

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

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Clark County Auto License Office  
1408 Franklin Street  
Vancouver, WA

**SWAC Members Present:** Lisa Schmidt, Richard Baker, Allan Jeska, Jack McClary, Stephen Smythe, Jeanne Stewart and Brandon Vick

**SWAC Members Absent:** Dan Kaler, Don Ebbeson, Jack McClary

**Staff Present:** Anita Largent, Gary Bickett, Melissa Sutton, Rich McConaghy, Tanya Gray, Sabra Hall-Nelson

**Others:** Mike Drumright (Department of Ecology)

**I. Roll Call, Approval of Minutes**

Richard Baker moved to approve the November 3, 2011 minutes, Allan Jeska seconded the motion. Minutes are approved as written.

**II. Updates**

**County Public Health – Gary Bickett**

Two Grant Programs: Solid Waste Compliance and Site Hazard Assessment Grant. Gary reported last month that Clark County Public Health was offered 80% (\$308,000.00) of the Site Hazard Assessment Grant that they applied for from the Department of Ecology. It was just signed by the Board of Health and sent back to Department of Ecology today. That grant expires June 30, 2013.

Public Health has also received an offer from Department of Ecology (different section) for a Solid Waste Compliance Grant for 18 months which will also expire June 30, 2013. Grant application is still in process at this time. Both grants Solid Waste Compliance and Site Hazard Assessment used to be for 24 months, now they are for 18 months.

**Question:** Are these two grants a normal, typical opportunity for other counties?

**Answer:** Many of the larger counties apply for the Site Hazard Assessment Grant, whereas smaller counties do not have to nor do they feel the need to. The Site Hazard Assessment Grant is fully funded by the state, no match required. However the Coordinated Prevention Grant for Solid Waste Compliance Programs is available to all counties regardless of their size and the amount awarded to each county is the same; \$104,164.00 with a 25% match from facility permit fees.

**County Solid Waste – Anita Largent**

Handouts:

- Construction & Demolition Debris Recycling & Garbage Guide: What goes in? What stays out?

- Rule Pre-proposal – Mercury Lights Program (WAC 173-910) Product Stewardship program.
- News Release: The Hazel Dell Rodda Paint and Décor Store Joins Clark County Paint Take-Back Program, now have six paint stores in our program.
- Columbia Springs upcoming events
  - Saving Salmon at Home Workshop – Free 12/01/2011 @ 6:30 – 8 pm
  - Natural Savings at Home Workshop- Free 12/08/2011 @ 6:30 - 8 pm
  - Celebrating Sustainably Workshop – Free 12/15/2011 @ 6:30 – 8 pm

Waste Connections is in the process of upgrading some of their equipment at West Vancouver Transfer Station. We now have a proposed C & D rate of \$63 a ton. Currently working on an implementation and operation plan to take loads of construction and demolition debris to separate and recycle at the West Van location. They also offer tracking for green building and LEED certification. The Watershed Stewards program is presenting a "Green Cleaning for the Holidays" workshop, where you make your own cleaning supplies. Block foam and electronic collection event January 7, 2012, at Fisher Landing Transit Center from 9:00 -1:00.

### **City of Vancouver – Rich McConaghy**

The city is working on its collection rates and will be doing some workshops for the city council; more information on the rate adjustments available in the next few weeks.

Rich checked with the City of Portland regarding their curbside food waste collection program that started October 31, 2011. Over the last month it has been doing well, their phone calls are down to the same levels as before they started curbside food waste collection. They are picking garbage up every other week and yard debris with food waste is picked up on weekly basis. The amount of organic waste for yard debris with food in it has really gone up; however the food waste in it is fairly small compared to what they were expecting. People are adapting to the new service change.

Metro met with other regional, municipal county program operators to talk about the processing system for organic waste. It is being segmented into organic processing with food for commercial generators and then a separate system coming later for more residential stuff. The city of Portland has been doing the residential for just a month, but the commercial has been ongoing. Material had been sent through Metro Central up to Cedar Grove Composting in the Puget Sound area. That material now is going to a couple of facilities in Oregon, one near North Plains and one near Corvallis. The RFP went out and is in the process of being negotiated. Rich shared additional information regarding what can and can't be placed as a compostable item.

**Question:** For commercial do we require recycling or do we encourage it? **Answer:** For commercial we encourage recycling and have licensed recyclers that operate and provide recyclable services. The city is doing a pilot project for cart recycling at commercial businesses. The organic food waste recycling for commercial businesses has been done on a pilot project basis with most of the schools participating and a few other sites. There is no state wide mandate for recycling. The city does have to provide curbside residential service, but for commercial we try to motivate commercial recycling by having licensed recyclers available. The city of Portland however, does have a mandatory commercial recycling program.

### **Department of Ecology – Mike Drumright**

No added updates or notices. Clarification on grants: CPG Grants for Compliance also known as Coordinated Prevention Grants is offered to health departments around the state not to the county. For those counties that have their own health department they are all offered the same amount. Health departments that serve more than one county are offered 150% of the single county amount. The other leg of Coordination Prevention Grants is the Implementation Grant. Grants are for 18 month cycle; historically they have been 2 year cycle, except for the previous cycle which was for a one year cycle due to the economy. After June 3, 2013 we are not sure if grants will be on a 2 year cycle aligned with the fiscal year or one year grant cycle.

### **III. Update on Closure/Decommission of Boise Cascade Landfill – Gary Bickett & Anita Largent**

E-mail from Lawrence (Lare) Watters;

"At this point, the County is aware of the on-going negotiations regarding a proposed purchase. While they are continuing we are not in position to make any additional comments. Out of respect for the parties as they conduct their due diligence, the staff (you) and the PA will continue to monitor developments and advise you of any new developments. Thank you for your understanding."

### **IV. Presentation on Public Health Program & Services – Melissa Sutton**

Introduction: Melissa Sutton is our Environmental Health Specialist; specializes in solid waste compliance, field representative, inspects permitted facilities, and non permitted facilities. Melissa has worked for Clark County Public Health for 8 yrs and has been an Environmental Health Specialist for 11 years. Prior to that, she was employed by Cowlitz County in the Building and Planning Department. Recently Melissa worked jointly with the City of Vancouver Police and Fire Departments giving apartment safety education presentations.

Melissa provided a power point presentation on public health programs and services. Basic contact information:

Location: 1601 E Fourth Plain BLVD, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Center for Community Health. Phone number is (360) 397-8000 plus "0" will connect you to a live person. Food worker permit: (360) 397-8435. Complaint phone line is (360)-397-8083, messages are checked 4 times a day, received over 400 complaints a year also receive complaints through our website.

Public Health has five main programs:

- **Solid Waste:** food waste garbage complaints and solid waste handling facility permitting & inspections.
- **Hazardous Waste:** site hazard assessment & meth lab clean-up oversight.
- **Food Safety;** restaurant facility permitting and inspections, food worker testing, and food borne illness investigation.
- **Liquid Waste (sewage):** on-site sewage system permitting, septic system operations & maintenance inspections, and surfacing sewage complaints.
- **Water:** drinking water (i.e. wells), drinking water well construction & decommissioning, public pool/spas permitting & inspections.

Public Health has many agency partners they work very closely with: City/County Code Enforcement, City/ County Community Development, Community Mediation Services, WA Department of Ecology, WA Department of Health, Police Departments, Fire Departments/

Fire Marshal, City/ County Public Works & Environmental Services, City/County Prosecuting Attorneys, WA Department of Agriculture in Olympia, Clark Regional Wastewater District, Clark Conservation District.

Melissa shared the process for handling solid waste complaints. In 2010 they received 143 solid waste complaints (with approximately 5% repeat offenders). Melissa requested more concrete backing than requiring garbage service. SWAC members were asked to look at the complaint process as they move forward on reviewing and updating the Solid Waste Management Plan to see how this issue could be addressed better in the future.

#### **V. Planning for Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Anita Largent**

Anita distributed a tentative review process timeline. One of the roles of the Solid Waste Advisory Commission is to review the process of the Solid Waste Management and Hazardous Waste Management Plan. The last final plan was completed November 2008; it took 2 years to go through the plan and is required to be updated every 5 years.

Each SWAC member can choose the format they prefer (such as electronic or paper copy). Each member should review the assigned section prior to each meeting. Previously individual staff took various sections of the plan and was responsible for review of that part. Based on the schedule provided, SWAC members will start reviewing the plan in February 2013.

#### **VI. Other Business**

It was suggested that we cancel January 5, 2012 meeting due to the holiday season. The next SWAC meeting is February 2, 2012 at 6:00 pm.

#### **VII. Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda items**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm