

YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

A G E N D A - ACTION LIST

October 15, 2020 10:00 a.m. Formal/Informal Session Room 32, Courthouse
Call to order; flag salute. 535 NE Fifth St.

Welcome! Due to COVID-19 and physical distancing requirements, attending the meeting is discouraged. The public can view the meeting via the YouTube link on the Yamhill County Meetings page. <https://www.co.yamhill.or.us/meetings>. See below for instructions regarding submitting general public comment or comments on agenda items.

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. FLAG SALUTE

C. CALENDAR SESSION: This time is reserved for the review of the commissioner's joint schedule (if needed).

D. PUBLIC COMMENT: *Due to COVID-19 and physical distancing requirements, anyone wishing to submit general public comment or comments related to a specific agenda item may do so in written format via email at bocinfo@co.yamhill.or.us or by mail at 535 NE Fifth St., McMinnville, OR 97128. Any comments received prior to the meeting will be shared with the Board of Commissioners and submitted to the record.*

E. WORK SESSION: This time is reserved for topics of discussion scheduled for the Commissioners in advance. If a work session is not needed, the balance of the meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.

1. Work Session –

- a. Review/discussion of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) Membership
- b. End of work session

F. DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

- a. Clerk's Office – Brian Van Bergen

G. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes

- a. **B.O. 20-358** - June 3, 2020, Special Session;
- b. **B.O. 20-359** - June 4, 2020, Formal/Informal Session;
- c. **B.O. 20-360** - June 11, 2020, Formal/Informal Session;
- d. **B.O. 20-361** - June 18, 2020, Formal/Informal Session; and
- e. **B.O. 20-362** - June 25, 2020, Formal/Informal Session

H. OLD BUSINESS:

1. **B.O. 20-363** - Consideration of the adoption of written findings and conditions of Docket #Z-02-20/SU-02-20/SDR-16-20: A request by Integrated Beverage Group, LLC, for a limited use overlay zone amendment, similar use determination and site design review. The applicant is seeking to co-locate a distillery and related spirit tastings within the existing winery facilities. Applicant/Owner: Integrated Beverage Group, LLC. *[Continued from September 17, 2020].*

2. **B.O. 20-364** - Consideration of the adoption of written findings and conditions of Docket #NFD-01-20: An appeal of the Planning Director's approval of a dwelling not in conjunction with farm use (non-farm dwelling). Tax Lot: 2427-200; just east of 22064 NW Russell Creek Road, Yamhill and approximately 0.3 miles NE of the junction of NW Russell Creek Rd. and NW Goodrich Rd. Applicant: Steven Belt; Appellant: Elliott Rector. *[Continued from October 1, 2020].*

I. OTHER BUSINESS (Add-ons and non-consent items):

1. **B.O. 20-365** - Consideration of Amendment #3 to an agreement between Yamhill County and Siemens Industry, Inc. (B.O. 19-504) for modifications to the PLC/VMS system upgrade in the Yamhill County Correctional Facility, adding three thermal image cameras to assist with COVID-19 prevention and mitigation and funded through the Criminal Justice Commission's Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding 2020 grant, increasing the not-to-exceed amount by \$64,242, bringing the total not-to-exceed amount to \$1,795,410.

J. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

K. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. For information on county advisory committee vacancies, please refer to the county's website, <https://www.co.yamhill.or.us/content/board-commissioners-committees>, or call the Board of Commissioners' office at 503-434-7501 or 503-554-7801 (toll-free from Newberg).

2. For questions regarding accessibility or to request an accommodation contact the Board of Commissioners' office at (503)-434-7501 or (503)-554-7801 (toll-free from Newberg) or email at bocinfo@co.yamhill.or.us

3. Electronic versions of all meeting agendas and meeting information packets can be found at the county's website: <https://www.co.yamhill.or.us/meetings>

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED
PRIOR TO THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' SESSION
ON
THURSDAY, October 15, 2020
AT
10:00 A.M.

Questions, concerns or comments about these items can be directed
to staff or the Commissioners by contacting the Commissioners' office at

(503) 434-7501

OR

BOCINFO@co.yamhill.or.us

TO:
Yamhill County Board of Commissioners

RE:
Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

October 13, 2020

I have been attending SWAC meetings intermittently for over ten years. And over the years, one thing has been clear as a bell, the committee has never been allowed to do what it was intended to do. It has been stacked over the years in favor of the garbage industry.

Committee members who dared to question the common wisdom there were no alternatives to dumping putrescible waste on the banks of the South Yamhill River did not have their tenure on the committee renewed. One of the people whose tenure was truncated was a licensed engineer who specialized in garbage disposal. But he dared to pose the benign question: should Yamhill County make plans for the day when it doesn't host a dump? He was gone in a heartbeat.

People who actually *care* about the issues of garbage disposal and intelligent waste management, concerned citizens who were willing to put in the effort to *make a difference* would apply for committee openings but were never chosen. Instead, people have been recruited by members of the local garbage industry to put in applications, and those people were put on SWAC. I was at a meeting when one of these industry-selected members admitted she knew nothing about garbage and had never even been out to see the local landfill.

SWAC's sole purpose seems to be to function as a rubber stamp for the waste disposal industry. When citizens who actually want to do the hard work of making something happen apply for vacancies, garbage industry members quite overtly said those applicants were not suitable because they had an anti-garbage bias. Yet it was perfectly acceptable to the county to appoint members who were *recruited by garbage industry members* to be on the board. One such appointee was lauded as being a "good family man." What does that have to do with anything?

For more than 20 years, Yamhill County has been dealing with serious issues raised by the presence of a large regional landfill: dreadful odors; trash all over the highways; leachate leaks into the streams that feed the rivers; less-than-adequate oversight of what is dumped there (such as asbestos-laden construction debris); seismic issues; leaks of leachate into the ground water, and more.

When citizens brought up these issues at SWAC meetings, hoping that there might be some discussion about the problems, we have been met with resounding silence. With the exception of three members, two of whom are no longer on SWAC, *no one wanted to discuss the problems. And more importantly, there was no interest in solving the problems.*

Finally, a new county employee was hired to be in charge of solid waste, someone who appears not to have a conflict of interest and who wants to drag the committee into the 21st century. She seems to understand that SWAC needs to function as something more than a rate approval board. The process of reforming SWAC has been agonizing to watch.

The selection process of committee members must be changed. Yamhill County must stop appointing members of oversight committees that are handpicked by industry, developers, and opponents of government regulations. Citizens who care about making things better need to be appointed instead of those who just want to stick with an out-of-date old boy's way of doing business. SWAC should stop appointing industry-picked candidates.

Industry members must not be allowed to vote. State law requires that garbage industry members be on the committee. But they *should not be allowed to vote on anything*. Period. Full stop. They have an inherent conflict of interest on all issues having to do with garbage disposal. They will never vote against those self-interests and don't even want the rest of the committee to hear about what might be going wrong. They wave their hands, dismiss anything critical, and voila, the discussion comes to a grinding halt.

The process of reforming SWAC has become way more complicated than it needs to be. One can only conclude that this has become so protracted because the garbage industry is working to maintain the cozy relationship that it has always had with the county.

I would love to be proven wrong, and here's how to do that! 1. Prevent industry from voting and 2. Stop allowing industry to name who's on the committee. Instead, allow citizens who care about making the county cleaner and less garbage-driven to join the committee in order to do the hard work of making a difference.

Thank you.

Ilsa Perse
5765 NE Mineral Springs Rd
Carlton, OR

Carolina Rook

From: Susan Watkins <maczenith@onlinemac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 9:56 PM
To: BOC Info
Subject: SWAC Ordinance Amendments

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

To the Board of Commissioners:

As a long-time SWAC observer, I am extremely pleased that you are considering revisions to the membership provisions of the SWAC enabling ordinance. However, I believe you are missing the boat on some of the proposed changes.

First and foremost, the very industries that SWAC is designed to monitor and regulate (via advice to this body) should not be voting members on the committee. Ex-officio advice and information providing members, most certainly, but not voting. There have been many occasions when industry representatives have voted on matters that directly or strongly affected the interests of their companies, and this has got to change if SWAC is to have any value or credibility. Self-policing has not worked. SWACs in at least some other jurisdictions do not allow industry members to vote, and they function just fine.

Second, industry members on the current SWAC have voted against nominating new members from local organizations opposed to industry interests (eg, landfill expansion, automatic renewal of hauling contracts without going to bid) solely on the basis of their membership in those organizations. This kind of control of the nomination process must be avoided. Some of the people most concerned with and knowledgeable about solid waste matters are being kept off the committee by these tactics, without this body ever learning that they were interested and why. The ordinance revision should address this.

Finally, much has been debated about the size of the committee. This Board has suggested that expanding the committee will be a good thing because the votes of industry members will be diluted. Others have pointed to the committee's difficulty in fielding a quorum with its current number. I suggest that if citizens who are truly interested in the management of solid waste are allowed to serve on the committee and industry is not allowed to dominate, the meetings would be far better attended.

A secondary issue to membership is the meeting schedule. Currently SWAC meets four times a year, and one of those meetings is a tour. This is not nearly enough time to address all the issues involved in solid waste management or rate setting. Again, putting sincerely interested citizens on the committee rather than those approved by industry would end the current practice of rubber stamping industry friendly proposals and replace that with honest review of issues affecting Yamhill County residents and businesses.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Susan Watkins
13440 SW McCabe Chapel Road
McMinnville OR 97128
503-474-9544
Maczenith@onlinemac.com

Carolina Rook

From: Sunny Bowlin <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2020 7:52 AM
To: BOC Info
Subject: Public Comment - End YCEA Union Retaliation

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Yamhill County,

I support workers in Yamhill County, and I urge you to immediately end retaliation activities against them. Our community deserves leaders that don't resort to threats and intimidation, and workers in Yamhill County deserve a fair contract. This is an abuse of power; promptly hold someone accountable and reevaluate who you're giving power to. End the investigation into the YCEA bargaining team and settle a fair contract with workers now!

Sunny Bowlin
sunny.bowlin@gmail.com
120 1/2 6th St
Dayton, Oregon 97114