal collection events are starting to wind down.

News Releases:

- 100 million pounds of electronics recycled through E-Cycle
- Bellingham bans disposable plastic bags
- Portland adopts ban on plastic bags that take effect October 15, 2011
- Dismantling of derelict barge "Davy Crockett" about 80% complete
- "The Six Million Dollar Trash Can", Seattle is proposing to switch from once a week garbage collection to once every two weeks, providing substantial savings. Portland is scheduled to switch to this collection schedule on Halloween. Our recommendation is that the county observes this new process to the north and south to determine the success of this change.
- Media release from Department of Ecology on success of the electronics recycling program.

Upcoming Events, Workshops, and Volunteer Opportunities listed on our Environmental Services webpage was printed out and provided to each SWAC member.

Mike Carnahan is leaving after next month, when his term expires. SWAC members shared their appreciation for all that Mike has done and will miss his energy and input. Mike anticipates attending future meetings

Next SWAC meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2011. Motion made and seconded to cancel the September 1, 2011 SWAC meeting due to the holiday schedule. Motion passed unanimously.

City of Vancouver – Rich McConaghy

Hooked at Columbia Springs is scheduled for August 19th. This annual fund raising extravaganza includes classic carnival games, live music, local cuisine, wine and microbrews and more.

Cities Resource Conservation Challenge: Rich shared a printout of facts and information on the Cities Resource Conservation Challenge. Neighborhoods in the past during their cleanup have tried to see who could make the most trash. We developed an incentive program where neighborhoods would receive \$100.00 if they do three things to reduce the amount of trash on clean-up day: recycle; have a scrap metal dealer there to divert lawnmowers and other metal items; have a reuse option, etc.

County Public Health – Gary Bickett

Board of Health approved Clark County Public Health to apply for Coordinated Prevention Ecology Funding for 2012-2013. Enforcement funding is \$104,064.00, which is the same amount for every county in the state regardless of size. This is for an 18 month period. Hopefully they will go back to a two year funding period that coincides with the state budget cycle.

Recent inspection at Hallstrum landfill: Hallstrum landfill is a closed landfill. Melissa Sutton, our Field Inspector was there recently and discovered that a monitoring well had been damaged by a vehicle, to the point that it was not operable. Melissa notified the owner and Department of Ecology and gave them August 31, 2011 compliance date for mitigation. That landfill is owned by Office Max, which was formerly Boise Cascade.

History: Hallstrum Landfill has Boise Cascade debris from the local plant. This landfill was utilized prior to the construction of Rufener. Rules changed in 1989 affecting the landfills. There is other material besides Boise Cascade debris in Hallstrum. Hallstrum was also a multi purpose landfill with construction and demolition debris. As a corporation Office Max, for the most part, only absorbed potential liability for waste that was specifically Boise Cascade. Boise Cascade sold off all their assets except Office Max. While shifting the responsibility, Office Max kept Hallstrum and the responsibility required with that landfill. The Rufener landfill, which was an active landfill, went to this new group called Boise Cascade. Top third of waste in the Hallstrum landfill is Boise debris and the rest is construction and demolition debris.

Coordinated Prevention Grant: We notified the communities of La Center, Ridgefield and Yacolt (communities in Clark County with populations less than 5000) that they are eligible for supplemental CPG money for alternatives to burning projects. Legislature set aside two million dollars for communities, such as these three, to develop projects related to creative alternatives to burning. The legislature used air quality money for improving air quality in a

solid waste funding cycle. A 25% match to the grant is required. They could also go together as a group. Question: What about air pollution control authority. They may be doing some of this work. Are they eligible for this funding? Perhaps, if they went to another county agency they could indirectly apply.

Quarterly reports were mailed out to everyone.

III. Update on Closure/Decommission of Boise Cascade Landfill-Gary Bickett

Boise Cascade: Gary contacted Brian Carlson who has done research and made contact with Jeanne Stewart regarding Boise Cascade. The shoreline permit issued in 2009 is valid until February 2014. The grading permit is not issued - one of the requirements is financial assurance. Wastewater discharge permit has expired for the lagoon adjacent to the landfill. That lagoon was emptied and relined several years ago. Since Boise was shut down there has been very little if any discharge to the river. Ecology was notified and will follow-up on the laps NPDES permit, with 30 days to respond.

E-mail sent to Anita Largent from Mike Simon on August 1, 2011

Anita;

Here is our report on the contacts we or the broker have made in the past 3 weeks. "We" refers to the brokers and to the staff/principals at Portside. Of course because of the confidential nature of the contacts, names of individuals and entities will not be disclosed.

Two entities are reviewing the CAD files. One asked to meet with the person who did the pro forma for the costs of the clarifier removal and build out of the site to make it shovel ready for development.

One of Macadam Forbes principals has worked with an industrial/flex developer in Seattle and has presented the opportunity to it and it is interested. A 4th entity has expressed an interest and Portside's principals are working with its principals on ideas to finance the property. A 5th entity usually works on shorter term developments but recognizes the upsides of the Portside property. It has spoken to one of the other interested entities in working together.

In the meantime, the grass has been mowed and I believe both houses located on the property have been demolished as requested by the County and/or City.

This report is unfortunately brief and general but given the short time the property has been marketed and because of the confidential nature of negotiations, there is no alternative. We hope and trust that much more can be revealed about a buyer in a short term and appreciate your understanding.

Thanks,

Mike Simon

Jeanne reported that Brian Carlson read the minutes from last meeting and said that there is a statement that was not exactly correct. "Someone said the landfill is closed and is under the post closure requirements". Brian comments, "That is not true. The truth is the landfill is not legally or technically closed and is not under any post-closure requirements". He goes on

to say, "The problem is the landfill has no valid permits and is not closed, even though it has not accepted any new material in 10 years." The grading permit is contingent on the financial assurance being produced, either by Portside Lagoon or whoever wants to buy it-a legal assumption by them for financial assurance. Until that is done, the grading permit will not be implemented as that is a condition of the grading permit. If there comes to be a sale or contingent sale, that will have to be somebody willing to guarantee absorption of that financial assurance. The expired NPDES permit is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Ecology. They assumed the authority to permit that under the umbrella of the federal authority. The terms can be 5 years or can be for a more extended period of time.

Jeanne requested an update from the Department of Ecology. SWAC is requesting details regarding the terms of the NPDES Permit, when it was issued, and when it expired.

Gary responded that Chuck Matthews of the Department of Ecology stated to Brian that they will be sending a follow-up letter to Portside regarding the NPDES Permit. Brian requested to be copied on that letter.

Because the landfill is not closed, it is still SWAC's business and responsibility to be informed of any activity. SWAC has the authority to review and ask for modification or correction if any part that is out of compliance.

Mike Simon had stated that the realtor is informing perspective buyers of their potential requirements regarding the landfill being out of compliance.

There is still a debt owed on the property and the suggestion is that the net profit will go to local charities doesn't negate the need for financial assurance. The shoreline permit was granted and expires in 2014. They also need to pay their past permit fees. Once they have the financial assurance, they can blend the material with the other soils and remove the liner. They cannot do something different than that.

IV. Commodity Allocation Study – Mike Davis

An allocation study is performed on an annual basis for two reasons: this is a snap shot of what the tons of recyclables contain and it determines the compensation per ton for recyclables (based on these percentages). Mike Davis provided handouts to each SWAC member and reviewed the charts.

The four charts list - Curbside Allocation Percentages for:

1. Multi-Family – Waste Connections
2. Single Family Units – Waste Connection (most of county except for Camas, Washougal & Ridgefield- they are listed separately.)
3. Camas/Washougal
4. Ridgefield

Multi-family last year used similar process. The numbers are a little different this year, as we compare 2010 to 2011. We will see some changes which is natural.

It was requested that the list be spelled out, for example: mwp=mixed waste paper.

Old newspaper continues to decline all across the nation as more people turn to the internet for their news. Aluminum recovery has improved. The company is running the materials twice on the sorting line to capture more products. PET/plastics have dropped a little. Glass is being captured in a more efficient manner. The Salmon Creek Interchange project reused 3000 tons of glass, all of which was donated by CRC. Contractors are finding it useful in sub-grade for cement work. The chart shows very little glass reject and we are starting to sell some of the glass product.

We are seeing an improvement in recycling. There is a continued need to educate the community, maybe through neighborhood campaigns.

In regards to glass and the multi-family stream, when the three commingles are full they start filling up the glass containers with a variety of materials. So all the glass we collect ends up going across the sorting line as a single stream mix. When this happens, the glass is not recovered. Is there an education piece to multi-family? This continues to be a problem as there are transitory clientele, language barriers, management changes, space issues. All of these create challenges. Outreach efforts continue to be a focus. The county has seen several record quarters for the amount of material we are getting. We are seeing an increase of what is being collected on a weekly basis.

Garbage and recycling is a leading economic indicator. As people recycle more, they are buying more consumables. The fact that the garbage is flat is somewhat indicative that very little construction is occurring.

V. Product Stewardship Conference – Rich McConaghy

On July 22, 2011, Tanya Gray and Rich attended a conference in Seattle. There are several terms for Product Stewardship such as Take Back, Producer Responsibility, or Extended Producer Responsibility. These are somewhat interchangeable. There was a workshop put on by individuals from King County, Seattle, Tacoma, and Snohomish County who are the leaders in the state doing Product Stewardship Programs. They invited a number of people from Canada to provide presentations about product stewardship.

Rich presented an updated PowerPoint presentation on “The Potential Role of Product Stewardship”. He also discussed addressing packaging, what's happening in Canada and parts of Europe. Product Stewardship is a policy that ensures that all those involved in the lifecycle of a product share responsibility for reducing its health and environmental impacts, with producers bearing primary financial responsibility. In recycling, most of the expenditure and financing comes from the generators and the value of the material. In our community, people pay every month for recycling to be picked up from their homes. This model would look at industries that make those products helping out with collection programs.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Motion made to cancel September meeting, motion second.

VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm