

WHATCOM COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
January 22, 2015

Members Present:

Barbara Brenner, Calvin DenHartog, Pete Edwards, Marjorie Leone, Amber Jones, Marty Kuljis, Ed Nikula

Member Absent:

Eric Johnston, Greg Young, Casey Heinle, Mark Peterson

Staff Present:

Jeff Hegedus and Janice Deptuch

Others Present:

John Wolpers – Whatcom County Health Department, EH manager; Justin Clary & Jacqueline Grinder – Maul Foster & Alongi; Elizabeth Larter – NW Product Stewardship Council; Mendy Droke – King County; Rodd Pemble – SSC

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Whatcom County Solid Waste Committee was called to order on Thursday, January 22, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in Garden Level Meeting Room by Chair, Ed Nikula.

• Introductions

John Wolpers – Whatcom County Health Department, EH manager; Justin Clary & Jacqueline Grinder – Maul Foster & Alongi; Elizabeth Larter – NW Product Stewardship Council; Mendy Droke – King County; Rod – SSC

• Reading, Correction and Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the, October 23, 2014 SWAC meeting were approved as written.

• Communications

This is the end of the 2nd term for Calvin DenHartog, End of the 1st term for Ed Nikula; end of 1st term for Marty Kuljis and he has put in his application and it did get approved. Jeff Hegedus asked that the email from Eric Johnston be entered into the minutes. Eric believes that the Goals and Actions developed by MFA and the sub-committee are headed in the right direction. The City will taking action in the near future on two solid waste contracts. The first service contract with SSC for residential hauling will be renewed and extended. The second is the contract with disposal company for residential waste. The current contract with Recomp/Allied/ Republic services expires in 2016. The City will be developing an RFP, bidding and selection process to find a provider for long term disposal of residential waste. The process will be open and competitive. In developing the RFP the city will using many of the goals and actions outlined in the draft SWMP and Goals and Action documents developed by the SWAC sub-committee. Following development and public input, we expect to have RFP issued in the second quarter of 2015.

Agenda Items:

1. Solid Waste Division Transfer from Public Works to Health Department

Jeff Hegedus gave an overview of the transfer from Public works to the Health Department. Effective January 1, 2015 the transfer happened. Health Department hit the road running. All administrative services and contracts have been changed over. Brought over 50 boxes from Public Works to Health Department, which we need to go through and prioritize. The recycling hotline has been changed to Health Department. For the Web Site we are currently keeping the

Solid Waste page on the public Works page and will move in March. We have updated the information on the web page. Health Department will add the SWAC agendas and minutes on the web page in March. Health Department will renew local agreements with Sheriffs and Public Works.

Health Department sent letter to Port of Bellingham regarding the CFLs that they were recycling for free. Last year the Port disposed of \$77,000 worth of lights. Half of the CPG money that public works was going to return went to paving at the DOT and storage. Recommendations at the DOT Facility. Non-profits have been doing business at low cost, household for free, and businesses have to pay. In 2014, \$8,500 worth of non-profit chemical waste was disposed. It was mentioned about a law regarding reviewing the non-profit waste disposal each year. Calvin asked what law and Jeff replied No law, it was in the minutes from a 2007 SWAC meeting, Pete Kremen said SWAC would look at the non-profit waste disposal each year. A decision was made in 2007 for it to be free. Calvin asked if it should be brought to executive committee. Jeff thought it was more operational level, more for SWAC meeting. Barbara asked if there is a way they can apply for a grant. Calvin commented that he did not believe it to be a burden on a church. Barbara said it may be a burden for the Housing Authority. Jeff said if they have less than 220,000 ton it's an expense they can handle. Ed said we can make recommendations, Jeff agreed, take it to executive. Ed said motion has to be on agenda, he has no problem discussing. Calvin commented, he believes it will be a small amount. Ed asked is it going in garbage or where? Jeff believes all of these and Rod concurred. Marjorie said 10% of businesses are considered non-profit. Barbara ask ED if we had a total of non-profits. She also asked does the Re-Store offer that as a service? Marjorie said No. Household would be a good exception. Barbara said maybe that would be a change. Jeff said paint from maintenance and a can of paint from boat owner, that they left on dock would be considered household waste. Ed deferred and asked that it get put on next agenda as an item.

2. Paint Stewardship Program Resolution of Support

Elizabeth Larter talked about the Light Recycling. She stated as of January 22, 2015 Whatcom County has 6 sites that can accept recycled lights bulbs. They can accept Fluorescent Light Tubs, Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFLs) and High Intensity Discharge Lights (HIDs). Clients can recycle up to 10 lights per day at no charge. A Environmental Handling Charge (EHC) of \$0.25per light will be added to all mercury-containing lights sold at retail in Washington State.

Mendy Droke from King County talked about the Paint Program. The paint industry has been working to pass legislation in Washington to create a stewardship system for oil-based and latex paint. Similar laws have recently passed in 8 other states. If the 2015 bill passes in Washington, the legislation will: create a statewide paint recycling program, provide more convenient locations, create new jobs, increase reuse and recycling of latex paint, and save communities money.

Elizabeth and Mendy were here in October to share information with the SWAC and asked for support of passing the legislation.

Consumers will pay a small assessment for interior or exterior house paints built into the price of the paint at the time of purchase. Consumers take their unwanted leftover paint to one of many collection sites for easy recycling – at no additional cost.

There were many concerns from multiple SWAC members about the additional cost and who pays and tracks.

Jeff stated that small businesses and household bring their paints into Disposal of Toxics. Lots of discussion within the group regarding cost and retailers having to do paperwork. It was asked why not the manufacture? Mendy said that is negotiated with retailer. Mendy stated the manufacturers wants it set up this way.

Concerns from the group on how it will be disposed of and where, some felt in the garbage. Jeff stated DOT would still collect paint if we accept the resolution.

Elizabeth said the bill will be going in tomorrow (January 23, 2015), and they are asking for the SWAC support.

Barbara said No for paint care and it was 2nd by several other people.
The Paint Stewardship Program Resolution was voted "No".

3. Solid and Hazardous Waste Comprehensive Management Plan

Justin Clary and Jacqueline Grinder with Maul, Foster & Alongi presented information update on the Solid and Hazardous Waste Comprehensive Management Plan.
Justin said a lot of work has been done on the plan. They received a lot of feedback from SWAC and the SWAC has met four times regarding the plan. The assessment needs were broken down to Goals and Actions. The plan is evolving daily, they are following the Department of Ecology plan.

Jacqueline commented it is a living document. Whatcom County is unique, DOE has more of a public system. They need to amend DOE template to fit for us. Calvin asked if what they sent us was a work in process? Jacqueline asked that comments be emailed to her and Justin.
Justin said they are continuing to draft plan and the timeline to submit to DOE is late March, early April. They broke the goals and actions into 7 groups, they identified goals and 43 actions.
Rod asked for number served by Master Gardeners and how many school kids?
Justin asked chair do we open up for comments or can we email?
Calvin is interested in if Amber and Marty would be seeking comments. CDL, and multi family recycling.

Amber stated if they are taking garbage out of county then the county is losing money regarding the solid waste tax.

Barbara would like to see recycling added to 1E, under the Education and Community Outreach section of the Goals and Actions, and see it based on individual. Amber commented it was covered under Residential Recycling. Jeff agreed we could add recycling in 1E.

Rod could see some changes under CDL. He also stated that loads going out of county are not being sorted. Rod will send comments to Justin and Jacqueline.

Ed asked if there was other discussion – None

4. Election of Officers

Barbara Brenner nominated Ed Nikula for a second term as Chair and 2nd by Amber Jones
Barbara Brenner nominated Mark Peterson for Vice Chair and all agreed.

5. Open Session

None

6. Announcements, Agenda Items

Fond farewell to Calvin from Barbara

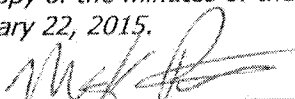
7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Whatcom County Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting held January 22, 2015.

Attest: 
Janice Deptuch Clerk III
Whatcom County Health Department

 VICE CHAIR
Ed Nikula, Chair
Whatcom County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

MARK PETERSON, VICE CHAIR