

Clark County
Solid Waste Advisory Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday, December 3rd, 2015
6:00pm – 8:00pm

Clark County Elections Building
1408 Franklin Street
Vancouver, WA

SWAC Members Present: Allan Jeska, Don Ebbeson, Stephen Schrag, Bill Turlay, Brandon Vick, and Steven Willis

SWAC Members Excused: Rem Wilson, Simone Auger (Absent)

Staff Present: Pete DuBois, Sarah Keirns

Others: Rich McConaghy, City of Vancouver; Chuck Harman, County Public Health; Derek Ranta, Waste Connections; Jon Wagner City of Vancouver

I. Roll Call, Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the meeting on November 5th, 2015 were approved as written.

II. Updates

County Public Health – Chuck Harman

Circle C Landfill Closure

- Circle C landfill owners would like to terminate the post-closure permit. Landfill has sent a proposal to Public Health for additional monitoring for leachate gas.
- Public Health is conferring with Ecology but the state does not have clear criteria developed to terminate the permit. Guidance is available for settling and gas, but specific requirements are not set.
- SWAC suggested seeking information from the EPA.
- SWAC encouraged Public Health to continue being a leader in this area. There is potential for Vancouver and SW WA to lead this effort.
- Public Health will work to develop closure criteria and present to SWAC.

Public Notice for Washougal Stormwater Decant Facility

- Public notice has been issued and public comment period ends formally on Dec 20th. No comments have been received yet. If there are comments, they will be presented at next month's meeting.
- Covered facility within confines of existing wastewater treatment facility so all of the material coming out of vector trucks will go right into the wastewater treatment plant. Solids will fall into the biosolids.

- SWAC asked if there had been a chemical analysis conducted on the vector truck material. Metals in the biosolids could be an issue.

Logic Model

- Public Health is seeking input from SWAC on the logic model for Solid waste program. Their next step in the process is to develop performance measures.

Site hazard assessment grant

- Public Health received a letter from Dept. of Ecology stating that due to low price of gas, the Dept. of Ecology is receiving less revenue and Site hazard assessment grant funding may not be available to pay for work performed since July.
- Grant funding covers 1 FTE at Public Health. Site hazard assessment staff person will shift roles rather than hire a new part-time person.
- Site hazard assessment work will stop at the end of December of this year.

Department of Ecology – Not present

- Don requested that Pete ask Dept. of Ecology if they plan to send a representative to meetings. If not, they should be removed from the agenda.

City of Vancouver – Rich McConaghy

- Two-thirds of the way through with the leaf coupon program for the year. Through the end of October 1,800 cubic yards have been collected at the sites, which is a little above the amount collected by this time last year.
- Coupons were not provided at the participating drop sites this year, but people are printing them from the web and are using the coupons in the Waste Connections fall newsletter.
- People are continuing to use the program and coupons are valid for use until the end of the year.

Waste Connections – Derek Ranta

- Waste Connections is in the process of rate setting and working with the City and County.
- City of Vancouver has a utility tax increase of 1.9%, and base rates won't change.
- Waste Connections is planning for inclement weather.
- Transfer stations are business-as-usual. Recycling markets aren't great.
- Garbage rates in Clark County are strong but leveling off due to economic growth.

County Environmental Services – Pete DuBois

- Two SWAC members are registered to attend AOR forum on 12/10 about recycling markets.
- The regional solid waste steering committee, comprised of public works directors and the DES director, met for the first time. They worked on completing bylaws, formalizing roles and responsibilities. The new steering committee will be meeting twice per year, and the steering committee will help review the budget for '17-'18. One goal of the

steering committee is to get the interlocal agreement signed by the City of Vancouver by the end of 2016, all the other cities have signed agreements through 2021.

- Green Business Morning Blend event is on 12/17.
- Twelve schools are participating in the Trex (plastic lumber manufacturer) competition to collect plastic bags, Safeway also have film plastics collection.
- Holiday collection event on January 23, 2016, for electronic lights, block foam, fake Christmas trees, and metal lawn ornaments. The event will be at McKenzie Stadium near Evergreen High School.
- Recruitment for new SWAC members closed yesterday. Two applicants came in and one was recommended to the BOCC. She is a Camas high school teacher and has worked on the Green Schools program. This position is for the county-at-large.
- Update to SWAC: members serve 3 year terms.

III. Former Rufener Landfill Status – Jon Wagner, AICP Senior Planner (~27:45)

Rufener Landfill background provided by Rich McConaghy:

- Originally a Boise paper mill site for clarifier solids, clay and paper fiber, and they hadn't used it for 15-18 years.
- Boise decided to donate it to the Hough Foundation.
- In 2013 there was a proposal to use the land that was previously a landfill.
- 19 acre northern parcel was mostly filled, and landfill material was used as a layer in that fill, and they are moving ahead with development plans.
- The landfill has been decommissioned and the lining was removed.
- The consent decree to bring together the partners – the county, Boise, and new owners.
- There is currently a legal issue on how consent decree is satisfied.

Status update by Jon Wagner:

- The project is listed as a 2008 project, Jon was working with Gary Bickett, to ensure the site was meeting solid waste requirements.
- The property was below floodplain, so a shoreline permit was required.
- SWAC is concerned and wants the original pit and lagoon filled in before security bond is released. They are currently below the floodplain.
- Jon's response is that the concerns are valid because those pieces of the property aren't going to be filled at this time.
- Don's concern is that if the property floods that material could leach into the aquifer. Closure stated that it would be backfilled
- Rich clarified that the shoreline permit covered all three parcels. Grading permit only covered 19 acres.
- Question from SWAC: Does the release of the consent decree require action from SWAC? Pete responded that SWAC helped establish what the consent decree included, so SWAC could make a recommendation about whether the county is ready to sign a letter of concurrence that consent decree requirements have been met or not. If SWAC dissents they can make their dissent known.
- Chuck said that based on an email from Brian, that the landfill would be graded by 2016 and the lagoon would be filled to grade by spring 2017.
- SWAC requested to continue to remain informed, and would like to know when the county makes a recommendation for action.

IV. Green Business Program, clarkgreenbiz.com – Sarah Keirns

- Regional program that works with all businesses in Clark county.
- On site assistance for waste reduction/recycling and hazardous waste.
- Bill Turlay recommended working with the Chamber of Commerce as they work with many businesses.
- Partner with Waste Connections and Clark Public Utilities.
- Events include Green Business Morning Blend for networking and learning.
- Bill Turlay recommended combining all Green Program events on SWAC agendas.
- Recognition includes the Green Business showcase.
- Allan Jeska discussed Legacy Salmon Creek's sustainability commitment.

V. Other Business

Alan Jeska recommended a news release on the final study of the Clean Cart Campaign.

VI. Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda items

None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm.

Next meeting is Jan 7, 2016.