

**Clark County**  
**Solid Waste Advisory Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
6:00 - 8:00pm  
ZOOM Meeting

**SWAC Members Present:** Allan Jeska, Simone Auger, Rich McConaghy, Tim Kraft, Jason Presser, Derek Ranta, Kyle Potter, Joe Zimmerman

**SWAC Members Excused:** Steven Willis

**SWAC Members Unexcused:**

**Staff Present:** Travis Dutton, Mike Davis, Kim Harless, Brian Schlottmann, Melissa Sutton, Jacob Ahrens-Balwit

**Others Present:** Joe Hoffman (WSDA)

Meeting began at 6:02 pm

**I. ROLL CALL, APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 (\*00:06)**

- Steven Willis resigning as Chair, and possibly commission as well.
- Rich motioned to approve the minutes. Allan Seconded. Unanimous approval.

**II. UPDATES (\*00:07)**

- [Clark County Public Health – Solid Waste Program](#)
  - SWEQ Green Team updates provided ahead of time. Highlights include:
    - Amber McKnight on Maternity leave, Jacob filling in.
    - Tina Kendal to go on maternity leave any minute now
    - [Green Schools](#) unsure about status of schools reopening -- “sit and wait mode”
      - Looking to adapt to remote learning and maintain progress made for waste reduction infrastructure in schools.
    - Equity and Social Justice addendum to the SWMP being drafted, likely to bring some forward to the next meeting
    - No significant covid or budgetary impacts to report on for our program
    - [Operations](#) - HW program still chugging along (Jessica email)
- Clark County Public Health – [Solid Waste Enforcement](#)
  - Melissa now able to do scheduled inspections
    - Had been unable to inspections for ~1.5 months
  - Whatley Pit is still contesting sample results
    - PH is on side of Ecology and agreeing with the results
- Code update in progress
  - going to Travis’ team tomorrow
  - Adding education
  - August 31 will be going out to SWAC as a survey
  - Then public in October or November
  - Question from Tim about if it will be a track-changes version
    - Yes.
  - 30 years old language to be updated
    - Removed language about differences between servant and landowner
- [City of Vancouver](#) - Julie Gilbertson

- YD contracts went to council in late may and were approved.
  - Rates and sites to be determined for yard debris coupon programs
  - Kyle asked about rates: Contract term one year at a time, to be renewed...
    - Committee reviewed the rates and can provide a summary to SWAC if they would like.
    - This is *just* for events
- Spring coupon was extended by 1 month
  - 830 tons of yard debris, \$67k dollars
  - 1k tires, \$34k
  - Expect totals to be a bit more
- Fall coupon to go out in September
- Limited garbage service and bags at the Safe Park Zone, and two sanitation sites
- At direction of the EOC for Covid
- Worked with Waste Connections to roll out a one-time bulky items collection to replace neighborhood cleanup events which have also been canceled due to COVID (30-40 pick ups per week)
- [www.cityofvancouver.us/2020cleanupoptions](http://www.cityofvancouver.us/2020cleanupoptions)
- [Waste Connections](#)
  - No interruption of service due to COVID, despite a few employee instances
  - All drivers and employees wearing masks. Mask can be off while on route if not near someone
  - Customer Service working remotely, at least through August
    - Longer hold times
  - Transfer Stations dealing with already cranky customers
    - Some customers becoming aggressive
    - If a customer has an issue, will ask them to wait, and clear the area
  - Fiber is moving, agreement with GP to manage all fiber recyclables.
  - Educators are getting creative with online options
  - Cart taggers been out for last month
  - Firework contamination started a fire in the transfer station
  - 30-40 pickups for online services
  - DOE waste study for waste stream, using WV for site to analysis
    - <https://ecology.wa.gov/Research-Data/Data-resources/Solid-waste-recycling-data>
  - Metro doing a study of MRFs, interviews of sort staff
  - Simone asked about traffic and a recent accident at CTR
    - Increase in route trucks being hit
    - At CTR a car with a trailer, making a right turn into central, there was no backup, and car behind it did not stop and ran into the back of it and blocked off entrance for 1.5 hours
    - Went out to bid for entrance improvements
    - Usually it is left-in/out issues
  - Annual allocation study in progress
    - Kim mentioned due to Covid, residue study portion is purely anecdotal this year.


### III. Pesticide Collections from Farmers (\*00:45)

- Back in January at national FB conference and met a company that does jug recycling
  - Willing to hold event if wanted
- Knew that WSDA did those pesticide amnesty events, but would love to do a jug event too

From Joe Hoffman:

- Service they offer is disposal of unused pesticides, from anything from really old stuff to extras from growers that have transitioned to organic.
  - Farmers do not want a half-used container
- Ag chemical recycling council. Funded by large pesticide and chemical manufacturers
  - ACRC (funded by pesticide manufactures) has a grant to take regular pesticide containers and cage tanks that shuttles come in from farmers for free. A company called “AgroPlas” does the recycling.
    - AgroPlas has contract for container recycling for WA, OR, ID (?)
    - They do work with organizations to do events
- Yakima County tried a drop-off for pesticide bottle collection, but when it was left unstaffed illegal dumping occurred.
- Only clean containers can be processed, another reason collection sites must be staffed
- Collections in eastern Washington have been scheduled at large farms where lots of pesticide jugs are used, other smaller consumers have been able to come to these collections and drop off their lesser quantities of jugs.
- The program is for large quantity generators only. Joe and Joe are looking for regional farmers who are interested.
  - Joe Z asked about events beyond just Farmers, including other businesses and private citizens
    - NW Wholesale will take back from customers, but are certain days for noncustomers

#### IV. Regional System Study Update – Mike Davis (\*01:05)

- Still progressing with study
- CTR traffic issues, task 3 about economic options to reduce traffic, including evaluating fees, days of operation, expanding HHW hours
  - Completed review
- Motion to form a sub-committee on assist with the regional system studies review focusing on the traffic issues at central,
  - Subcommittee meeting/s in September/October for the traffic evaluation from the RSS report
  - Tim and Joe Z volunteered to be on the subcommittee
  -  Motion passes
  - Kim and Mike to reach out

#### V. Subcommittee Updates (\*01:36)

- Bylaws
  - New draft to be created with revised language discussed at the meeting to simplify it. Subcoms would be required to draft a charter that would be an addendum.
    - Overview of expectations for interim communication before meetings, and when subcommittees should meet
    - Article 5 (on meetings) Rich McConaghy suggested adding language on informal meetings such as informational/educational meetings.
    - Kyle and Travis discuss adding language to the effect of “other ad-hoc subcommittees will be formed as needed”
    - Kyle Potter will take responsibility for drafting an update to the bylaws
- Recruitment
  - SWAC is seeking to grow diversity in the committee, Rich McConaghy mentioned that the committee could provide outreach support to underrepresented communities
  - Travis asks “should the SWAC be representative of the diversity in the community or diverse in terms of representing groups who are not currently represented on the committee.

- Travis advocates for the committee to understand what diversity means to the group and why it is valuable before navigating “delicate language”.
- Travis suggested letting EDIG get caught up and then planning to use their model to influence SWAC.
- Committee agrees on moving forward with “at-large recruitment” prioritizing recruitment of underrepresented groups.

**VI. Public Comment (\*02:02)**

- None

This meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm

*\* These times correlate to the time each agenda item is addressed in the recorded audio file of this meeting.*