

**Clark County  
Solid Waste Advisory Commission  
Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
6:00 - 8:00pm  
Clark County Center for Community Health  
Conference Room 210  
1601 E. Fourth Plain Blvd., Bldg. 17  
Vancouver, WA 98661

**SWAC Members Present:** Steven Willis, Simone Auger, Rich McConaghy, Tim Kraft, Kyle Potter

**SWAC Members Excused:** Jason Presser, Allan Jeska, Derek Ranta

**SWAC Members Unexcused:**

**Staff Present:** Kim Harless, Melissa Sutton, Amber McKnight, Jessica Fischberg

**Others Present:** Julie Gilbertson,

Meeting began at 6:01 pm

**I. ROLL CALL, APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (\*00:00:10)**

- ☒ Simone motions to approve
- 🇺🇸 Unanimous approval

**II. OFFICER ELECTIONS (\*00:00:36)**

- Allan Jeska & Steven Willis' terms have ended
- Allan and Steven have both expressed interest as either Chair or Co-Chair
- ☒ Simone nominates Steven as Chair
- Kyle is interested in being Co-Chair
- ☒ Simone, Rich and Tim nominate Kyle as Co-Chair
- Tim mentioned the possibility of having Allan as "Chair Emeritus"
- 🇺🇸 Unanimous voting places Steven Willis as Chair, and Kyle Potter as Co-Chair

**III. UPDATES (\*00:06:54)**

- SWAC recruitments for Agriculture and At-Large have gathered applications, two likely candidates have been selected; however, council approval was not timely enough for them to join in tonight's meeting, but should be present for the next meeting
- [Clark County Public Health – Solid Waste Program](#)
  - [Staff Update](#) handout provided ahead of time
    - Consultants may be at the next SWAC meeting to present about the Clark County Solid Waste Regional System Study and get some feedback from SWAC.
      - 🗣️ Tim would like to have notes on scope of work, schedule for scope of work, and current status, as well as foreknowledge of what will be expected of SWAC before this presentation
        - ▶️ ! Kim will check with Mike and Travis to see if there is something ready to share at this point in time
    - Simone has expressed concern over public misunderstanding regarding cart tagging
      - We do have staff that is monitoring social media and correcting misinformation
    - 🗣️ If anyone is interested in attending the WSRA conference, let Kim know
- Clark County Public Health – [Solid Waste Enforcement](#)
  - 2019 Summary document provided ahead of time

- Have partnered with CoV to build a better program for multi-agency review, in an effort to be more diligent in ensuring that WAC performance standards are met
      - Have formed a committee and created a supplemental form for Clark County
      - Working with CoV to implement a team approach to pre-application meetings, including all parties involved, to let the applicant know what may still be needed
  - New sites:
    - Vancouver Asphalt & Recycling
      - Multi-agency review pending response from applicant
    - DIRG/Nutter Corp Property
      - No NOI required at this time; communication written and sent to business
    - J's Custom Landscaping
      - No NOI required at this time; communication written and sent to business
  - Updating Clark County Code
    - Code has not been updated since 1978
    - Have been looking at county codes from other counties to get ideas
    - Will be meeting with prosecuting attorney to ask some questions about enforcement, and fines and penalties
    - Next step is internal review & recommendations, like with SWEO staff
    - Request for SWAC review committee (May/June)
    - Will have an RFP for a contractor to come in and facilitate the public process
    - Would work with consultant to present to the board of health for final recommendation
    - Hoping to add codes about things like minimum garbage service requirements, burying of dead animals, animal waste management, garbage cans with lids
- [City of Vancouver](#)
  - 2019 fall leaf program
    - ~7400 coupons redeemed this year, with ~2 cubic yards per coupon, on average
    - Overall disposal cost is ~\$156,000
  - Just this week released an RFP for yard debris and leaves receiving and processing sites
    - RFP is for three year contracts with options to extend twice, for one year each
  - Renewed Recollect contract for collection reminder tool, A-Z tool, Recycle Right app
- [Waste Connections](#)
  - New garbage compactor installed at West Van
    - Able to process much more than the previous one was able to process
  - Annual lock closure in March, for ~two weeks
  - New 10 year collection contract with City of Ridgefield
    - Will go to automated garbage collection in April
  - New site supervisor at West Van, Quinn Gonder, has replaced Nathan Smith

#### IV. Special Waste Project Update – Jessica Fischberg (\*00:44.28)

- Provided update on project so far to find gaps in the waste system, specific to special wastes
- First a report on batteries is being drafted
  - Battery fires in the system have been a growing trend each year, with 10 battery fires in 2019
    - Laptop, lithium ion, and cell phone batteries can smolder or explode when damaged
      - These types of batteries are not collected at the curb
    - This was not a big issue when curbside battery collection began in 2003 because these more dangerous battery chemistries were not around or as prevalent
    - Brainstorming ways to address the concerns & working with partners and stakeholders to see what kinds of changes can be implemented to improve the system

- Curbside-collected motor oil and anti-freeze are increasingly found mixed together, or mixed with other liquids
  - Mixed containers are tagged and left at the curb
    - Some containers are picked up while it is still dark out, so hard to see if mixed
    - Waste Connections is working on follow-up to the residents
- Product stewardships for Medications and Paints will start sometime this year
  - Medication drop boxes can be placed at eligible facilities for universal collections
    - Our outreach team is working to get more sites to sign up for this optional service
    - Meds has not rolled out yet, as they are still waiting on a final contract with DOH
  - More paint stores will be taking back paint from both residents and businesses
    - Currently not a lot of options for this service, especially for small businesses
- Jessica's reports are not finalized yet, but we can share those with SWAC as they become available
  - Has been doing a lot of research in scientific literature as well, which will be used to help make decisions during recycling contract negotiations

#### V. Legislative Update – ~~Travis/Kim, Jason Presser~~ (\*00:58:25)

- Travis and Kim met with Jason to discuss a Policy Sub-committee
  - If anyone else is interested in joining, please let Kim know
- Kim was in Olympia last week to advocate for more funding for local solid waste programs; trying to get funding back to pre-recession levels from MTCA
  - It's looking promising this year
- Product stewardship bills for both batteries and sharps are being proposed this year
- ! Kim will send links out to other bills, including:
  - <https://zerowastewashington.org/legislative-work/>
  - [Battery bill](#)
  - [Sharps bill](#)
  - [Minimum Recycling Content](#)
  - [Single Use Food Service Products](#)
  - [Polystyrene ban](#)
  - [Plastic Bag ban](#)
- What is the role of this sub-committee?
  - As information becomes available from committees that Kim and Travis are on, they will share the information with the sub-committee who will determine if is worth bringing to SWAC
  - Subcommittee will bring the issue to SWAC, who will vote on whether or not to pursue it
  - If pursued, the sub-committee will write a letter to the legislators
  - When available, members of the sub-committee might go to Olympia to lobby support
- Tim would like to have a discussion with Jason and as many SWAC members as are available, to get information on the legislative session and where SWAC can step in and help
  - ! Steve will create a group email

#### VI. Cart Tagging Update – Derek Ranta (\*01:11:43)

- Presenter not present

#### VII. Public Comment (\*01:18:00)

- none

This meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm

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