

Clark County
Solid Waste Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 4th, 2021

6:00 - 8:00pm

Virtual meeting hosted by
Clark County Center for Community Health

SWAC Members Present: Kyle Potter, Tim Kraft, Allan Jeska, Rich McConaghy, Jason Presser

SWAC Members Excused:

SWAC Members Unexcused: Simone Auger, Derek Ranta, Joe Zimmerman

Staff Present: Mike Davis, Melissa Sutton, Amber McKnight, Pete DuBois

Others Present: Julie Gilbertson, Paul Jewell, Jessica Fischberg, Tina Kendall

Meeting began at 6:03 pm

I. ROLL CALL, APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 5th, 2021 (*00:00:13)

- ☒ Allan motions to approve
 - Tim seconds
 -  Approved as presented

II. UPDATES (*00:01:06)

- [Clark County Public Health – Solid Waste Program](#)
 - Updates sent in advance
 - Mollie Mangerich starts Nov. 22nd, in the Sr. Operations Specialist position
- Clark County Public Health – [Solid Waste Enforcement](#)
 - Updates sent in advance
 - Q3 SWE update
 - Received 45 complaints
 - Resolved 42
 - Conducted 11 permitted facility inspections
 - New Facility Applications
 - [City of Battle Ground](#) Decant Facility- preliminary application for NOI
 - CoBG decants their materials at this facility, then sends them to Watley Pit
 - Applying for a grant through WA Dept. of Ecology
 - ▶ Site will need a Solid Waste Handling Permit
 - ▶ Looking to expand current operations
 - Sent for multi-agency review
 - Will need to submit a complete application, including SEPA
 - They do not seem to have much material to process
 - Building has been in place for about 10 years
 - Getting a grant application to expand
 - ▶ Will likely need a larger facility due to population growth
 - Hoping to have the first draft of the permit by the end of the year
 - ▶ May need to have special meeting for that permit discussion
 - [3 Kings Environmental](#)- application for NOI for solid waste exemption
 - Concrete, asphalt and brick to be stockpiled and crushed on site
 - Sent for multi-agency review on Sept. 22nd
 - ▶ Waiting for comments to come in
 - [Section 30 Pit](#)- awaiting NOI modification application

- Facility accepting wood waste for Biochar technology
 - ▶ SWCAA approval required prior to operation, however, site currently has stockpiled feedstock.
 - ▷ Will need air quality permit
 - ▶ Needs EPA permit (\$10-20k annually)
 - ▶ PH and DOE have requested an updated NOI for exemption
 - ▷ If only wood waste, can be exempt facility
 - Currently in Public Comment period of Code update
 - Open through Dec. 31st
 - Available online at clark.wa.gov/public-health/solid-waste-garbage
 - CCPH staff & internal review and recommendations in Jan/Feb 2022
- [City of Vancouver](#)
 - Wrapped up spring yard debris program
 - Ran through July
 - Cost ~\$80,000
 - 3,465 coupons redeemed
 - 7,000 cubic yards of yard debris processed
 - More than 1,000 tires disposed of
 - Offered bulky item pick-up in lieu of neighborhood clean-up events
 - Second year running
 - Cost ~\$11,000
 - Removed 104 tons of bulky items
 - 1,798 customers served
 - ~4% of eligible customer base
 - Anticipate offering a hybrid next year
 - October launched fall leaves coupon
 - Over 20 years running
 - Vancouver offers neighborhood leaf drop box
 - CoV awarded \$40,000 Community Litter Cleanup grant, from WA Dept. of Ecology
 - Allows CoV to clean litter along state highway On and Off ramps within city limits
 - Over two years
 - 3 clean-up events in Sept & Oct
 - Received help from restitution crews
 - ▶ Will be using preregistered, trained volunteers in the future, due to Covid
 - Removed almost half a ton of litter from 6 ramps
 - ▶ 143 bags of litter
 - ▶ 62 bags of illegal dumping
 - ▶ 14 bags of clean recyclables
 - Will be presenting annual Solid Waste rate review to City Council
 - To take effect January 1, 2022
 - Rate impact 2.1-2.4%
 - 0.6% impact to customers
- [Waste Connections](#)
 - No update available

III. [WA Association of County Solid Waste Managers \(WACSWM\)](#)– Paul Jewell (*00:32.13)

Introduction

- Paul is a Policy Director with the WA State Association of Counties
 - WACSWM is an affiliate group of WA State Association of Counties
 - Paul handles water, land use, natural resources and other environmental issues

- WA State Association of Counties represents all 39 counties in Washington state
 - Works directly with legislatures, counties, and state agencies on a variety of issues

Policy Work and Structure

- All 39 counties are members of the association
 - All counties work a little differently
 - Not all counties agree on everything
 - Lots of differences in communities and their wants and expectations
 - Paul's job is to determine best advocacy for the counties as a whole, on a state-wide level
- WA State Association of Counties has several affiliate groups, including WACSWM
- WACSWM formed in 2018
 - Work to hone policy in a couple of different ways
 - Hold regular monthly meetings
 - Have developed guiding principles documents with all 39 counties
 - If an agreement cannot be reached, it may be left to individual members to advocate on their own
 - Work hard to try to come to agreements on large issues, to promote county voices on a state-wide level
 - ▶ May need to work with WA State Association of Counties if a bigger push is needed on a legislative issue, including
 - ▷ Testifying on certain pieces of legislation
 - ▷ Advocacy days in Olympia, for lobbying
- There is a lot of interaction between counties
 - A lot of discussions need to go through service providers for contractual reasons
 - Information is widely shared between counties, including
 - Job postings within counties
 - Questions on contract negotiations
 - New programs

Policy Issues in Recent Years

- Lots of legislative issues regarding solid waste
 - Big initiatives on funding
 - Statewide funding was cut dramatically in 2013
 - Majority of Model Toxics Control Act (MoTCA) funding comes from petroleum-based products
 - ▶ Several agencies have dipped into that fund
 - Local Solid Waste Financial Assistance account was cut by +62% in 2013
 - ▶ Have been able to restore those funds at 140% permanent increase
 - Bag ban has recently been implemented
 - Paint stewardship
 - Food recovery bill in 2018
 - Industrial symbiosis bill passed last year
 - Single use drinking straws proposal
 - One of the most controversial hearings in 2019
 - Bill rejected due to needs of handicapped public
 - EPR packaging
 - Litter control
 - Organic waste
- Will likely be talking about in upcoming legislative setting
 - Plastics
 - Senate Bill 5022 passed in 2020
 - Ban on polystyrene products
 - Single use cutlery by request only

- New requirements for post-consumer content
 - ▶ To be implemented over time
 - ▶ State-wide advisory committee formed to review regulation requirements
 - ▶ Expect to see a bill this year
 - Organics Management
 - WA passed Climate Commitment Act in 2020
 - Landfills that emitted a certain amount of greenhouse gas would be considered polluters
 - ▶ Lobbied to exempt landfills
 - ▶ 10-year window for landfill emissions
 - ▶ State intends to institute a second policy
 - ▶ Landfill emissions are derived from deposited organic matter
 - ▶ Can use bio-filters, methane capture methods, or divert organics from landfills in the first place
 - ▷ State is focusing on organics diversion
 - ◆ Prevention
 - ◆ Recovery
 - ◆ Compost/aerobic digestions
 - ◇ California is going through this currently
 - ◇ WA needs 5-10 times as many composting facilities as we currently have
 - Concerned about diverting 33%, as that is a revenue stream
 - Trying to advocate for solutions
 - Extended Producer Responsibility/Product Stewardship
 - Making producers responsible for product packaging and paper products
 - ▶ Implement in curbside programs, state-wide
 - ▶ does not speak of reducing the package itself, only responsibility
 - ▷ Ideally will incentivize producers to reduce packaging
 - Battery stewardship likely coming soon

IV. SWMP Update – Pete DuBois (*01:17:21)

- Staff involved in creating draft Mission/Vision/Values document
 - Outlines overarching goals, or “rallying cry”
 - Includes staff, SWAC, regional partners, and other key stakeholders
 - Vision looks at the goal for the future
 - Describes what we aspire to be
 - Primarily intended for staff and stakeholders
 - Mission looks at present moment and why we have our organization
 - Action oriented statement declaring our purpose
 - Why we serve our customers
 - Values are how we want to behave as a group
 - Guidelines for decision making
 - ? Pete requests SWAC members review and provide feedback
 - ! Amber will send out draft of Vision Mission Values for SWAC review
- Still working on various chapters of SWMP update
 - Will share chapters as they become available
 - Currently working on Phase 3 of 3 of the Regional System Study

V. Regional System Study Update – Mike Davis (*01:24:58)

- Complete Phase 1 report is out
 - Trying to determine how best to distribute, as it is +11 MB
 - Will make available upon request
 - 💡 Mike recommends reviewing the full report
 - If you find anything needing edits, please let Mike know
 - ! Amber will send the summary to commission members
- Phase 1 will lead into Phase 2, and looking into the recommendations
 - 🕒 Need to discuss Capital Improvement Program (CIP) recommendations regarding the next 10-20 years
 - City, County, and Waste Connections are beginning to talk about negotiations
 - Should help drive scope
 - JRMA needs planning timelines to create financial models
 - ▶ Should know more about timelines in the next few weeks
 - May want to have a committee or group to discuss the minimum fee
- Tim – is there a population point where collection system is no longer optional in rural areas?
 - This is something that may need to go before the county council
 - We are currently at 87% on pick-up service
 - Would like to implement universal services within the Urban Services Area
 - LaCenter and Battle Ground are the only cities without it
 - ▶ Mike believes LaCenter will be receptive to the idea
 - Waste Connections will be implementing automated pick-up in North County areas
 - ? Mike would like to get some recommendations on Chapter 3 by February
 - Would like to get something going by August to coincide with the automated cart rollout and 2023 rates
 - Need at least 4-5 months of advertising
- Allan – can we get an update on the construction at Central Transfer & Recycling (CTR)
 - Really close to completion of the turn lane, but need a few dry days to finish the pavement
 - Mike thought it would be finished by 11/20, but has not received updates
 - Pipe and other materials have been difficult to come by
 - CTR is planning to replace their compactor in late December
 - They will be without a compactor for about a month
 - Will do a combination of top-loading and diverting waste to other facilities
 - Estimated time for new compactor to come online coincides with annual lock closures

VI. Public Comment (*01:46:18)

- None

This meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 3rd, 2022

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