

**Clark County Solid Waste Advisory Commission**  
**Regular Meeting**  
Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015

Clark County Elections Building  
1408 Franklin Street  
Vancouver, WA

**SWAC Members Present:** Allan Jeska, Don Ebbeson, Stephen Schrag, Simone Auger, Brandon Vick, and Steven Willis

**SWAC Members Excused:** Bill Turlay, Rem Wilson

**Staff Present:** Pete DuBois, Kim Harless

**Others:** Scott Campbell, Waste Connections; Rich McConaghy, City of Vancouver; Chuck Harman, County Public Health

**I. Roll Call, Approval of Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Don Ebbeson. Allan Jeska made a motion to approve the September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 minutes as written. Stephen Schrag seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**II. Updates**

**County Public Health – Chuck Harman**

- Public Health working towards becoming a fully accredited public health agency
- The Strategic Plan for Solid Waste is being updated
- Logic Model Draft: Short, mid-, and long term goals and outcomes
  - Stephen Schrag suggested including risk categories and outlining the metrics to measure the outcomes
- Updates:
  - 6% hit to Public Health from the CPG grant cut
  - Site Hazard Assessment program, a separate Ecology grant
    - Lower level of funding because of low gas prices
    - Grant application is being updated for lower amount
      - Funding only through June 2016, instead of June 2017
  - Rufner Landfill consent decree
    - Request to the county to release a 19 acre parcel
    - Don Ebbeson commented that the county and/or city should push for the consent decree to be satisfied before releasing the 19 acres
    - Don Ebbeson and Stephen Schrag asked Chuck to update SWAC, to research the progress of the consent decree and bring it back at the next meeting as an agenda item

**City of Vancouver – Rich McConaghy**

- Leaf disposal coupons are now out
- In the past, but not this year, the coupons were available at the disposal sites
- There was an article in the paper about the leaf coupons; very popular program

**Department of Ecology – Not present**

**Waste Connections – Scott Campbell**

Update will come next month; passed

## **County Environmental Services – Pete DuBois**

- Successful Medication Take-back event with the DEA program PREVENT
- Last Recycling Day Event is this Saturday in Battle Ground, October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9am to 1pm
  - Will wrap up 9 events of this year; 500 participants at the last event
  - Partnering with Arc for clothing and household goods donations at the event
- Characterization sort on October 17<sup>th</sup>, this is the last of three sorts
  - Sorting recycling for the Clean Cart Campaign as a tool to measure the lasting effectiveness of the cart tagging project from last Spring
- Budget has been adjusted primarily due to the CPG grant cut, and recycling revenues down
  - 1 million had to be cut from the two year budget offset by
  - Eliminating 650k capital budget for a turn lane that didn't get through planning
  - 200k reduction in staffing costs due to reorganization of the division
  - Remainder through reduction in professional services
- Discussions about the Yard Debris rate
  - Changes in the processing of the yard debris, from cubic yards to weight
  - Rates are being negotiated between the County and Waste Connections
- Since ecology has approved the plan, we are now in a stage of implementation
  - 1<sup>st</sup> implementation: Regional Solid Waste System Steering Committee (RSWSSC)
    - A meeting of Public Works Directors throughout the county
    - City of Vancouver interlocal agreement needs to be signed by 12/31/2016
    - The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting will be chaired by Don Benton, the DES director
    - Don Ebbeson requested that the date of the first meeting be shared with SWAC

## **III. Solid Waste and Environmental Outreach Reorganization – Pete DuBois**

- Three technicians, new positions for the department
  - Kim Harless in Operations, and Michelle Picinich & Zea Luce in Outreach
- Bernadette Donald is the new lead for the Green Schools program

## **IV. Solid Waste Management System Strategic Planning – Pete DuBois**

- A strategic planning meeting is scheduled for the Solid Waste and Environmental Outreach division, City of Vancouver Solid Waste staff and Waste Connections Educators
  - Will be from 12-4pm on October 14<sup>th</sup>, SWAC welcome to sit in
  - Going over the strategic plan for the division, outlining objectives and targets
  - Implementation of the Solid Waste Management Plan

## **V. Recycling Revenue Discussion**

- Contamination issues and collapse of markets leading to budget issues
- Possibility of a stabilization fund, or budget for continued loss of funds from recycling
- Scott Campbell said that there has been a downturn for years, an uptick is not foreseen
- Stephen Schrag suggested that the costs of recycling should be buried in the price of garbage
- Simone Auger mentioned that there needs to be more focus on product stewardship of packaging; companies are choosing these packaging options and we pay for it
- CRC processing expenses are higher than revenue; every ton recycled is at a loss
- Past 3-bin process was much cleaner than the blue cart, but we now have more material

## **VI. Other Business, Paint Take-back status – Stephen Schrag and Pete DuBois**

- SWAC decided it would not step in with additional funds for a private business
- Stericycle is now on the ball, due to the past meeting with PaintCare
- Pete DuBois will bring any updates to SWAC
- PaintCare will most likely be re-introduced in 2016 to the state legislature

## **VII. Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda items – None**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm.