

Metro Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)
Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2000

Members/*Alternate Attendees

Councilor Ed Washington, Chair
Jeff Murray, Far West Fibers
Glenn Zimmerman, Wood Waste Reclamation
Steve Schwab, Sunset Garbage Collection
Mike Miller, Gresham Sanitary Service
Mike Leichner, Pride Disposal Co
David White, ORRA, Tri-County Council
Scott Bradley, Waste Management
Mike Misovetz, Clackamas County Citizen
Connie Winn, Multnomah County Citizen
Rick Winterhalter, Clackamas County
JoAnn Herrigel, Clackamas County Cities
Susan Keil, City of Portland
Lynne Storz, Washington County
Sarah Jo Chaplen, Washington County Cities
*Tam Driscoll, East Multnomah County & Cities
*Tom Wyatt, Browning-Ferris Industries
*Vince Gilbert, East County Recycling

Non-voting Members Present

Carol Devenir-Moore, Clark County
Terry Petersen, Metro, REM
Doug DeVries, STS
Doug Anderson, Metro, REM

Members / Non-voting Members Not Present

Frank Deaver, Washington County Citizen
Chris Taylor, DEQ

Guests/Metro

Kathy Kiwala, Clark County	Bryce Jacobson, REM
Todd Irvine, Willamette Resources, Inc.	Bill Metzler, REM
Dean Large, Waste Connection, Inc.	Meg Lynch, REM
Ray Phelps	Connie Kinney, REM
Easton Cross	Vicki Kolberg, REM
Diana Godwin	
Steve Apotheker, REM	
Scott Klag, REM	

Terry Petersen called the meeting to order, stepping in for Chair Washington, who was delayed slightly. Mr. Petersen asked for a motion to adopt the November and December 1999 meetings. JoAnn Herrigel moved the minutes be adopted; Mike Leichner seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously. Councilor Washington arrived shortly after the meeting began.

Mr. Anderson reminded the committee that during Spring 1999, SWAC deliberated over reorganizing the SWAC, and, in addition, appointing new members. He said staff have been busy recruiting for new members and reappointing some existing members.

Mr. Anderson welcomed the members: Steve Schwab, Sunset Garbage, Clackamas County haulers; Mike Borg, Clackamas County haulers alternate; Mike Miller, Gresham Sanitary Service, Multnomah County haulers; Bryan Engleson, Multnomah County haulers alternate; Mike Leichner, Pride Disposal, Washington County haulers; Tim Hamburg, Washington County haulers alternate; David White, ORRA, Tri-County Council, at-large haulers; Brian Heiberg, at-large haulers, alternate; Jeff Murray, Far West Fibers, recycling facilities; Andy Kahut, KB Recycling, recycling facilities alternate; Glenn Zimmerman, Wood Waste Reclamation and Composting Council of Oregon, composters; Kent Inman, composters alternate; Scott Bradley, Waste Management, disposal sites; Dean Kampfer, disposal sites alternate; Ralph Gilbert, ECR, disposal sites; Vince Gilbert, ECR disposal sites alternate; Connie Winn, Multnomah County and Cities ratepayers.

In addition, Mr. Anderson welcomed Mike Misovetz (Clackamas County ratepayers) and Frank Deaver (Washington County ratepayers) as returning citizen representative whose terms have not expired. Mr. Anderson said the recruitment for three business ratepayer representatives continues. Mr. Anderson welcomed Lynne Storz (Washington County) and Susan Keil (City of Portland) for second terms. Non-voting members welcomed were Chris Taylor, DEQ; Dave Kunz, DEQ alternate; Carol Devenir-Moore, Clark County, Washington; Kathy Kiwala, Clark County, Washington alternate; Terry Petersen, Metro; Doug Anderson, Metro alternate. Mr. Anderson said a list of members (voting and non-voting and alternates) and contact information for them was being circulated; he encouraged the members to peruse the information and provide any additions or corrections to Connie Kinney, Clerk to the committee.

Mr. Anderson announced that Meg Lynch would be conducting an orientation session soon for the SWAC membership, covering items such as the purpose of the committee, bylaws, the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan and some of the relevant processes at Metro.

REM Director's Update

Mr. Petersen welcomed the committee and stated he looked forward to working with them in the coming year. Mr. Petersen stated that the REM Committee will be reviewing two important topics this afternoon. One is Round Two of the excise tax ordinance dealing with solid waste. The REM Committee will be looking at whether or not the flat excise tax should be converted to a per-ton excise tax even though the overall amount of excise tax revenue is not going to be increased. The new rate would

be \$5.02 per ton, plus a credit of \$1.19 for dry waste that goes to a limited purpose landfill, and a further credit ranging from \$0.15 to \$1.50 for material recovery facilities, based on recovery at the facility, but no less than 20% recovery.

Mr. Petersen said the second topic was what to do with the 10% of the region's putrescible waste that was not committed to Waste Management-owned landfills. Mr. Petersen said a procurement option is being discussed. He reminded the committee that staff had discussed evaluation criteria with SWAC members for a procurement. He said after the committee has decided what the actual criteria should include, staff will draft a procurement proposal to deliver to the council in late February.

Mr. Petersen said the residential recycling campaign is in full swing and asked Vicki Kolberg, Recycling Education and Outreach Supervisor, to bring the committee up to date on the progress of this project. Ms. Kolberg said the campaign was launched January 16, 2000 in *The Sunday Oregonian*. She explained that the campaign was aimed at encouraging residents who don't currently participate in curbside recycling to begin, and to encourage those who recycle to put out more recyclables at the curb. Ms. Kolberg said the eye-catching and attention-grabbing promotion will play on selected radio spots, TV and newspaper advertising. The two radio ads were played to the committee. The total expended on this particular campaign was \$144,000, of which \$115,500 went directly to the media buy. Ms. Kolberg stated that pre- and post-campaign surveys are being conducted to measure the effectiveness of the campaign. She said any feedback from any source is welcomed, including ideas for future campaigns. Ms. Kolberg said that in the Spring a campaign to reach business sector the will be launched.

Ms. Keil noted that recycling tonnage in the City of Portland is up 17% during the previous two months. She said it would be interesting to see the impacts sorted out.

Partnership Plan for Waste Reduction

Jennifer Erickson, Senior Solid Waste Planner, introduced the Partnership Plan by noting that in 1989 DEQ had required a Waste Reduction Plan for the region. Since then, the plan has been modified in many ways. Among them is the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan, which was developed and approved in 1995 and which changed the annual planning process significantly. The next fiscal year (2000-2001) marks Year 11 of the annual planning process.

The planning process for Year 11 focused on two objectives: simplifying reporting requirements and improving recovery in three key areas: commercial, construction and demolition debris, and organics.

Part 1 of the Year 11 plan incorporates the new initiatives in the three areas, and includes maintenance programs for curbside and yard debris recycling, waste reduction consultations with businesses, in-school programs for students and teachers, and hazardous waste outreach and education. Ms. Erickson distributed draft copies of the plan. She said the draft plan has been distributed to Metro Council, as well as

interested parties throughout the region. She noted this is the first of a three-year cycle. She said staff will be soliciting comments over the next couple of months, which will be incorporated into a second draft; the third draft is considered the final that will be submitted to the REM Committee and the full Metro Council for approval. After Council approves the plan, local jurisdictions submit their individual plans by June 1st.

Ms. Driscoll asked about the timeframe for submitting the third draft. Ms. Erickson responded that staff expected to submit the third draft in March or early April.

Ms. Keil asked the preferred method for submitting comments. Ms. Erickson replied that comments can be written, e-mailed or phoned, whatever is most convenient.

Household Hazardous Waste Plan

Scott Klag, Senior Solid Waste Planner, reminded committee members that he had distributed some draft proposed language at an earlier meeting and had asked for comments. He said staff has written new language, based in part on the comments received. He then explained the new draft language.

Mr. Klag said comments fell into four or five main categories; he proceeded to go through them. He said the basic comment received was that there should be stronger emphasis on the importance of not just reducing and eliminating risks, but in educating the public on alternatives to hazardous products. Other comment areas include the desirability of shared product responsibility section; comparisons of the new plan and the old plan; the issue of costs; and efficiency and effectiveness. Mr. Klag remarked that if the committee found the plan to be basically complete, members could vote to take the plan to the REM Committee and on to the Council.

Ms. Keil commented that the City preferred not to emphasize anything that might add hazardous materials to the sewer system. She said that perhaps staff's case for alternatives could be stronger and perhaps give the public real practical choices. As a practical matter, the City tries not to transfer waste from the garbage can into the sewer system, because hazardous wastes are especially bad for our treatment system. Emphasizing this aspect would be good for the City. She said the message to the public is most effective if it is targeted to specific items that are troublesome to the waste stream.

Mr. Klag noted that under "shared product responsibility," initial draft language might have been too wordy and didn't talk enough about the principle behind, for instance, the paint program. So the language was changed to talk about responsibility, impacts on society and costs to the disposal system. Section 3, last bullet, now includes some language about the financial side.

Mr. Klag said that staff felt it was not Metro's role to get into major discussions with the public on how to use pesticides, but if there are issues about use, we will look at them on a case-by-case basis.

Chair Washington commented that on the issue of shared responsibility, how do we get this message out to the people, and get their involvement before the fact? Chair Washington also said he wants to ensure that we receive all sides of an issue before we embark on a campaign.

Mr. Petersen replied that Metro's Paint Smart is one example of how the paint industry is partnering with DEQ/Metro. This has become a good program, one with the buy-in, interest and support of the industry.

Mr. White said that Metro's involvement with state legislation concerning some products, i.e., phosphates in soap, and for a time, pool chlorine, etc., is an example of how if you create the motivation, the industry will come to the table, talk about it and be interested in participating.

Ms. Keil commented that the Metro/business partnership is such a good thing, and she would encourage bringing the haulers into that forum.

Mr. Gilbert stated it would be helpful to have a list of the main targeted hazardous waste we are looking at and volumes generated in the region, if you have that data and prioritize the list. He said this way we will know which ones we are working on and which have the most effect on the region.

Mr. Klag replied that was in our plan. He said he could distribute a list of what we are taking in now; it seems reasonable to target this heterogeneous stock piles first, then identify more specific products, based on the cost to the system.

Mr. Zimmerman mentioned that Marion County's collects latex paint program it its curbside program, as well as at the transfer stations.

Meg Lynch, Waste Reduction & Planning Supervisor, commented on Mr. Gilbert's request because she felt it was a good one. She said that what Metro has data on is what is already coming out of the wastestream and is currently being recovered at the Hazardous Waste Facilities, and, to a certain degree, what is being disposed. She said what we don't have data on, and we don't know how to get the data, is what people are storing in their garages and basements right now. She said staff suspects there is a lot of material there, but the amount and types of those hazardous wastes won't be known until we do something successful enough to pull it out.

Chair Washington asked whether Metro staff had received any type of feedback from manufacturers when we offer alternatives to pesticides?

Mr. Klag responded that the manufacturers' presence is felt and if staff were to, for instance, make a statement that one product was less toxic than another and staff had not done their homework, the manufacturers would be quick to respond.

Mr. Klag said the objective as stated in Section 13.3 is to talk about convenient, safe, efficient and environmentally sound disposal services -- over time.

Mr. Petersen clarified that the language being discussed is intended for the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan, and is, therefore, somewhat general. He said that should Council decide to proceed, a couple of the things that stand out in his mind are 1) education, 2) shared responsibility, 3) increased convenience, 4) continued funding, 5) no new regional facilities, and 6) hazardous waste drop-off services as a condition of any new regional transfer stations.

Ms. Keil noted that the plan as presented today includes elements we have talked about that can be fixed. She felt the committee would be willing to vote today on whether to take this plan to Council. Ms. Keil made a motion to recommend adoption of the Hazardous Waste plan as presented. Mr. White seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to pass the plan on to Council.

Other Business

Chair Washington said that on behalf of the committee, he wanted to welcome all the new members and alternates to the SWAC committee.

The meeting was adjourned

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