

**SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
SUMMARY MEETING OF: November 8, 1995**

**MEMBERS**

Jeanne Roy, Citizen  
Bruce Walker, City of Portland  
Lynne Storz, Washington County  
Tom Miller, Wash. County Haulers Assn.  
Steve Schwab, Clackamas Co. Haulers  
Lexus Johnson

Jeff Murray, Far West Fibers  
James Cozzetto, Jr., MDC/ERI/Sanifill  
Dean Kampfer, ORRA/Tri "C"  
Doug Coenen, Oregon Waste System  
Lynda Kotta, East County Cities  
Steve Miesen, BFI

**GUESTS**

Pamela Kambur, Clark County  
Keri Painter, Colulmbia Resource Co.l  
Michael Sievers, Pacific/West Communications Inc.

**METRO**

Mike Burton  
Jon Kvistad, Chair  
Bern Shanks  
Debbie Gorham  
Marie Nelson  
Todd Sadlo  
Scott Klag  
Kelly Hossaini

**1. Updates and Introductions**

Chair Jon Kvistad announced that the December SWAC meeting would be canceled, and that the next SWAC meeting would be on January 17, 1996.

Bern Shanks told the Committee that the Food Waste Collection Request For Proposals was recommended for Council adoption the previous day by the Regional Environmental Management Committee (REMCOM). Also, the Yard Debris Licensing ordinance proposal will go to Council for first reading on November 16, and then to REMCOM on November 21. Full hearing before Council will take place on November 30.

Mr. Shanks also announced to the Committee that the proposal for re-evaluating the membership of SWAC would be tabled to sometime later in 1996. Both he and Executive Officer Mike Burton are interested in a broader representation on the Committee, but that will be researched and developed further.

It was also announced that the RSWMP monitoring system will be reported on at the January 1996 SWAC meeting, and that there will also be a presentation to the Committee on Disaster Debris Management Planning.

Mr. Burton updated the Committee on the proposals for hauling ten percent of the Forest Grove Transfer Station waste. He said that Metro is currently reviewing and analyzing the three proposals that have been submitted, and REMCOM has been advised that an analysis would be submitted to them within ten days. At that point, Mr. Burton will submit either an award letter to one of the bidders, or reject all of the bids outright.

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the SWAC minutes from the June 21, July 19, and September 20, 1995 SWAC meetings. The Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

## **3. Regional Solid Waste Management Plan**

Mike Burton thanked the Committee and Metro staff for all of their hard work on the RSWMP. He said he recognized the difficulty in the task of dealing with the whole solid waste effort in this region. He said his goal is to extend the life of our landfills by reducing, reusing, and recycling our waste, and only landfilling it as the least favorable option. He said that he challenged Metro staff to increase the overall recovery rate in the Plan, even though some people would be skeptical. He explained that we need to set our goals as high as we can and then try to obtain them. We can do this through focusing on business waste, organics, and additional recycling and reduction in the programs we already have. Mr. Burton also told the Committee that Metro is going to take some initiative and look at a pre-disposal fee on household hazardous waste. Metro's household hazardous waste functions cost over four million dollars a year. These functions are extremely important to our environment and our solid waste system, but we need to start asking people to pay for the cost and somehow give incentives to not use products containing these chemicals in the first place. Just as Oregon led the country on the Bottle Bill, we can lead on this kind of effort.

Marie Nelson then reviewed the agenda attachment entitled Amendments, Changes, and Additions which contains changes made to the July 10 draft of the RSWMP and reflected in the October draft.

Dean Kampfer asked why vertical integration was even addressed in the Plan and why Metro was involved in this issue. Bern Shanks explained that Metro has had a long-standing policy on vertical integration and has an interest in fostering competition in the region. Marie Nelson continued by saying that staff had said in the preliminary draft of the RSWMP document that the issue would be addressed in the final draft.

Jeanne Roy asked that the Yard Debris Plan be kept and maintained until it had been carried out. Marie Nelson responded that the new RSWMP is an integrated plan that incorporates all of the elements of prior plans that have yet to be completed. She assured Ms. Roy that the elements of the yard debris plan that have not yet been completed have been carried over into the new RSWMP. Ms. Roy then asked that the yearly measurement of yard debris being disposed be continued, and Ms. Nelson replied that it would.

Tom Miller expressed concern about the amendment on page 3, under "Metro Authority", which states that Metro reserves its authority to override tonnage limits and other locally imposed restrictions that prevent Metro from fully utilizing its facilities to carry out the RSWMP. Mr. Miller felt that this sounded as if Metro is reserving its right to renege on its agreement with Oregon City. Todd Sadlo responded by saying the amendment is intended to address ORS 459.095 which states that a local government cannot adopt an ordinance, regulation, or contract that conflicts with Metro's DEQ approved Solid Waste Management Plan. The purpose of this language is to reserve Metro's rights, whatever they may be, to take action against a locally-made rule on tonnage caps as they conflict with the objectives of the RSWMP, but only after a public process and action by the Metro Council. Mr. Miller stated that he still felt it was unnecessary and didn't want to see Metro pushing tonnage increases on unwilling parties. Jeff Murray voiced his agreement. Jon Kvistad said that the issue would be raised before the Council for discussion.

Jeanne Roy asked that the results of the cost/tonnage analysis of different programs be added as an appendix to the RSWMP, and that there be a tie between the programs in Chapter 7 and the numbers in Chapter 9 of the RSWMP. Jon Kvistad and Marie Nelson agreed to see that this was done.

#### **4. Other Business/Citizen Communications**

Jeanne Roy presented to the Subcommittee her findings on a pilot program to collect household food waste in King County, Washington. She explained that the County is testing two different collection methods through the pilot program. The first method is a cellophane-lined brown paper bag that residents fill with food waste and put in their garbage cans. The hauler then sorts the food into one truck compartment, and the waste into another. In the second method, a plastic container with a lid and biodegradable bags is given to the targeted residents for collection. The food waste is then taken to a landfill site and composted. The participation rate with the brown paper bags is 40% and the rate with the container is 30 - 35%. The County staff is trying to determine what accounts for the difference in the rates.

#### **5. Adjourn**

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