



Benton County

Solid Waste Advisory Council

January 25, 2017 Minutes

Members Present: Linda Brewer (Vice-Chair), Jeff Morrell, Jay Simpkins (Chair), Larry Sleeman, Lynne Neville, Chuck Kratch & Jeff Freeman

Members Excused: Jim Leklem

Guests Present: Julie Jackson, Ian Macnab, Shawn Edmonds, Brett Davis & Aaron Vince (Republic Services, Inc.), Scott Lesko, Sally Gallagher, Jeanette Hardison & Joan Seaman (Benton County residents)

Staff Present: Gordon Brown & Bill Emminger

I. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Simpkins

Citizen Comments - Several residents voiced their concerns that they were not given a choice and were forced to accept the new recycling services and fee increases. New customers also voiced their concerns that they were being charged for services they do not need and will not use, ie: customers do not want yard waste bins when they live on large rural properties.

Recommendations from residents included: completing a system needs survey before a service or fee change is made in the future; performing a cost assessment and communicating increased costs to customers and sharing any new proposal options.

Republic Services staff agreed to send additional communications to residents that are not aware they do have choices if they do not want the new recycling services. 4,700 residents are served by Republic Services in Benton County, 1,700 of these homes now have recycling that previously did not.

II. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

MOTION was made to nominate and elect Linda Brewer as Chair; motion seconded, all in favor, so approved.

MOTION was made to nominate and elect Jeff Freeman as Vice-Chair; motion seconded, all in favor, so approved.

III. Approval of Minutes - The October 2016 minutes were presented for approval.

MOTION was made to approve the October 2016 minutes as written; motion seconded; all in favor, so approved. No SWAC meetings were held in November or December of 2016.

IV. Republic Services Rate Increase Discussion - see citizen comments above.

V. Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) Update - Julie Jackson & Aaron Vince, Republic Services, Inc. (RSI)

- Jackson reviewed the revised proposed drawings of the new facility and noted that the facility is now going to be larger because of committee feedback and concerns that the original drawings of the facility were not big enough for future expansion needs.
- The mercantile space is currently undefined space that may house future non-profits to help repurpose materials.

- The public area, truck routes and operating hours were discussed. They were concerns that noise from the new MRF and extended work hours will devalue homes that are currently near the proposed site.
- All recycling opportunities currently taking place in the public tipping area will be moved at a future date to the new MRF.

When will this be built and how will it be funded? Ideas included: using money from the landfill trust fund, recalculating current rate structures; all options are still being discussed no decisions have yet been made. Committee members raised concerns regarding the use of the trust fund as this was not the fund's intended purpose.

Given concerns nearby residents may have are there any other site options? Not currently, other areas include leachate runoff, ponds, or wetlands.

Where would the committee like RSI to go from here?

- The footprint of both facility options presented will be the same. RSI will error on the side of safety. The committee suggested that both options be presented to other MRF owners that are experts in the industry before any choices are made.
- The facility looks good, but now committee members are questioning the proposed site.
- To discuss other options for road entrances and exits into and out of the MRF.

Would a consultant be able to tell the noise level based on facility location? RSI can certainly discuss this with their consultant. Further discussion included proposal for outdoor lighting and placement of facility doors to reduce noise near existing homes.

How many trucks will be entering the facility each day? Approximately 25 trucks currently run through the Source Recycling Center in Albany each day.

- Committee members want to be prepared and have answers for the county commissioners and be able to share how the facility is going to do help Benton County.

Is there a rough cost of the facility yet? Not yet, the consultant has not been asked to deliver figures yet. Costs need to be known first before any decisions can be made on how the facility will be funded.

VI. Upcoming Schedule

Next meeting: February 22, 2017 - Sunset Meeting Rm. of the Sunset Building.

VII. Adjourn

MOTION was made to adjourn; motion seconded; all in favor, so approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m. by Chair Simpkins.



Benton County Solid Waste Advisory Council

June 28, 2017 Approved Minutes

Members Present: Linda Brewer (Chair), Jeff Morrell, Jay Simpkins, Jim Leklem, Lynne Neville & Jeff Freeman (Vice-Chair)
Members Excused: Larry Sleeman & Chuck Kratch
Guests Present: Julie Jackson, Jenifer Stuber, Ian Macnab, (Republic Services, Inc.), Eric Tuppan, Tuppan Consulting, Inc., Jeanette Hardison (Corvallis Sustainability Committee) & John Deuel (Oregon State University Campus Recycling)
Staff Present: Gordon Brown, Bill Emminger, Loren Emang, Xan Augerot, Lili'a Neville & JonnaVe Stokes (recorder)

I. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. by Chair Brewer.

II. **Citizen Comments** - no comments were reported.

III. **Approval of Minutes** - The April 2017 minutes were presented for approval.

MOTION was made to approve the April 2017 minutes as presented; motion seconded; all in favor, so approved.

IV. **2016 Coffin Butte Landfill Annual** - *Jennifer Stuber & Ian Macnab, Republic Services, Inc. (RSI)*

Handout: Coffin Butte Landfill & Pacific Region Compost Annual Report 2016

Landfill capacity:

- The landfill is permitted for 39.2 million cubic yards of air space. In 2016, the landfill collected 556,000 tons of solid waste. The remaining capacity for the entire landfill footprint at the end of 2016 is approximately 22.4 million cubic yards which equals 35.93 years of landfill space available.

Future landfill infrastructure development:

- RSI has started the liner phase of the next portion of Cell Vb. about a month ago; this is an 11 acre cell.
- This week RSI is working on landfill gas infrastructure expansion; so far 7 vertical wells and 9 horizontal wells have been placed in the landfill.
- Last fall trees and shrubs were planted along the entrance of the landfill which added a buffer vegetative screen.
- Leachate management - RSI will be deploying 4 more acres of Ethylene Propylene Diene Monomer (EPDM) to help shed stormwater. This work continues from 2011.

Eric Tuppan, Tuppan Consultants, LLC

PowerPoint: Environmental Monitoring Report

Both groundwater contour maps are from April and October of 2016, pages 1-2.

When monitoring wells the critical piece is how fast water flows because it directly correlates with how fast water migrates across the landfill.

Three areas of monitoring:

1. RSI is tracking water quality flow from Cell I. by monitoring wells (MW) 12s (S=shallow) and 12d (D=deep), pages 1-4. Both wells contain a higher amount of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) than testers would like to see; both are below allowable concentration limits.

MW12 concentrations of Perchloroethylene (PCE) (which turns into Tetrachloroethylene (TCE)) is measured in micrograms/liter (mg/L) which can also be expressed in parts per billion (ppb):

- In 1990, MW12s and MW12d had higher concentrations 10-20 ppb; these wells are currently below the goal of 2-3mg/L.
- TCE has never raised above the concentration limit, it has only been detected in MW12s not MW12d. These two wells are 300-400 feet apart.

2. Review of compliance wells MW26 and MW27, pages 5-13:

Table 4-3 contains information from the east side compliance wells MW26 and MW27. The table contains site specific limits (SSLs) through April of 2016; limits are all below indicator parameters. *MW23 is a detection well; MW24 and MW25 are background wells.

Time series concentration plot data:

MW26

- < SSL of 175 mg/L bicarbonate
- < the SSL of 6.1 mg/L chloride
- < the SSL of 246mg/L TDS

**Total dissolved solids (TDS), if limits increase this is bad if they decrease it is a good indicator. These solids measure the five major metals that are indicator parameters for groundwater.*

- < the SSL of 32,000 mg/L calcium
No iron detected
- < SSL of 9,800 mg/L magnesium
- < SSL of 740 mg/L manganese
- < SSL of 29,000 mg/L sodium

MW27

- < the SSL of 483 mg/L bicarbonate
no chloride has been detected
- < the SSL of 498 mg/L TDS
- < the SSL of 98,000 mg/L calcium
- < the SSL of 19,000 mg/L iron
- < the SSL of 44,000 mg/L magnesium
= to or < than the SSL of 8,100 mg/L manganese
- < the SSL of 46,000 mg/L sodium

When leachate is added to groundwater parameters also increase. Testers also look for VOCs that are manmade. Wells are monitored and watched, while concentrations are measured to detect if leakages are occurring. These concentrations are also used to calculate how fast the groundwater is flowing.

There are higher concentrations of manganese and magnesium in MW27 occur naturally, due to sediment concentrations (organic rich clay from an old marsh) versus the sandy silt and aluminum concentrations in MW26. Both wells also have higher levels of arsenic (from volcanic sediments), arsenic binds to iron hydroxide and when coupled with low oxygen it causes arsenic to turn into a solute.

***Consultants to add indicator parameter charts to the annual report for committee member review.**

3. Review of MW10 that flows into MW19, where there has been a slight increase in concentrations, pages 14-20:

MW11-MW19

- Concentrations (Dichloroethane (1-1 DCA), PCE & TCE) have risen slightly in MW19 and low level VOCs have been detected.
- Groundwater velocity can be measured using aquifer parameters measured in feet per year (Velocity = hydraulic conductivity x gradient/effective porosity). For example, Calcium levels began to increase in 1996 at MW11s which took 10 years to reach MW19. Groundwater velocity in feet per year= 450 feet/10 years = 45 feet per year.
- All this data is used to predict where the water is flowing or how long it takes to get to another point, ie downstream domestic wells. The Department of Environmental Quality also requires concentrations to be tracked.
- Other end products like vinyl chloride have not been detected at the landfill for over 10 years.
- Common lab contaminants are not retested.
- VOCs are currently below 5 ppb and are not at risk of leaving landfill property.

***The committee requested a historical lookback period of the concentration volumes; these will be sent out by health department staff.**

MOTION was made to accept the 2016 Coffin Butte Landfill Report as submitted; motion seconded, all in favor, so approved.

V. **DEQ Materials Management Grant Proposal** - *John Deuel, Campus Recycling & Linda Brewer, Oregon State University (OSU)*

Deuel and Brewer have been collaborating on the issue of polystyrene (Styrofoam) collection on campus. They are looking for other options for packaging and procurement without the use of polystyrene. Both would like to utilize the grant to better understand the flow of polystyrene on campus and where it goes after it leaves.

Polystyrene volume needs to be quantified on campus before central administration leverages buying power with suppliers. Brewer and Deuel are looking to perform a waste analysis at three buildings in two different colleges at the university. They are still awaiting administrative approval and looking into sharing funding options.

OSU Move Out Report - *John Deuel, Campus Recycling, OSU*

PowerPoint: Waste Diversion at the 2017 Campus Move Out

- The goal of the university is to engage and encourage the resident hall student population to recycle materials.
- Seventeen resident halls and 4,380 student residents participated in the event.
- Outreach to students is concentrated during the last 5 days of Spring term. Marketing materials are distributed all over campus to prepare, prepare, prepare for the recycling event.

- Three elements of the event include the donation drive, modification of recycling collection, and trash and garbage containment. Materials are directed to be recycled or reused.
- Four trucks were used by university staff, student employees and volunteers from the community to collect, sort, package and prepare materials for non-profits.
- The sorting operation was moved off campus from 13th street to the county fairgrounds. All items are weighed and put in 4' x 4' boxes used to store each commodities before non-profits come to pick them up.
- Loft kits (some dorms do not provide beds) are broken down into wood and donated.
- Trash containment management (to dumpsters do not overflow) included extensive monitoring of dumpsters, the use of barricades and help from republic services staff.
- New sorting location; OSU staff will continue to use Guerber Hall at the county fairgrounds.
- Four thousand dollars of materials were sold that helped cover some costs (supplies and materials cost \$1,500; student labor cost \$4,600 and OSU staff contributed 300 hours = \$6,000 total costs.)
- Twenty four non-profits participated in the event this year and 35,000 pounds were reused or recycled.
- The greatest surprise of the event was how long the students waited to get their recyclables turned in. By Thursday midday only 40% of the student population had moved out. All students are required to be out by 5:00 p.m. Friday night.
- Penalties are applied to students that leave materials behind. The university is working on changing resident hall behaviors through outreach and education. Staff would like to create expectations for waste during the first 3 weeks of school.

The Corvallis Sustainability Coalition is working on food waste prevention action. Twenty five percent of the water in the United States is used to make the food that is wasted in schools. The coalition is looking for partners that would like to support this cause. Currently cities in Benton County (BC) do not have to add food waste prevention programs through the new DEQ requirements. The City of Corvallis also has their own franchise.

VI. 2017 Eclipse Planning Update - *Lili'a Neville, Public Information Officer, Board of Commissioners & Loren Emang, Public Health Preparedness Planner, Benton County Environmental Health & Julie Jackson, RSI*

- RSI plans not to run trucks on August 21, 2017 due to potential traffic issues, but plans to work Tuesday through Saturday that week. Residential services may increase slightly due to guests, but commercial operations are a cause for concern because of the large inflow of people using campsites, hotels, restaurants, bars, etc.
- RSI does not have enough containers at this time to give 2-3 more out to businesses or residents. Letters have been sent to commercial waste customers.
- RSI will request to run routes in the evening; they are also requesting drivers from other parts of the country due to Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) driver hour requirements. ***Health department staff to check the Franchise Agreements with the Board of Commissioners regarding RSI hours of operation.**
- RSI is expecting this event to be a challenge and are preparing for recycling to be limited.

- *What about the eclipse glasses?* If lenses are removed the plastic rims of the glasses should be recyclable.
- ODOT is expecting the local area to potentially be a parking lot. There is currently a 60% chance of clouds on the coast that day, so some of this population could migrate towards the valley.
- The Philomath fairgrounds manager reported 1 campsite had been reserved out of the 1,000 sites they have opened for the eclipse viewing.
- Community partners are preparing more for the build-up of the event the weekend leading up to and after the event.
- Dallas City Parks has rented out all camping sites. Linn County is also planning to offer camp sites. Samaritan is preparing only for emergent services.
- OSU is coordinating hosted events during the weekend for resident hall campers. Fields will be opened open for viewing; the university is expecting 1,800 campers for this event. Tailgating parking lots may also have some campers.
- Benton County is preparing a handout of non-emergent frequently asked questions for recreational vehicles that need dump site services. The City of Corvallis wastewater treatment plant will not be open to the public for dumping.

VII. Old Peak Road Property Clean up - Gordon Brown, Environmental Health Specialist, Benton County Environmental Health

- BC is involved in a court order cleanup at a property on Old Peak Road; community development code enforcement has taken the lead.
- Seventy five tons of material have been removed.
- This resident was allowed to mark certain items to be saved, but the site has been completely cleaned up with all items removed. No ground contamination was detected on site; the sewage system may need to be addressed in the future.
- Little recycling occurred but some metals were salvaged.

VIII. Materials Recovery Facility Discussion & Update

- RSI received numbers from consultants that are not feasible at \$24 million. Site infrastructure has made this option too expensive. At a minimum the pipeline for water delivery, cut and fill required to prepare the site and the pavement required will cost around \$5 million.
- *Is RSI looking at other sites that may be more feasible or with existing infrastructure already in place?* Yes, staff are looking.
- For now RSI plans to go back to the drawing board and really look at what they want to offer. The company has made commitments to Habitat for Humanity and want to make programs available for them. Partnerships between the two already occur in Memphis and Denver.

IX. Upcoming Schedule - Next meeting August 16, 2017, potentially to meet at the Coffin Butte Landfill Office location.

X. Adjourn - MOTION was made to adjourn; motion seconded; all in favor, so approved. Meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m. by Chair Brewer.



Benton County

Solid Waste Advisory Council

September 27, 2017 Approved Minutes

Members Present: Linda Brewer (Chair, City of Corvallis), Jeff Morrell & Jay Simpkins (Benton County unincorporated area), Chuck Kratch (City of Albany), Jeff Freeman (Vice-Chair, City of Corvallis), Larry Sleeman (City of Philomath).

Members Excused: Jim Leklem, Lynne Neville

Guests Present: Julie Jackson & Shawn Edmonds (Republic Services, Inc.), John Deuel (Oregon State University Campus Recycling), Xan Augerot (Board of Commissioners), Pam Vaughan (City of Corvallis),

Staff Present: Gordon Brown, Bill Emminger, Vance Croney (County Attorney) & Paula Felipe (recorder)

- I. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 6:55 p.m. by Chair Brewer.
- II. **Citizen Comments** – John Deuel commented: “I love living in this County and this City.”
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - The June 28, 2017 SWAC minutes were presented for approval. **MOTION was made to approve the June 28, 2017 minutes as presented; motion seconded; all in favor, so approved.**
- IV. **Republic Services Customer Service Center Update-** *Julie Jackson & Shawn Edmonds, Republic Services, Inc. (RSI)*
 - There are glitches in the Call Service Centers, which started the end of July and early August in Charlotte, NC, and Indianapolis, and Phoenix, AZ. There are 45 employees in Phoenix, who are trained in the VIP Pod, which handles calls from Oregon customers.
 - Oregon does things differently than most other states, such as more recycling and more options for trash (yard debris and seasonal services). Most of the Country have a trash cart and pick up once or twice a week and do not have many options.
 - Bright, articulate employees in the Call Center have made mistakes with Oregon callers. It takes about six months to train customer service reps, so RSI is asking people to be patient while they look at root cause analysis on a case by case basis. RSI understands they are not up to service level yet.
 - RSI is working diligently to train people and looking for trends: one is delivering carts. Now routing all Oregon calls to the VIP Pod in Phoenix, AZ, but with cell phones it’s not perfect. RSI is having challenges getting the service commitment met. Another trend is operation notes sent to dispatcher, who might get 100 messages a day or another employee who gets 300 emails a day; so it’s a painful process, but RSI is determined to make it right.
 - Some RSI employees transitioned from billing to call center. A silver lining: The phones are answered in less than 20 seconds; the service calls are offered 12 hours during the day; and multiple languages offered, such as Asian dialects, French, and Spanish. Also, six months ago if two people called in sick we were hurting; now we have enough employees to cover the shifts.

- We want to keep hearing from you. We are figuring out the trends on what they don't understand.

V. Oregon State University Contract for Solid Waste Services—John Deuel

- OSU has a good relationship with Republic and highly effective operation. In a couple years, the 10-year contract with RSI will end. It began in 2009 so will be over at end of June 2019.
- OSU has to conform with decisions of city and county. City makes a franchise decision. OSU is looking at options. University is tight on funding and looking at ways to improve. The cost of contract has gone up each year about 10 percent: It started at 2009 at \$210,000 for contract services for the overall campus, including the dumpster collection, hauls, recycling services at all buildings and residence halls. It doesn't include additional services, such as special roll-off collections. Base rate is now over \$300,000 a year. In a couple years, it's predicted to be over \$320,000.
- City (Pam): About five years ago, we looked at actual cost of service at OSU, they were paying \$21,000/month and franchise rate \$65,000/month (we were under on that contract). You are at half or less at what the actual cost of service within the Franchise is. With inflation and increases at the City, you're getting a little closer, she said.
- OSU: Further analysis is needed. Want to continue to reduce the waste on campus. We have an aggressive program but need for improvement and ongoing strategic planning for recycling, waste, compost, organics, procurement aspect on reduction; and purchasing resulting in recycling. Our use program is very good, and OSU probably has one of best in the Country--not many have as aggressive an approach to managing materials going out the door that have use potential.
- Audit on recycling: What is composition of what is not being recycled in the trash? In next couple of months, we will utilize a professor and her class to conduct the audit and do an analysis. Chair Brewer: John and I actively working with faculty to try to make things better on campus. It's great to incentivize composting instead of throwing it away.
- In Portland, people with large garbage cans pay more per gallon; so incentives to use smaller garbage cans.
- Future trends: Recycling meetings on what happens if China cuts off all mixed paper starting January 1. China is trying to clean up their own environment and might not continue to take waste from other Countries. Discussion on the capacity and storage of landfills and what happens once recycling sits out for six months, the paper gets degraded and it's landfill material. RSI has specialist in recycling talking with Chinese government. It's scary time when DEQ says recycling may have to be landfilled.
- OSU Plastic cups and paper cups on campus are difficult to work with due to plastic lining—cannot go with PET. Eco-to-Go is impressive program on campus: Instead of clam shell containers, they are given Orange re-usable containers that are returned and washed with industrial cleaner. There is so much on-the-go eating on campus; in cafes; and take-out at the dining center. Eco-to-Go was piloted a few years ago and it's working. We lose a small percentage of the containers each year; but it's the most amazing program.
- OSU has 10 compactors on campus and pay \$40,000 to contractor to maintain. Helps with reduction, so instead of 10 percent increase; they are seeing an 8 percent increase. Compactors can also can hide some diversion.

- Talked about Move-Out program at last meeting, and OSU just finished Move-In. Diverted about 8 cubic yards of expanded polystyrene (EPS) from moving-in material and 79 percent recycling rate in that effort. Most is recyclable and separated cardboard still has a decent market.

VI. Benton County Solid Waste Management Planning. *Chair Linda Brewer shared list Gordon Brown had submitted via email to the committee on future concerns and discussion followed:*

- Franchise Renewal for Coffin Butte Landfill. Current Franchise expires December 31, 2020. Start planning on what next franchise agreement will look like. Another 20-year franchise agreement will take us to 2040.
- The franchise agreement for waste hauling expires less than a year later, September 20, 2021. This is a 10-year franchise agreement.
- Possible closure or waste restrictions at Riverbend Landfill in Yamhill County that will very likely divert more waste to Coffin Butte Landfill. This is a real possibility over the course of the next 10 or 20 years.
- Portland Metro may be able to divert waste to Coffin Butte Landfill. Metro is now diverting about 24,000 additional tons per month to Coffin Butte. Transporting waste through the Columbia Gorge in winter can be challenging.
- Recent forecast by Portland State University indicates that the region's population growth will continue. Impacts to Coffin Butte landfill will have regional implications. Perhaps Benton County should consider some regional discussions.
- The recovery rate for Benton County Wasteshed has been stagnant for several years and has failed to meet state recovery goals. We should be considering options for meeting our goals. MRF or otherwise.
- Gordon plans to retire sometime in 2019 and County will need to consider how to best fill this position with the challenges that lie ahead.
- Question: What is this advisory committee's role in franchise agreement? Chair Brewer: Find facts, discuss possibilities, and give recommendations to Commissioners. County Counsel said SWAC can help us generate a list of issues to consider and how to prioritize list. First step of SWAC participation in franchise renewal process: We did this 18 years ago when it was primarily Gordon Brown and Bob Wilson who had history with the landfill and provided items we needed to think about. Now we have a fully informed SWAC we expect to draw on your committee for ideas.
- Discussion on history of landfill and franchise agreement. County Counsel suggests we come back in January with agenda items with your thoughts and ideas to move forward.
- Area of landfill: we have a buffer zone and 240 acres permitted to accept waste; 740 acres total.
- Could have smaller groups, subcommittees to advance goals or ideas or gather data about topics. This is not a decision-making body so members can talk about ideas. What are other entities with landfills looking for? Council of governments; Association of Counties, reach out to others working on landfills and gather data.
- Future conversations and brainstorming sessions to provide input; bring in people with expertise in landfill operations.
- Take current Franchise and look at what we like and what we want to change—list to work from. Keep group small.

- Landscape is changing from 20 years ago. Open up to solid waste background; dozens of good candidates; something County needs to take a look at.
- Develop action plan: recovery rate for Benton County 1994 is 35.56 percent. In 2015 it was 35.2. Recycling less now. This is a sustainable minded community--we need to get on board. Whose job to pressure manufacture not to use so much packaging?
- Local interviews, radio, Media, this should be more broadly known. City what were we doing better in the past?
- Gordon could distribute Franchise agreement; what others look like; lay out broader wish list; what possibilities are, keep moving through the phases.
- Meet at landfill next month; RSI to host SWAC or open house followed by SWAC meeting. Could be raining: RSI has a van or bus and could put up tent. There are office facilities there.
- Date for next meeting: Looking at Wed, Oct 25 meet at Landfill. RSI will run it by Jen.
- PRC receiving national award in composting. Could give PRC tours as well.
- Oct 18 "Talking Trash" with Environmental Council; "don't call it a dump; trash to treasures; Linda talk about SWAC; at the library. More info on County website about this event.
- Commissioners Appreciation Dinner; humorous enjoyable presentation. Thanks for your efforts and comments
- Bill Emminger: President of Oregon Environmental Health Association. They are having a conference reaching out to solid waste area and looking for great speakers and presentations. Send them my way, Bill said.

VII. Adjourn - MOTION was made to adjourn; motion seconded; all in favor, so approved. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. by Chair Brewer.



Benton County

Solid Waste Advisory Council

October 25, 2017 Approved Minutes

Members Present: Linda Brewer (Chair, City of Corvallis), Jay Simpkins (Benton County unincorporated area), Jeff Freeman (Vice-Chair, City of Corvallis), Larry Sleeman (City of Philomath), Jim Leklem, Lynne Neville, Jeff Morrell.

Members Excused: Chuck Kratch

Guests Present: Julie Jackson (Republic Services, Inc.), Ian Macnab, Rae Delay

Staff Present: Xan Augerot, Gordon Brown, Bill Emminger, Loren Emang, & Paula Felipe (recorder)

- I. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Chair Brewer.

- II. **Citizen Comments – (Rae Delay of OSU)** “We are making progress with the recycling manager and outreach engagement efforts. We are trying to educate 24,000 students on the impact of landfill/environment as OSU are producers of waste.” OSU and Republic Services are partnering to sponsor a class “Become a Master Recycler in 2018!” which is a once-a-week, 8-week class exploring landfill science, waste reduction, reuse opportunities, recycling, composting, hazardous waste, community sustainability and taking action. Free to residents of Linn and Benton County who agree to pay back what they learned through 30 hours of volunteer service after the course. Dates: Tuesdays (Jan 9 – Feb 27; 6:15 pm – 9:00 pm). Includes field trips. Registration required. See: <http://tiny.cc/recycclass>

- III. **Approval of Minutes - The September 27 SWAC minutes were presented for approval. MOTION was made to approve September minutes as presented; motion seconded; all in favor, so approved.** The DSAC Minutes will be held until the next meeting.

- IV. **2017 Republic Services Annual Report-** *Julie Jackson, Republic Services, Inc. (RSI)*
The Benton County Board of Commissioners has seen this report and accepted it. Copies have been made and distributed. Other highlights in the report include:
 - Fewer people today with garbage carts. Saw a decrease in the 90 gallons (from 844 customers in 2015 down to 723 in 2016). Some customers have traded in for a smaller size cart or changed to monthly instead of weekly service.
 - Residential recycling customers (81 percent) with 4,165 recycling in 2016.
 - Residential mixed organics customers (65 percent) with 3,322 recycling in 2016.
 - Total number of Residential carts have decreased.
 - Household hazardous waste collection increased (from 74.80 tons to 95.68 tons). This is just a snapshot of what RSI takes in, such as car batteries at the Depot.
 - Continue work on improving customer service issues with the Call Center. Julie is seeing improvement and it takes about 6 months to training service reps.

- Corvallis wants us to include concrete, and DQ doesn't consider it recycled material. DQ looking at materials management; including weight with an eye toward best way to quantify waste reduction and re-use.
- OSU calculating re-use. Not an easy task. Things like Good Will thrift stores doesn't count for recycling rates. Donate and re-use is recovery rate and important to see how much is reused. Recovery rate based on amount of materials (quantity vs amount in landfill).

V. Recycling Markets in China – Gordon Brown Plans to attend the Nov 15 meeting of Association of Oregon Recyclers. Concern about possibility to landfill recyclables. Julie has info from the Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association (ORRA), and if certain preconditions are met with markets and prices, then RSI will collect everything.

- Mixed paper is an issue, and China needs that paper because they make boxes for Apple, Nike, and other corporations. Need to take out contaminants out of the paper and have it clean and dry. Wet paper is a problem, and water bottles with paper when compacted contaminate the paper.
- Understandable China doesn't want to continue to collect other nation's trash that contaminates the air.
- We are working on a story for the next newsletter on the master recycling class. We need as much education as possible.
- Gordon and Julie will share info with committee on recycling.
- How does recycling relate to people in the news and put in economic terms people can understand.
- New population at OSU every year. Trying to get it across to students engaged in clubs and get professors engaged too.
- Report of a break-in at OSU where bottles and cans were stolen. Securing the building for sorting and installed security cameras.

VI. Coffin Butte Landfill Franchise Agreement – Gordon Brown

Gordon sent documents out to committee. Franchise up for renewal December 31, 2020 when it will expire. Remember we don't set the rates. At one time we did set the rates and could be a jump in the rates. Some items to consider:

- PRC has changed as well and would there be a separate Franchise for PRC or one encompassing to include it?
- If the next franchise lasts up to 2040, remember the landfill has 36-38 years of capacity which means that 20 years from now what is the next move going to be?
- The Portland-Salem Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) is being discontinued. The CPI-U is used to calculate annual adjustments to the franchise fee as well as the refuse rate index. Other indexes can be used such as Garbage and Trash and Water Index.
- Strategic to change length of agreement to 15 years? Why 20 years?
- For additional capacity be creative at what we're looking at: Will old cell be relocated?
- A lot to consider in renegotiation. RSI we will have more ability to put solar panels in a couple years; investment pieces; liability insurance to look at; waste generating fees? What would public pay? Discuss load tipping fees doesn't include recycling, to name a few.

- Gordon doesn't see a huge value in the \$25,000 baseline study and he does not recommend it again. We did a lot of work ourselves. Look at liability insurance \$20 million if that still applies.
- Xan said County has retained an attorney specialist in this field to help structure the process. Xan is point person at BOC and she said two aspects in process: Look at business aspect what do we want to be doing and what is best for residents of Benton County.
- Next steps: Hear back from the Counsel on consultant.
- Committee should study the trust fund agreement. As an advisory committee, our opinions matter, but the Board is not obliged to follow them.
- Questions to pose a consultant: resources and investments might be allocated to extend the life of landfill beyond the 36 years if we want to extend it. Are we better having it here; or going someplace else? What are the environmental liability: waste water moving leachate water into the river. Look at all the options, including shipping waste to other areas. Columbia Gorge routes are sometimes closed due to weather and fire activities. With the aftermath of the wildfires fires there is now potential for landslides. Where are we 30 years from now?
- Xan reminded committee members the Bylaws provide for serving two terms, and we have four members who will need rotation by Dec 31, 2017. Need to promote and recruit new members.

VII. Upcoming Schedule. We have one more DSAC Meeting. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 29, 2017 from 6 pm to 8 pm.

VIII. Adjourn - MOTION was made to adjourn; motion seconded; all in favor, so approved.
Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. by Chair Brewer.



Benton County

Solid Waste Advisory Council

November 29, 2017 Approved Minutes (7 pm – 8:30 pm)

Members Present: Linda Brewer (Chair, City of Corvallis), Jay Simpkins (Benton County unincorporated area), Jeff Freeman (Vice-Chair, City of Corvallis), Larry Sleeman (City of Philomath), Jim Leklem, Chuck Kratch, Lynne Neville, Jeff Morrell.

Members Excused:

Guests Present: Julie Jackson (Republic Services, Inc.), John Deuel (Oregon State University)

Staff Present: Xan Augerot, Gordon Brown, Bill Emminger, Paula Felipe (recorder)

I. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Chair Brewer.

II. **Citizen Comments – None.**

III. **Approval of Minutes - The October 2017 SWAC minutes were presented for approval. MOTION was made to approve September minutes as amended with two corrections; motion seconded; all in favor, so approved. Two minor corrections are: If the next franchise “lasts” instead of “last.” Add the word “will” into the sentence “we will have...”**

IV. **Recycling Markets in China: Update – Gordon Brown and Linda Brewer** Attended the Nov 15 meeting of Association of Oregon Recyclers Fall forum, which addressed the National Sword concern about the possibility of having to landfill recyclables. Discussion followed after Linda handed out highlights from the forum. Julie: “we can still send materials for recycling and we’re going to weather it, but for now no changes at the curb until we know how it settles out.” Julie said Republic’s recycling VP went to China and that Oregon is unique. Republic sells materials in a lot of places. The plastic industry claims they are highly motivated and that there’s a great market for it; but the truth is somewhere in the middle. Linda: A forum speaker remarked that the Southeast US used to be involved in textiles is now called little China by the recyclers industry because of volumes of material they process. Carpet was mentioned. Julie: generally PET is used for that in Oregon; but not necessarily 3 through 7 products. Chuck Kratch: Looking at India? Less stringent? China is not the only one receiving garbage, but biggest. Vietnam might pick up some of it. It’s a social issue too. Still some confusion in China: one way to evaluate a load is called “the sniff test” for percentage of contaminants, so not firm grip on process. Julie: It’s evolving. They changed their threshold from 1 percent to 3 percent for mixed paper. We are meeting 1.5 percent now, so more attainable. Freeman: new laser optical technology to achieve high level of compliance in Portland area? Denton plastic in Portland looking into funding. Pioneer recycling in Oregon is able to market their materials and priced better in November than October. It is encouraging but we will see what happens in December. China’s economy based on manufacturing, so they need the material and want to figure out a way to clean up their environment. Julie: Probably after first quarter of new year, we will have a better, new understanding. DEQ has been clear about what they will not take, such as milk cartons and plastic flower pots. Republic won’t make any new announcements now. The rule of thumb if unsure put in trash. Mixed plastic/paper containers are source of contamination, so throw it in the trash for now.

V. Review of SWAC By-Laws and Term Limits Discussion highlights follow:

- Jeff Morrell said no mention of limits in bylaws; Xan explained she thought all advisory committees had term limits; but learned a handful do not have limits. Should be tailored to individual advisory committees. SWAC's term is 3 years.
- Linda said there's value in specialized knowledge and experience and hard to lose all four at once, so there is value in staggering the rotations.
- Xan suggested amending the by-laws to include term limits.
- Jim Leklem submitted resignation and announced this will be his last meeting.
- One person interested in SWAC to volunteer.
- Jim: Grew into this position, learned how important it is. Hope people are willing to step up.
- Review list of dates of appointments and expiration dates.
- Larry's first term was not a complete term.
- 10 positions, so if 2 or 3 expire each year we can minimize the loss of expertise.
- Some committees are 2 year limit; due to our expertise, do we want to continue with 3 year terms?
- Bill: If term limits for positions; want to re-word Bylaws to allow for ex officio members to stay on if they want to make their expertise available to new members? Anyone can attend the meeting—it is open.
- Xan: amend the bylaws to describe term limits you choose and make a plan of rotation.
- Linda: I will communicate individually and work out schedule for people to rotate off. Morrell: how about six of us put names in a basket and draw straws, rotate out 3 now and 3 next year.
- Monroe; Adair, Philomath are not in same Rotation year. Discussion on how many positions do we need and do they need to come from those areas? Does SWAC require a geographic component and distribution?
- BOC has authority over positions, but better to have advisory committee develop a process instead of using BOC discretion.
- Gordon will look at State Requirements for the positions, including the geographic requirements.
- Two open positions advertised now for citizens at large.
- Jim first joined after being appointed by the Mayor; He represented the city. It's important to have history; I was dealing with areas outside city of Corvallis. Landfill still part of Benton County. Most important now what we can recycle or can't, which affects people in the county.
- Student position on Advisory committee?
- We will move forward with current slate for now.
- Linda: at next meeting, be prepared to talk about rotating out; how many terms; plans for succession; how long the terms are; the State requirements; and possibility of student position.
- Linda will resend list of positions and dates of appointment.
- Email any action items to Linda.

VI. SWAC / DSAC Orientation Plan Essential Knowledge/orientation for new people. Good to have training videos. Want to create a series of 5-12 minute ppt or videos of talking points so incoming committee members have better understanding.

- Each advisory committee manages their own media.
- OSU media space has capacity to create and store and make videos available online.

- Maybe posted on Canvas software and made available?
- Xan wants to check with County on ways to use the County websites.
- Link or attachment on Environmental Health website?
- Make information relevant to local cases, Benton County.
- Master recyclers project course / website as resource? Concepts covered in that class. Recyclers oriented with Republic and advisory committees are focused on teaching citizens.
- Orientation info should be reviewed periodically and updated.
- Notebook or thumb drive to update? Rather have website as a source of info.
- Nice to have a page on Benton County website to offer all handouts and info for orientation.
- Master recyclable website on OSU webpage has presentations and videos online. Julie will email the link. Recommend that SWAC download and save what they need soon because this site will be changed for the next semester.

<http://fa.oregonstate.edu/recycling/events-and-opportunities/master-recycler-class/master-recycler-class-documents>

VII. Upcoming Schedule: Next meeting: January 24 in the Mary's peak room, 2nd floor in Sunset Building. (DSAC meeting starts at 6:30 pm and SWAC starts at 7 pm). **(Note: Meeting location had to be changed to Sunset Building, Sunset Conference Room.)** Bring ideas on the Franchise, training ideas, websites, content for orientation, education, recycling, how Republic Inc. and the County can work together better. Input is welcome over the next six months, and a legal consultant expert hired by County will give advice. Elections are in January. Good for DSAC for the year. Gordon will check with Vance, the County Attorney, on expectations concerning SWAC's input on Franchise agreement.

VIII. Adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.