

**Clark County
Solid Waste Advisory Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday August 1, 2013**

Clark County Auto License Office
1408 Franklin Street
Vancouver, WA

SWAC Members Present: Lisa Schmidt, Don Ebbeson, Richard Baker, Allan Jeska, Rem Wilson, Stephen Smythe, Brandon Vick

SWAC Members Excused: Jack McClary, Jeanne Stewart

Staff Present: Anita Largent, Sabra Hall-Nelson, Pete DuBois

Others: Gary Bickett, CCPH; Rich McConaghy, COV; Josy Wright, WCI

I. Roll Call, Approval of Minutes

Don Ebbeson made a motion to approve the June 6, 2013 SWAC minutes as written. Allan Jeska seconded the motion. Motion passed. The minutes were approved as written.

Lisa Schmidt reminded everyone that one of the purposes of this commission is to make advisory recommendations to Clark County Board of Commissioners regarding solid waste issues.

I. Updates

County Public Health – Gary Bickett

- Quarterly reports were electronically sent to the SWAC members.
- Clark County Fair starts tomorrow, requiring Public Health to be actively working with the food vendors (very busy time).
- The grants are moving forward.

County Environmental Services – Anita Largent

Some highlights:

- Recycled Arts Festival:
 - 25,000 people attending the two day event, with 120 artists and 48 volunteers (total of 173 volunteer hours contributed to the event).
 - Sponsorships valued at \$21,000.
- New county yard waste collection contract started today, and the new Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) trucks are running. The hauling company has installed a portable fueling station; this is the first CNG fueling station in the county.
- Clark County Green Neighbors: August newsletter
- Clark County Fair: Starts tomorrow, some volunteer shifts are available. Volunteers will receive a free entrance pass, free parking pass and a Green Neighbor T-shirt.
- Coordinated Prevention Grant: we received notification from Ecology that we will be eligible to receive \$200,000.00 more than expected.

The Clark County Board of Commissioners is requesting that all advisory commissions post audio recordings of their meetings on the County website (along with their written minutes).

Question: Will there be a newspaper release announcing Waste Connections' new trucks?

Answer: One news release was sent out. We can reissue another news release once the wrap signs are completed on the trucks and at that time will note the reduced fees and fueling stations.

Question: What Chapter (in the plan) does this relate to?

Answer: Organic Wastes and Sustainability.

City of Vancouver – Rich McConaghy

The City has worked over the last few months with the Carton Council to obtain their support for a project that encourages and reminds local residents to put their food and beverage cartons into the curbside recycling carts. This material has been a target material in our program for roughly 20 years, however, our recovery rate is below what is expected for the amount of cartons that are sold in the community (use of this packaging material is gradually increasing nationwide) and we would like to see improved recovery. Magnets and post cards will be offered for residents at the Clark County Fair which starts tomorrow - Clark County Environmental Services to distribute them at their tables/booth. We'll be trying out a social media contest on the Clark Recycles Facebook page to learn if this helps increase awareness and buzz about this recyclable material.

Department of Ecology – Julie Robertson

Not present.

III. Update on Closure/Decommission of Boise Cascade Landfill –Status of Permit Conditions – Gary Bickett & Anita Largent

The project is still moving forward. All parties involved are working together. The attorneys are working on the language for the consent decree. Everything is still contingent on the shoreline and grading permits. Once the language on the consent decree is finalized the decommissioning of Rufener Landfill can move forward. They want to decommission the lagoon but will need to empty it. The discharge permit which was void a couple years ago requires a 6 month process to reapply. When additional information arises the SWAC members will be informed.

IV. 2012 County Sustainability Report – Pete DuBois

Pete DuBois highlighted the 2012 Sustainability Performance Report.

In October 2007, the BOCC adopted the Clark County Sustainability Policy, committing to foster a safe, secure future that conserves our natural resources and meets the basic human needs of safe food, shelter, clean water, clean air, education and employment.

This commitment to a sustainable future will be a key consideration in making public policy, developing public programs, operating public facilities, and delivering public services.

The Sustainability Policy goals include:

- Lead by example
- Encourage innovation in both public and private pursuits
- Promote and demonstrate efficient and effective use of renewable and consumable resources
- Collaborate with public and private partners on projects aimed at sustainability
- Continuously enhance our perspective and expertise in making sustainable choices on behalf of the citizens and communities of Clark County
- Identify and pursue new opportunities that promote sustainable practices

The report is available on the website.

V. Update on Rigid Plastics at Transfer Stations – Rich McConaghy Green Fence – what will be taken at the facilities and not taken at the facilities.

Lisa Schmidt introduced Josy Wright, who has worked with Waste Connections for the last six years managing their education program.

Rich McConaghy reported on Operation Green Fence and how it has affected collection of some plastic products. He gave a brief presentation of what can and can not go in the recycling cart:

- Paper: newspapers; magazine and catalogs; mail and office paper; paper bags; rinsed milk and juice cartons; and cardboard, including cereal and shoe boxes.
- Metal: clean metal cans and lids; clean foil pie plates and trays; empty aerosol cans; and other small metal items.
- Plastics: clean plastic bottles; yogurt, margarine and other clean tubs; and 5-gallon or less nursery pots and buckets.

Residents can also recycle the same plastics that go into the curbside cart at their local transfer station drop-off areas.

NOT ACCEPTED:

West Van Materials Recovery Center, Central Transfer and Recycling Center, and Washougal Transfer Station have now stopped accepting mixed rigid plastic (such as clam shells) and film plastic (plastic bags) as drop-off recyclable materials. These do not go in your blue cart, either! Film plastic can still be recycled at many grocery stores. All of these materials have never been taken in the blue cart.

At this time, Far West Fibers in Portland is accepting most of the rigid plastics that are no longer accepted at our local transfer stations. However the public will have to sort these materials at the drop-off area. Click on the link below to see Far West Fibers brochure regarding plastic, learn what materials are accepted and how they must be sorted at: <http://www.farwestfibers.com/materials>

Locations: 12820 NE Marx Street Portland, OR 97202
2005 N Rosa Parks Way Portland, OR 97217

Lisa Schmidt encouraged asking questions which would address economic development regarding this unused source of plastic. What was China doing with it? How were they doing it? Why did it become difficult? Take that research, that information, and challenge someone to solve that problem.

VI. Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Review of Revised Chapter 5 – Education and Outreach – Anita Largent

Anita Largent briefly reviewed the revised Chapter 5. Some of the highlights:

- Page 1: Regulations Governing Local Government lists the mandates and authorities - why we do education.
- Page 2: Highlights the 5-year goals for the plan and 2-year goals taken from the departments goals that are established along with the budget and department business plan. The Assessment of Conditions provides a brief background.
- Public Involvement and Outreach Plan: The Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How?
- Marketing: How we market, we generally identify residence, schools, and businesses. We can also group by the type of waste; by type of activities such as waste reduction, reuse, and recycle.
- Page 5: Table 5-2 highlights different types of media and Table 5-3 highlights the marketing tools utilized by our education programs and outreach activities.
- Pages 8-10: Highlight the three core programs developed for connecting with our primary customer groups (residential, businesses, and schools) and these help to shape and focus our outreach efforts through distinct “branding”.

- Recommendations were reviewed.

The Appendix referred to in the chapter addresses the Public Involvement and Outreach Plan. The Appendix is a sample outline.

Lisa Schmidt appreciated the improvement – a model that other jurisdictions can use. The chapter clearly establishes how to reference the goals.

VII. Other Business

Senator Brandon Vick gave a brief update on the legislature session, noting that it was long but enjoyable. A few bills made it through; E-cycling is always an important and it changes as technology changes. One thing that had been happening was manufacturers were not putting in their dollars because they were licensing their product to somebody else and were by-passing the requirements. So, a bill passed which clarified that – if you manufactured the product, you are paying into the recycling program based on your market share, and whatever the sticker price is it doesn't matter, the intent of the bill was preserved. The requirement to tarp loads did not pass. Senator Vick does not serve on committees that directly relate to solid waste. He serves on business and financial services, on the finance committee, the tax committee, technology and economic development.

In reference to the Sustainability Performance Report Allan Jeska noted that the product Casoron 4-G which is on the pesticides approved for purchase list can not be used in Arizona.

Allan Jeska reported that the Legacy Hospital Green Team is moving forward, working with the Clark County Green Business program.

VIII. Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda items

There were none.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm