

Clark County
Solid Waste Advisory Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 4th, 2016
6:00 - 8:00pm
Clark County Elections Building
1408 Franklin Street
Vancouver, WA

SWAC Members Present: Allan Jeska, Scott Campbell*, Stephen Schrag, Rich McConaghy, Ailixandra Coker, and Steven Willis; *Scott had to leave early

SWAC Members Excused: Rem Wilson, Brandon Vick, Simone Auger

Staff Present: Mike Davis, Kim Harless

Others: Ty Stober, Tanya Gray, City of Vancouver; Roxanne Wolfe, Chuck Harman, County Public Health; Scott Campbell, Waste Connections;

I. Roll Call, Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the July 7th meeting were unanimously approved as written

II. Update on SWEO transitions – Roxanne Wolfe

- Pete is no longer working as his former position, and is now working to run the Master Composter Recycler (MCR) program
 - This is not a lateral move for Pete, but a Senior Outreach Specialist position and he is very passionate and excited about
 - Other positions open in the county, but he chose to stay with SWEO
 - He will be able to continue his role with WSRA
- Kim and Mike will fill in to run the meetings, and additional support staff will join the group
- Still working on the physical moves of staff; plan for the 4th quarter of the year

III. Election of Vice Chair

A motion was made to elect Scott Campbell as Vice Chair by Allan Jeska, it was seconded by Stephen Schrag, and unanimously approved by the group

IV. City of Vancouver SWAC member and SWAC term discussion

- Rich McConaghy to represent the City of Vancouver in Ty Stober's place
 - Ty is the only elected official on the board, that also represents their political role
 - Elected officials come and go and did not feel comfortable making decisions that could impact other communities outside of the City of Vancouver
 - Such as the Washougal Decant facility
 - Ty explained that he doesn't have the background that Rich has
 - The City of Vancouver Council decided to appoint Rich as the SWAC representative
- The SWAC member term end dates were not three years, but September 30th of the closest year to three years
 - For staff, it is hard to recruit many members at once, and suggest people have the correct three-year term end dates
 - A motion was made by Allan to adopt the true three-year end dates, seconded by Stephen, and unanimously approved
 - Stephen is still planning to leave based off the letter he received

V. Updates

County Public Health

- Solid Waste Operations & Outreach – Mike Davis & Kim Harless
 - Green Business Morning Blend on August 18th at Pacific Continental Bank
 - Green ribbon cutting for the new building
 - Three businesses being presented with their GB award
 - Upcoming Fall MCR workshops, and MCR will be at the Clark County Fair
 - Leichner Landfill Master Plan application submitted for initial review
 - Community Planning has a three-week period to look at all the documents and determine if complete
 - Public will have an opportunity to comment on the SEPA component of the plan
 - If someone requests public hearing, we will have to do that
 - Once we have a complete document, will send out to SWAC via disc or FTP
- Solid Waste Enforcement – Chuck Harman
 - Shared Melissa's 2nd quarter report of exempt and permitted facility inspections
 - If interested in a copy, bring a thumb drive or can make an FTP site
 - Washougal is in the process of its decant facility permit, may get any day now
 - April – June: 19 sites inspected and 32 complaints received not related to facilities
 - 30 of 32 resolved, but could include telling them that nothing can be done
 - Melissa is back part-time, when back full-time would like to come to SWAC with a presentation of facility inspections and complaints
 - A dramatic example: 13 or 14 deceased calves on a leased farm in Brush Prairie
 - Improper solid waste handling for lagoon; water table was at surface
 - Put on a notice of order, corrective action plan, and a partial fine was applied
 - Will visit a few times over the year, and if he doesn't follow plan will issue the full fine

City of Vancouver – Tanya Gray

- Tanya giving update due to Rich's new position as a SWAC member
- About a year ago today, a regional wrap campaign was launched
 - Message is to take plastic bags back to the store
 - Partnered with American Chemical Council Flexible Film Recycling Group (ACFFRG)
 - Industry folks that create the plastic film and provide resources for campaign
 - Launched last August, all 12 Safeway stores agreed to be collection sites
- Recycling Done Right campaign also educated the public about plastic film
- Commercial film recycling:
 - Large portion of plastic film is coming from businesses
 - Consultants are helping reach out to businesses that already have film recycling to see if they'll let smaller businesses in; large businesses such as Safeway
 - These businesses do have an incentive to collect more film as they are paid for the film
- May, June, and July busiest times of year for Neighborhood Cleanup events
 - 66 neighborhoods in the City of Vancouver, and each have the opportunity to conduct one cleanup per year, and the CoV helps facilitate
 - Over 30 cleanups completed, about 10 for rest for year
 - Numbers are up from before, don't have data yet, but suspect NextDoor as the reason
 - City's events have choice of bulky item and yard debris collection
 - Resource Conservation Challenge: \$100 incentive for extra collection of metal or reuse items, or can do a class, tree planting, or other option

Waste Connections – Scott Campbell

- New assistant district manager for Vancouver hauling– Jeff Smith
 - Not to be confused with the Jeff Smith that runs the Washougal Transfer Station

VI. Property Acquisition Update and Recommendation – Mike Davis

- Appraisal has been received for the property; reasonable and far lower than expected
 - WCI and Hurley have come to verbal agreement; Derek isn't here tonight to discuss
 - Will come back when more prepared, likely by September's meeting; will be on agenda
 - WCI is purchasing the property, not the County
 - A SWAC recommendation would be for the county manager to move forward and include rate increases in the 2017 rate package that includes paying for the acquisition
 - 3rd party reviewer and internal review will be performed on the rate package

VII. Solid Waste Handling (WAC 173-350) Updates – Kim Harless

- The Dept. of Ecology (DOE) put on workshops to provide an opportunity for comment prior to drafting the proposed rule changes
 - This is not a requirement, but something extra that the DOE decided to do
- The due date for comments for the draft proposed changes is September 6th
- A formal proposal will go out at the end of this year and hearings in the beginning of 2017, where again there will be an opportunity to comment before changes finalized
- Allan asked if anyone was reviewing it and looking at any implications for the SWMP
 - The county will review it and put together some comments
- There are some changes that separate MRFs from Transfer Stations with regard to permitting to eliminate some of the confusion for those seeking a permit
- There is a proposed change to the definition of recycling, which would make some facilities not be a "recycler" nor need a permit anymore, and some may have to start getting a permit
 - Additionally this will help with "sham recycling" where people who were not truly recycling were attempting to avoid more stringent SW handling permit requirements
- County can put together a more formal presentation of the changes, if desired

VIII. SWAC Recommendation to BOCC – Stephen Schrag

- The letter was sent via email to everyone from Pete after the July meeting
- Questions at the last meeting about the scope of SWAC and if the letter was under the scope
- The City of Vancouver came to the conclusion that this was more of a waste water issue rather than a solid waste issue
 - Although affects water, isn't related to a solid waste issue such as a landfill
- Stephen commented that in May, SWAC said it wanted to protect the aquifer
 - That our mission is to protect ground water and our single-source aquifer
- Steven commented that this is only a scope issue, it is out of the scope of SWAC
- Stephen was encouraged to petition as an individual
- Rich made a motion to not proceed with the letter, Steven seconded, Stephen voted nay, motion passed

IX. Clean Cart Campaign Single Family & Multifamily – Kim Harless

- Single Family:
- 30 routes were tagged, vs. 25 last year; differences due in part to route sizes
- Many of the crews were college students due to the time of the year when students returned home and needed a summer job; will try to do it around the same time next year
- A team of two would go out; typically one person would inspect the cart and the other would write down data that matches what was marked on the tags and additional items found
- Crews estimated that roughly 300-600 direct interactions happened with the public right by their carts explaining the dos and don'ts of recycling
 - Can share written stories from the crews with SWAC if requested
- Crews received training about conflict resolution and the legality of looking into the carts
- Additionally CRESA was informed that we would have crews out there

- Showed the results of the tagging:
 - Plastic Packaging and Plastic Wrap/Film highest categories
 - 39.4% however did however receive a “gold star”
- Crews took additional data for fullness of carts
 - Will help with determining if a policy change should occur to have UGA be every other week collection like the City of Vancouver and other areas
 - Presented results of fullness for UGA versus City of Vancouver (CoV)
 - A difference in fullness was found; more carts were more full in the CoV
 - Metro did a study of whether EoW or Every Week recycling collection
- Multifamily:
- Crews collected paper surveys, and an online survey was distributed, to managers to collect data on the manager’s perspective of enclosure issues and if the bags were useful
- Crews collected inventory data for carts at each enclosure at each complex
 - Waste Connections will work to replace the identified old carts with the standard blue cart for mixed recycling and standard green for glass
 - Will help with education in that color-coding would be universal throughout the county
- Crews also helped with the residual study sorts
 - Will share the final report to SWAC when recieved
- For next year may do a larger social media campaign, and request any ideas for next year

X. Other Business

- Metro is considering burning more garbage for energy
 - Mike: a couple million tons, not a whole lot, already being burned
 - Marion county facility operating with a non-system license to burn the materials
 - May allow expansion of the program to burn more volume
- Signage updated at the transfer stations – presented photos of the new signage
- It was asked of SWAC if a meal would be appreciated since meetings are during dinner hours, SWAC said snacks are fine and no need for meals

XI. Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda items – None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm