



SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC)
LOCATION: Conference Call/On-line
McMinnville, OR 97128
Minutes: January 26, 2022

SWAC Members present on conference call: Dave Larmouth, Nick Godfrey, John Arand, Marcia Mikesh, Gerry Hunter, Dave Huber

Absent: Jennifer Redmond-Noble

Public: Susan Watkins, Ilsa Perse, Christopher Carey, Mike Jeffries, Gary Nelson, Evan Burmeister

Staff on conference call: Ashley Watkins, Suzanne Richardson

1. Welcome, Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Approval of Minutes of prior meetings

Meeting on 4/29/21: No concerns, Marcia motioned to approve, Nick seconded, minutes approved with no dissenting votes

Meeting on 5/12/21: Concerns were raised on the lack of detail on the discussion regarding industry members voting and potential conflict of interest. Also, concerns were raised regarding adding to meeting notes from a meeting that was over six months ago. Ashley Watkins to review meeting recording and re-submit minutes at a later meeting

Meeting on 6/2/21: No concerns, Marcia motioned to approve, Nick seconded, minutes approved with no dissenting votes

Meeting on 6/16/21: Concerns were raised regarding section #5 not stating that the Recology rate increase was due to the increase in fees at Riverbend. It was stated that Recology did not raise their rates as had been discussed at that time. Section #7 had a name misspelling. John motioned to approve, Nick seconded, minutes approved with the understanding that misspelling would be corrected with no dissenting votes.

Meeting on 6/30/21: Concern was raised over the Coffin Butte Landfill being referred to as "Corvalis Landfill" in section 3. Concern was raised over Bob Schwartz not being listed as present despite a member having it in notes that he discussed inspections during the general discussion portion of the meeting. Ashley will review the meeting recordings and re-submit minutes at a later meeting.

Meeting on 7/15/21: Concern was raised over Gary Nelson being listed as Yamhill County staff rather than Waste Management. John motioned to approve minutes with that correction to be made, Marcia seconded, minutes approved with no dissenting votes.

Meeting on 10/27/21: Concern was raised over the extensive level of detail compared to prior meeting minutes. Ashley to edit minutes and re-submit at a later meeting.

3. By Laws Update

Ashley received a response from Yamhill County legal counsel in the previous week stating that the proposed by-laws would be reviewed by him prior to the next SWAC meeting.

4. Open SWAC position - advertisement

Ashley to advertise open SWAC member position in local newspapers and on the county website. All applications received will be forwarded to the Board of Commissioners for approval. There was some discussion over how the member positions are defined. Nick commented that his membership is up for renewal in February 2022. Ashley advised him that if he is willing to continue in his role that he e-mail her stating such. That email will be forwarded to the Board of Commissioners for approval as soon as she receives it.

5. Nominate New Chair, Vice Chair

Tabled until a larger group is present.

6. Riverbend Update

Nick Godfrey presented. Riverbend is open on an "event basis" for large customers. Currently they are preparing for a partial closure in the spring.

7. Recology Update

Dave Larmouth presented. Recology has a new regional manager, Chris Carey. Dave presented the 2021 waste tonnage numbers for the McMinnville location. He is still working on the recycling tonnage numbers. Safety and logistics improvements at the McMinnville transfer station are ongoing. Staff at that location has been increased. Adding scales to the location is being investigated to assist in possible fees for tonnage rates rather than yardage. The facility is experiencing some supply chain issues with equipment. They are currently working on re-opening the office to the public. Ernie Martin is the new Valley Operations Manager.

Chris Carey presented. The McMinnville Recology location is working to establish options for a window for taking in-person payments.

Concern was raised regarding the possibility of the Coffin Butte Landfill no longer accepting wastes from outside of their area. Dave stated that it is his understanding that Coffin Butte currently has over 100-year worth of available space and that there has been no word of them possibly limiting disposal.

8. Waste Management-Newberg Update and

9. Subscription Glass fee- Newberg Hauling

Dave Huber, Sr. District Manager presented. Dave introduced Gary Nelson who handles day-to-day operations at the Newberg location, Evan Burnister who is the Area Pricing Manager, and Mike Jefferies of Waste Management.

Gary Nelson presented. The Newberg location saw an increase in both recycling and waste tonnage received in 2021 but decreased the number of routes. This has allowed them to work more efficiently. They are projected to add vehicles to their fleet soon. They had no OSHA injuries in 2021. They saw no employee-to-employee transmission of COVID-19 in 2021.

Dave Huber presented. Glass recycling subscription is currently at 47% of their customer base at a rate of \$4.30 per month. Waste Management needs to increase participation to 50% or more by April 2022 to avoid a rate increase to \$6.15 per month. Discussion ensued regarding possible outreach partnerships to increase participation.

The Newberg transfer station has seen an increase in waste volume due in part to increased construction in the Newberg area as well as an increase in self-hauling. The facility has continued to work on traffic and wait time issues. Current capital projects include storm water improvements, traffic flow improvements, and upgrade of payment system to allow hand-held credit card readers. The additional drop-off area is almost ready to open. There has been an increase in both waste tonnage received and the number of transactions at the facility.

Even presented. The current rate sheet was reviewed. Waste Management is proposing to increase the unsecured load fee from a sliding \$5-15 fee to a flat fee of \$25. This is to help discourage unsecured loads. It is suspected that unsecured loads have been contributing to waste scattered along Wynooski Street. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility for the need to update the waste ordinance wording to allow for this increase.

10. Tonnage Rate Disposal for Waste Management – Newberg

Waste Management – Newberg proposed a change in the way Construction and Demolition wastes are charged. Currently the rate is based on yardage at a subjective rate of “light”, “condensed”, and “extra heavy” and ranges in fees from \$19.40 to \$37.90 per yard. The change would mean going from charging by the estimated cubic yard to a rate of \$95/ton. This would be exclusive to their larger customers and would

not affect residential customers bringing in small amounts of construction waste and debris. Discussion ensued regarding tonnage vs. yardage rates in surrounding areas including metro Portland. Waste Management expressed concerns regarding waste haulers bringing wastes from other areas due to the current lower rates at their facility. Marcia made a motion for SWAC to recommend this to the BOC. John seconded. The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

11. Other Items?

Dave Larmouth has become a member of the Truth of Labeling Task Force which is working to address truth in labeling of packaging materials.

Ashley Watkins discussed the proposed 2022 Household Hazardous Waste Collection events. Currently 2 are budgeted with proposed dates of 6/4 at Waste Management – Newberg and 9/24 at the Yamhill County Fairgrounds. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of a voucher system for Yamhill residents utilizing the permanent Marion County hazardous waste facilities and past agreements regarding hazardous wastes with Marion and Polk counties.

12. Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is set for 2/23. The on-line/conference call format is to remain for now.

13. Public Comment

Susan Watkins had questions for Nick Godfrey regarding the use of soil at Riverbend.

Ilsa Perse has questions for Nick Godfrey regarding Riverbend being open on an “event basis” and where glass is included in recycling programs.

14. Adjourn

Nick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gerry seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:10.