

WHATCOM COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY (SWAC) COMMITTEE MINUTES July 22, 2021

Members Present:

Lisa Friend, Carol Frazey, Rodd Pemble, Larry McCarter, Brandi Hutton. Kevin Moore

Members Absent:

Michael Olinger and Kevin Renz.

Staff Present:

Jennifer Hayden, Jacque Hindman

Others Present:

Erik Bakkom, Seth Otto, Brian Tino, Priscilla Brotherton, and Carolyn Bowie with ECY.

Call to Order:

The meeting of the Whatcom County SWAC was called to order on Thursday, July 22, 2021 at 5:35 p.m. in a Zoom Meeting via the web by chair, Rodd Pemble.

Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, Approval of Minutes

Roll call was taken first., Determination of Quorum, and minutes were approved. Agenda approved.

Public Comment Period

None

2021 Whatcom County Comprehensive Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan Update

Whatcom County Comprehensive Solid and Hazardous Waste Plan Update given by Maul Foster & Alongi (MFA).

This special meeting was called to get through Chapters 6 through 11.

Section 6

6.1- Carolyn Bowie of DOE mentioned the Eastern Part of the County. Wanting to include the Tribes. Jennifer asked to remove “excluding Nooksack and Lummi” and change it to include them. Would like it to be a start of a longer discussion. Lisa suggested that the email thread should be included in the thread and attached to the minutes in this meeting. Jennifer said they would be added.

6.2- Lisa suggested to expand organic collections to additional parts of Whatcom County.

6.3 – Expand Organic Collections and Include the Tribes.

Section 7

7.1.1- Lisa wanted to address the bullets. She would like to see the breakdown by percentage for each facility. Larry said the numbers are reported. Lisa would like a reference from the DOE with more detail with an example of a simple percentage.

7.1.3 – Lisa asked to add the privately-owned Landfills as well. Jennifer said they are not maintained by the County but they are Permitted by the County.

Lisa also mentioned monitoring illegal dumping and surveying residence and businesses about capacity needs. Jennifer stated that illegal dumping is growing and people do not have the ability to afford the clean-up. Lisa said the county may need to pick that up or contract that out. The capacity of RDS is about to triple. Rodd said it is a stretch to keep the landfill at Cedarville.

7.3 – Lisa suggested another Transfer Station in the East County.

Section 8

8.1.3 – Lisa asked like to clarify in the City of Bellingham, City of Ferndale and the City of Lynden where biosolids are spread and the number of acres in each area. Larry said we could reach out to each facility.

Larry second it. He would like this on the agenda in the future.

8.1.4 – Lisa asked DOE if Petroleum contaminated soil is the only contaminant we should be worried about at this time? She said we have had Mercury contamination in the past. Will follow up on “contaminated soil”

8.1.7 - New Program and project. Lisa asked to add the state’s new permitting of human composting.

Jennifer wanted the paragraph regarding expired and unwanted medications removed as the City of Bellingham is no longer doing that program. All medications do now get accepted under the Whatcom med plan.

8.3 – Lisa suggested to add measure, monitor and support existing privatized construction and demolition diversion and effort and possibly add monitor options for recycling asphalt shingle under action.

Section 9

9.1.1- Will clean up the wording.

9.1.2 – Would like a brief explanation of whether the amount that is collected is the same amount that is remitted. Encourage the county to explore all potential funding options and monitor the need for additional facilities or and expansion of a current drop box facility not limit to USDA. Lisa would like it to be a goal.

Section 10

10.1 – Lisa suggested under Solid Waste Management Planning to add that this plan is updated on a five-year schedule. Discussed by the SWAC.

Section 11

11.1.2.1 – Lisa suggested a breakdown of number of pounds per household spread over the entire county without illegal disposal.

11.1.6 – Lisa requested we add: (The county believes reduction in the amount and toxicity in the number (amount) of products used most safely and cost effectively furthers this goal.)

11.1.7.1 – Lisa wanted the paint care program added. Originally discussed in chapter 4. Rodd suggested it stay in chapter 4 as it is a recycling program.

11.1.7.2 -Not a lot of education happening at this time. Follow up.

SEPA

Carolyn said on next steps DOE will receive a preliminary review by September 2, 2021. Will there be and intermediate steps between now and then?

Seth and Brian will circulate the draft for review. They will send it to Jennifer.

Lisa requested at least 45 days for public comment.

Charbon Zero Plant Information – Rodd said to look at the website and it will be up for discussion at the next meeting. At this point it is information www.charbonzero.com

Item 6 from the Agenda – Solid waste clean up and lien of property – Jennifer proposed to SWAC to set aside a specific amount of money to use for clean up of properties that have complaints and multiple interactions, offered vouchers, issued Notice of violations with no progress with still quite a few complaints from the public.

The county would like to set aside 80,000 dollars for use to clean up the properties and in return and then put a lien on the property so when the property sells we can get the money returned. This way the county is not just giving them county funds.

Jennifer said it would be a supplementary addition to the 2-year budget. She would like to start it early next year. Jennifer is thinking possibly 8-10 properties. It would take from the Solid Waste fund only. The fund would be replenished once the property is sold.

Lisa made a motion to approve a fund for properties in need of clean up of solid waste. Larry will second it. All in favor, none opposed.

Other Business, Open Session, Announcements:
Discussion to put Biosolid applications in the agenda.

Washington State bag ban will go into effect on October 1, 2021.

Carolyn will forward information to Jennifer at the county.

We are three people short on SWAC and would like more to join the group. Forward if you know of any.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made 1st by Rodd Pemble and 2nd by Larry McCarter. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

Attest: _____
Jacque Hindman, Clerk III
Whatcom County Health Department

Rodd Pemble, Chair
Whatcom County Solid Waste
Advisory Committee

The following email is referenced in the above minutes.

From: Bowie, Carolyn (ECY) <carb461@ECY.WA.GOV>
Sent: Friday, July 02, 2021 3:48 PM
To: Rodd Pemble; Jennifer Hayden; Brandi Hutton; Brian Tino; Carol Frazey;
Wadley, Diana (ECY); Erik Bakkom; John Wolpers; Kevin Moore; Kevin Renz;
Larry McCarter; Lisa Friend; Seth Otto
Subject: RE: Whatcom CSHWMP Ch. 6-11 SWAC Review

Hi all,

I spoke on the phone with Jennifer to follow up about this topic. We agreed that including these entities raises some important questions about the possible implications & impacts, especially at this stage in the Plan update. At this point, I'm not sure about the answer to Rodd's question - why wouldn't they be included? I'll be exploring this question over the next two weeks with my colleagues at Ecology so that I may provide clearer guidance in this gray area.

In the meantime, please let me know if you have any questions, concerns, or insights.

With appreciation,

Carolyn Bowie
(she/her)
Regional Planner and Grant Manager
WA State Department of Ecology, Solid Waste Management Program – Northwest
Regional Office
Carolyn.Bowie@ecy.wa.gov | 425-698-3722

From: Bowie, Carolyn (ECY)
Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 1:12 PM
To: 'Rodd Pemble' <Rodd@ssc-inc.com>; Jennifer Hayden <JHayden@co.whatcom.wa.us>; Brandi Hutton <brandih@sustainableconnections.org>; Brian Tino <btino@maulfoster.com>; Carol Frazey <CFrazey@co.whatcom.wa.us>; Wadley, Diana (ECY) <dwad461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Erik Bakkom <ebakkom@maulfoster.com>; John Wolpers <JWolpers@co.whatcom.wa.us>; Kevin Moore <Kmoore7663@gmail.com>; Kevin Renz <kevinrenz@cityofferndale.org>; Larry McCarter <rdsLarry@mac.com>; Lisa Friend <lisa@friendsustainability.com>; Seth Otto <sootto@maulfoster.com>
Subject: RE: Whatcom CSHWMP Ch. 6-11 SWAC Review

I'll briefly agree with Rodd and add:

Ecology encourages counties to err on the side of inclusivity to define the planning area, and defines the planning area as the geographical region where the plan will apply, and generally as the boundaries of a county.

I encourage inclusion of the Lummi and Nooksack reservations as well as the Newhalem and Diablo area in the Planning Area, so as to have a more holistic scope of waste flow and operations in the Plan.

Ecology's planning guidelines broadly encourage inclusion of Tribal Reservations in Planning Areas.

While the 2010 guidelines make this more of a gray-area issue, we are currently updating this document with a greater priority to include diversity, equity, inclusion, and respect (DEIR) in our guidance.

Thanks!

Carolyn Bowie
(she/her)
Regional Planner and Grant Manager
WA State Department of Ecology, Solid Waste Management Program – Northwest
Regional Office
Carolyn.Bowie@ecy.wa.gov | 425-698-3722

From: Rodd Pemble <Rodd@ssc-inc.com>
Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 12:36 PM
To: Jennifer Hayden <JHayden@co.whatcom.wa.us>; Brandi Hutton <brandih@sustainableconnections.org>; Brian Tino <btino@maulfoster.com>; Carol Frazey <CFrazey@co.whatcom.wa.us>; Bowie, Carolyn (ECY) <carb461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Wadley, Diana (ECY) <dwad461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Erik Bakkom <ebakkom@maulfoster.com>; John Wolpers <JWolpers@co.whatcom.wa.us>; Kevin Moore <Kmoore7663@gmail.com>; Kevin Renz <kevinrenz@cityofferndale.org>; Larry McCarter <rdslarry@mac.com>; Lisa Friend <lisa@friendsustainability.com>; Seth Otto <sotto@maulfoster.com>
Subject: RE: Whatcom CSHWMP Ch. 6-11 SWAC Review

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED FROM OUTSIDE THE WASHINGTON STATE EMAIL SYSTEM -

Take caution not to open attachments or links unless you know the sender AND were expecting the attachment or the link

Lummi and Nooksack Reservations excluded sentence in 6.1 – they both have regular curbside service for garbage and recycling – why wouldn't they be in the planning area?

Rodd Pemble
Recycling/Safety Manager
Sanitary Service Company Inc.
21 Bellwether Way Suite 404 • Bellingham, WA 98225
Cell 360-815-1098 • Fax 360-671-0239 • Direct 360-527-9785
www.ssc-inc.com

Go Paperless! Sign up for E-Statements at ssc-inc.com.

From: Jennifer Hayden <JHayden@co.whatcom.wa.us>
Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 7:27 AM
To: Brandi Hutton <brandih@sustainableconnections.org>; Brian Tino <btino@maulfoster.com>; Carol Frazey <CFrazey@co.whatcom.wa.us>; Carolyn Bowie <carolyn.bowie@ecy.wa.gov>; Diana Wadley <dwad461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Erik Bakkom <ebakkom@maulfoster.com>; John Wolpers <JWolpers@co.whatcom.wa.us>; Kevin Moore <Kmoore7663@gmail.com>; Kevin Renz <kevinrenz@cityofferndale.org>; Larry McCarter <rdslarry@mac.com>; Lisa Friend <lisa@friendsustainability.com>; Rodd Pemble <Rodd@ssc-inc.com>; Seth Otto <sotto@maulfoster.com>
Subject: FW: Whatcom CSHWMP Ch. 6-11 SWAC Review

Good morning-

Attached please find the combined PDF of Ch. 6-11, along with the SEPA, and list of solid waste handling facilities for review before the July 22 SWAC meeting. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you, have a great holiday weekend!

Jennifer Hayden, RS
Environmental Health Supervisor
Direct: (360) 778-6036