

**Clark County OSS
Technical Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2014**

1) Reminder Letters

TAC members expressed their disapproval regarding secondary reminder letters not going out, and enforcement not being completed for individuals not getting inspections completed. TAC members requested that the reminder letter is sent out more closely to the inspection due date.

CCPH will work to get notifications sent to Yacolt systems again.

2) Recertification for Failing Septic Systems

Joe explained that CCPH is working with Dale to recertify septic systems.

3) CCPH staffing program changes

Joe shared that Tricia Mortell left for another position, and CCPH is currently conducting interviews for a new COO. Joe explained that he will bring the new CCO to the next TAC meeting if they are able to come.

Explained that the Food program manager will be retiring in July, and CCPH will be hiring a new program manager for the program. Once hired, Joe will become more involved in the Food program and the new program manager will likely work with the WRAP. Joe shared that through the transition CCPH has selected Brigette to work as lead which will help while Joe is managing both programs. They are currently working to identify the lead's responsibilities.

4) OSS within UGA

Joe met with the City of Vancouver regarding their septic system policy. Their current policy explains that the "Health Department shall make all final decisions regarding utilization of septic systems." TAC and staff brought up specific examples where the City refused to approve due to not hooking up to the sewer regardless of CCPH's approval. Joe explained that they plan to update their policy and code.

5) Implementation of Quality Assurance Policy - TAC role

Joe provided the current policy for quality assurance for certified OSS professionals, and Sean provided a new Onsite Sewage Professional Concern form he created. Joe asked TAC what their role should be. TAC shared that they feel it should be CCPH staff that reviews concerns because either professionals are competing against each other or are friends.

Joe explained that Sean will follow-up with professionals, so they're aware of concerns as well.

6) Allow grinder / lift pumps outside the foundation

CCPH staff explained that there is no jurisdiction for indoor grinder/lift pump. TAC shared that if the system is not storing or treating then it's not considered a septic system. TAC shared that they understand that if pumps are placed within 2 feet of the foundation it is the plumber's responsibility. Joe will contact the Building Department to discuss options. TAC member explained that they have been installing them without a permit in Clark County, but in Cowlitz they obtain a permit. TAC explained that they really shouldn't be considered grinder pumps rather solid pumps. There is an approximate \$800 difference in price. (\$1100/\$300) TAC suggested creating a policy that if it includes a bedroom vs. shops.

7) NTT Fees

TAC explained that they have customers required to pay the NTT fee multiple times. They suggest determining a new process to prevent this from happening.

8) Release Letter

TAC explained that they are not receiving a release letter sharing that the submission has been approved. So, the customer does not have
CCPH is suggesting creating a report in Envision to produce an approval/release letter for the customer. In the meantime staff can scan and e-mail the application.

