

WHATCOM COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY (SWAC) COMMITTEE MINUTES
July 24, 2018

Members Present:

Amber Jones, Eric Johnston, Larry McCarter, Kevin Moore, Lisa Friend, Troy Lautenbachand Robert HendricksTed Carlson

Members Absent:

Barbara Brenner, Ed Nikula, Mark Peterson, and Greg Young,

Staff Present:

Jeff Hegedus, Janice Deptuch, and John Wolpers

Others Present:

Priscilla Brotherton – Resources Sustainable Schools Program, Rodd Pemble - SSC, Pat Dunn - SSC, Polly McNeill – Summit Law Group

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Whatcom County SWAC was called to order on Thursday, July 24, 2018 at 5:32 p.m. in the Garden Level Meeting Room by vice chair, Lisa Friend.

Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the April 26, 2018 SWAC meeting were approved as written. The motion for approval was made by Kevin Moore and 2nd by Larry McCarter. Motion approved by everyone.

Solid Waste Funding: Q1 2018 Results of Approved Amendment to WCC 8.13, Solid Waste Disposal District Regarding the Solid Waste Excise Privilege Tax

On September 12, 2017 the County Council, as the governing body of the disposal district, approved the proposed amendment. Revenue generation from the approved amendment to the excise tax is consistent with estimates, and generated \$119,000 in revenue during the first quarter of 2018. Reductions in state solid waste funding have successfully been backfilled, and solid waste program funding has been maintained.

The amendment to the excise tax went smoothly and we are right on target.

Thank you to the entities that set up new procedures, thank you SWAC.

2019-2020 Preliminary Solid Waste Budgets, as Approved by the Solid Waste Executive Committee (SWEC)

As per interlocal agreement, SWEC (Mayors and County Executive) jointly provide preliminary approval of the biennial solid waste budget. On July 17, 2018 SWEC convened and approved the 2019-2020 draft solid waste budgets for County Council consideration. The draft budget will be presented to SWAC for review.

See explanation of the differences in revenue and expenses below:

Difference in revenue

Less from DOE grants LFSWA in 2nd year (timing of spending)

Difference in Expenses

Changes due to less revenue in DOE grants

Less tools

Salaries slightly higher

Professional services higher – go to bid for landfill contracts and anticipating higher cost

Added Treasurer office charge of 15K per year for processing revenue from tax bills

Added a program to Waste Reduction & Recycling

Advertising of 15K per year for Secure Medicine Program

Voucher Program 15K added to contract services in Litter Control

Additional staff person for Solid Waste program

Vehicle for Solid Waste program

Point Roberts Update: Approval of Amendments to WCC 8.11, Solid Waste Recycling and Collection District and WCC 8.10, Solid Waste and Residential Recycling Collection

On May 22, 2018 a public hearing was held, and Council approved the proposed amendments to ordinance. The service provider has filed a rate case with the WUTC to implement the requirements. Cando started off with a full audit, they got web page up and equipment. We are meeting with the Treasurer's office next week.

RE Sources Presentation: Sustainable Schools Waste Reduction and Recycling Program Activities

A presentation was given by Priscilla Brotherton from RE Sources Sustainable Schools Program. Waste Reduction and Recycling Community Education and Outreach Programs continue on track for the youth (ReSources Sustainable Schools program), adult (WSU Master Composter/ Master Recycler program) and commercial (Sustainable Connections Toward Zero Waste program) contracted target populations. Additionally, with Puget Sound Partnership funding as implemented by Ecology, solid waste program staff conducted 176 commercial solid and hazardous waste technical assistance site visits in 2017, and implemented the newly expanded EnviroStars program.

WCC 8.15 Solid Waste Disposal Sites

The 2016 Whatcom County Comprehensive Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan recommends that a review and update of WCC 8.15, Solid Waste Disposal Sites be conducted.

Jeff stated that Chapter 8.15 requires review, and requests that members read the existing ordinance and become familiar with the contents. Eric stated we need a process to frame discussion. There is work to be done by staff or outside assistance, background, training, and education needed. At the next meeting, members will provide input to such a process.

Open Session, Announcements, Agenda Items

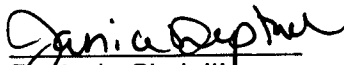
Lisa Friend mentioned that some jurisdictions allow local non-profits to propose innovative uses for solid waste funding. Boulder County, Colorado, for instance, awards up to \$50,000 each year (usually in several grants of \$10,000 or less) for measurable waste management projects.

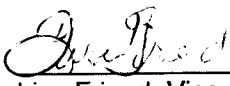
Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made 1st by Eric Johnston and 2nd by Larry McCarter, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 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 July 24, 2018.

Attest: 
Janice Deptuch, Clerk III
Whatcom County Health Department



Lisa Friend, Vice Chair
Whatcom County Solid Waste
Advisory Committee