

**Clark County
Solid Waste Advisory Commission
Regular Meeting**
Thursday, May 4th, 2017
6:00 - 8:00pm

Clark County for Community Health
CONFERENCE ROOM 210
1601 E. Fourth Plain Blvd.
Vancouver, WA 98661

SWAC Members Present: Allan Jeska, Rich McConaghy, Steven Willis, Rem Wilson, Warren Neth, Chris Prothero

SWAC Members Excused: Scott Campbell, Simone Auger, Alixandra Coker

SWAC Members Unexcused: Brandon Vick

Staff Present: Mike Davis, Kim Harless, Chuck Harman, Pete DuBois, Sarah Keirns, Jana Williams, Janis Koch, Jeff Harbison

Others: Derek Ranta, Waste Connections; Jim Hanlon, public guest

I. Roll Call, Approval of Minutes

- Minutes for the Feb. 2nd, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved as written.

II. Updates

- Clark County Public Health
 - PMII position open, interviews begin May 22-24
 - Very small pool of applicants but will interview two of them.
 - Per Jeff Harbison salary is within budget for PMII position
 - Legislative special session is in progress. There are discussions regarding \$10 million for CPG and MTCA, however, this is still a 33% reduction over previous year.
 - Letter was not able to be drafted to the legislature due to timing and input.
 - Solid Waste enforcement has received a land-application permit application from the City of Vancouver; may be a need to call a SWAC special meeting.
 - 46 Solid Waste complaints received by Public Health in 1st qtr. of the Solid Waste Enforcement Grant report.
 - Dirt Hugger tour – Allan Jeska
 - Food Waste 1/3 and 2/3 brush and yard waste from the area is taken there. Waste Connection trucks have very clean loads with very little waste. When trucks are dumped they create a huge compost pile. Compost sells for \$45 per cubic yard and there is a very large demand.
 - Clean Cart Campaign – upcoming large outreach campaign by Clark County. Temps are being recruited and hired through NW Staffing.
 - 4 Recycle Day Events held since last meeting. They were all a big success; number of participants - 580 Vancouver, 120 Yacolt, 420 Ridgefield, 160 LaCenter. Ridgefield, Camas, Washougal, and Battle Ground Recycle Day Events will be held in May. There will not be any events scheduled this fall.
 - 2,400 lbs. of medication was received by 1,000 people at Med Take-back Program.
 - 3 new paint stores were added to the Paint Take Back program since February. Battle Ground has added their first location. There are now a total of 9 stores participating now, plus three transfer stations.

- Next RSWSSC is on May 12.
- Kim attended SWANA (Solid Waste Association of North America) conference and toured a few transfer stations in the Seattle/Bellevue area. Very interesting how beautiful transfer stations can be.
- Green Schools – TREKS Challenge; 30 schools participated. Top winner was Hearthwood Elementary who collected 18,000 lbs. of film. Other top schools were Mill Plain Elementary, Lacamas Heights Elementary, and Our Lady of Lourdes.
- Green Neighbors – Repair Café coming up, Recycled Arts Festival will have Procession of the Species. The public will get engaged by making costumes from recycled, reused, and repurposed items. Workshops for costume making are scheduled. Natural Garden Tour is scheduled on July 23.
- AOR Spring Forum –Warren Neth
 - “Wasted Food” vs “Food Waste”
 - 2015 – 707,566 lbs. of food waste
 - About 17% of all garbage is food waste.
- City of Vancouver
 - Notification has improved regarding changes in garbage pick-up with the call blasts.
 - 21.5 to 24.9% increase in utility tax – helping to fund police program effective 4/01.
 - Yard Debris and Tire coupons have gone out to Vancouver citizens.
 - Van Mall North will be annexed into City – 8/01
- Waste Connections
 - Working with Tide Water regarding container aging and keeping up on volumes.
 - Volumes – on 1st Monday in May 360 tons in 2016, 520 tons on 1st Monday in May, 2017 - very large increase.
 - Working on commercial block foam collection program – County has a residential collection program. Waste Connections would like to expand to accepting commercially-generated block foam for recycling. Commercial recycling is an open market, and Waste Connections would charge businesses on a per yard basis.
 - Commercial plastic film collection.
 - Asbestos - Metro increased regulations which are driving some Portland businesses across the river to dispose in Clark County. Working with CRC staff and County to set clear guidelines.
 - Allocation Study – coming out in June. Analyzing contents in blue carts.

III Proposed tip fee increases – Chuck/Mike

- Last grant cycle - reduction 30%.
 - Already cut funding to Mobile Household Hazardous Waste for residents and seniors.
 - No staff member specific to Household Hazardous Waste.
- Areas facing additional grant funding reductions - potential 33% plus cuts for 2017-2019 cycle.
 - Solid Waste Enforcement
 - Site Hazard Assessment
 - Elevated Blood Level
 - Solid Waste Education and Outreach
 - Solid Waste Operations
- How do we mitigate reductions?
 - Increase tipping fees
 - How much does Clark County get per ton? Approx. \$87.17 (2016) which is one of the lowest in the state.
 - With a 33% reduction in grant funding there would be a \$200,000 gap.
 - With 33% grant cut tipping fee would effectively need to increase \$0.03 per month per household.
 - Max 100% cut would equate to \$0.09 per household increase.

- Shortfalls are currently subsidized by Solid Waste Fund (4014) with \$125,000 per year. 4014 revenue stream is flat or continues to decrease which affects staffing and other Solid Waste programs.
- Clark County would like to move forward on the tipping fee increase. Will be taken to RSWSSC and County Councilors.
- Last increase was in late 1990's (per trip fee of \$10) with exception of CDI fee.

Request made by SWAC to bring back to committee when Clark County is ready to propose the fee increase to board. SWAC will motion to support. No later than Jan 2018 for implementation.

IV Circle C Landfill update – Chuck Harman

- Public Comment period through March, and presented post closure criteria to Board of Health.
- Owners also voiced and put in writing some of their concerns they had over some of the restrictions i.e. parameters of sampling and extra wells.
- May need work session with Board of Health (BOCC) to discuss and come to an agreement of what parameters they will need to sample for and how many wells will need to be placed.

V Master Composter Recycler Program presentation – Pete DuBois

- Program was established in 1992. Clark County reassumed control of the program in April 2016.
- 10-week training for 30 people to become composter and recycling experts.
- MCR volunteers – out in community at the Home and Garden Idea Fair, Farmer's Market, Clark County Fair. Also in the schools teaching about worm bins, green cleaning, and various recycling education.

VI Green Business Program presentation – Sarah Keirns

- Business outreach program began as a pilot in 2011 and became a full program in 2012.
- Currently 80 certified businesses.
- Recognition and certification:
 - Educate staff – provide onsite assistance.
 - SWEO also partners with Clark County Public Works for pollution and stormwater control, Clark Public Utilities, and Waste Connections.
 - Cut cost and reduce waste.
 - Available to any and all businesses regardless of type or size.
 - All businesses are required to perform waste sort – different than most programs.

VII Public Comment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm - Next meeting August 3rd, 2017.