

Metro Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)
Meeting Minutes
January 29, 2001

Members / *Alternates

Councilor Susan McLain, Chair
Councilor Bill Atherton, Alternate Chair
Dean Kampfer, Waste Management (disposal sites)
Merle Irvine, Willamette Resources, Inc. (disposal sites)
*Vince Gilbert, East County Recycling (disposal sites)
Lee Barrett, City of Portland
*Susan Anderson, City of Portland
Tanya Schaefer (Multnomah County citizen)
John Lucini, SP Newsprint (recycling end users)
*Tam Driscoll, City of Gresham (East Multnomah County and cities)
Mike Misovetz, (Clackamas County citizen)
Steve Schwab, Sunset Garbage Collection (Clackamas County haulers)
Mike Leichner, Pride Disposal (Washington County haulers)
Rick Winterhalter, Clackamas County
Lynne Storz, Washington County
David White, Oregon Refuse & Recycling Association (at-large haulers)
Jeff Murray, Far West Fibers (recycling facilities)
Frank Deaver, Washington County citizen
Kent Inman (composters)
Mike Miller, Gresham Sanitary Service (Multnomah County haulers)
Tom Brewer, Tanasacres (business rate payer)

Non-voting Members Present

Doug DeVries, Specialty Transportation Services
Chris Taylor, DEQ
Terry Petersen, REM

Metro and Guests

Tim Raphael, Celilo Group	Bill Metzler, REM
Leann Linson, REM	Warren Johnson, REM
John Houser, Metro Council	Roy Brower, REM
Easton Cross, BFI	Eric Merrill, Waste Connections
Karen Feher, Metro	Connie Kinney, REM
Doug Drennen, DCS	Paul Garrahan, REM
Greg Nokes, Oregonian	Jim Watkins, REM
Charles Marshall, WC Haulers Assoc.	Ray Phelps, WRI
Janet Matthews, REM	Eric Merrill, WCI
Lin Bernhardt, REM	Presiding Officer David Bragdon
Meg Lynch, REM	Councilor Rod Monroe
Doug Anderson, REM	

Introduction of Susan Anderson

Mr. Lee Barrett from the City of Portland, introduced Ms. Susan Anderson, the new City of Portland Director of the Office of Sustainable Development (OSD). Ms. Anderson briefly described the new department and its goals. Ms. Anderson said OSD would be looking at marketing from the client and low-income point of view. Ms. Anderson invited everyone to the "Green Building" open house.

Chair McLain welcomed the members of SWAC to the new year and the new Council. Alternate Chair Atherton will attend all of the SWAC meetings, but Ms. McLain will chair the meetings. Chair McLain briefly discussed the newly organized Council, as well as the voter-approved Ballot Measure 26-10, which abolishes Metro's Executive Officer and combines that position within the Council in the year 2003. Chair McLain said that the transition will be on-going throughout the next two years and will make Metro a stronger entity within the region. Chair McLain then invited REM's Director, Mr. Peterson, to give the director's updates.

Director's Update

Mr. Petersen said that his updates were related to the franchise of additional Regional Transfer Stations which will be discussed later on in the meeting.

New Chair's Opening Remarks and Discussion

Chair McLain said SWAC has given the Council good advice in the past. The Council depends on public committees such as SWAC to keep them advised of the region's needs and asked them to continue to do the great job they have in the past.

Chair McLain said the Council has adopted Ordinance 00-860A – Advisory Committee Review. She said that Metro has over 600 volunteer committee members like SWAC members. The council looked at all of the committees and voted on an ordinance that would bring all of the committees under one umbrella as to membership, as well as terms of office. The Council goal was to ensure that all committee by laws and membership worked as it should for the good of the region.

Mr. White, representing Oregon Refuse & Recycling Organization and the Tri-County Haulers Association, made a request to the Metro Council that Mr. Steve Schwab be allowed to stay on the REM Rate Review Committee. He objected to the Council's new rules, which would relieve Mr. Schwab of his membership in that committee. He stated that his request was being made on behalf of the organizations he represented. Chair McLain responded that she would have Metro's legal counsel clarify the ordinance related to this issue at the next SWAC meeting.

Mr. Steve Schwab asked the Council if the Rate Review Committee might be able to meet earlier in the year so the committee might be better informed on how the budget and rate is formulated before they are asked to vote on a disposal rate. Mr. Schwab added that the Rate Review Committee is concerned with financial aspects of the REM department whereas the SWAC is looking at the policy issues to the region. He also would like to have updates on what REM is doing before it becomes part of the budget. Mr. Schwab would like the two committees to have a combined meeting as well.

2001 SWAC Meeting Schedule and Work Plan

Ms. Schaefer asked that, in reference to issues to be discussed in 2001, she would like the committee to explore product stewardship as well as electronic recovery for Metro and the region. Alternate Chair Atherton stated that the Solid Waste and Recycling Committee will also be interested in electronics.

Chair McLain also added that Metro councilors always appreciate the input from committee members and invited any opinions they might like to offer.

Mr. Barrett said that the City of Portland was reviewing its policy as it applied to disaster debris he suggested that Metro review its policy and procedure applications to this issue and perhaps update its plan.

Mr. Dean Kampfer asked whether or not the Rate Review Committee and the SWAC would host a joint committee meeting as former Chair Ed Washington suggested.

The committee was then asked to vote on a new meeting date and time. After much discussion, the committee voted unanimously to meet at 3:00 p.m. on the third Monday of each month, excluding the month of February, because the third Monday was a holiday.

Regional Transfer Stations

Mr. Petersen announced that REM received and forwarded to the Council for its review a regional franchise application from Allied/Willamette Resources (Wilsonville location) and Recycle America/Waste Management (Troutdale location). An application from Columbia Environmental (Sandy Blvd. location) was determined to be incomplete and was returned for further information. The Allied/Willamette Resources application was forwarded to the Metro Council for determination on February 7, 2001. The Waste Management request will be before Council February 14, 2001.

Mr. Petersen said that there are definitely underserved areas in the region, and that both the Wilsonville and especially the East County area are within that category. REM has spent some time researching the financial impact of additional regional transfer station to the region. Mr. Petersen said that the addition of these two regional transfer stations would impact the region by a loss of \$1.3 million dollars in loss of solid waste collection fees from the two Metro regional transfer stations.

Ms. Driscoll asked at what point does Metro stop accepting applications for additional regional transfer stations, or at what level of impact will we stop because the impact on Metro and the region is too severe?

Mr. Taylor asked if the report on the impact to the region included the impact on recovery levels if Metro should allow new regional transfer stations?

Chair McLain said, in answer to Ms. Driscoll's question, that this question has already been discussed within the Council. She further stated that this committee will continue to be helpful

to the Council in its deliberations on adding new regional transfer stations and applauded the SWAC input in this regard.

Mr. Irvine replied that in his company's estimation, the additional amount of tonnage that would be allowed would result in mostly wet waste and not recoverable materials; however, that with the removal of the 50,000-ton cap that Metro has invoked, his company would be in a better position to remove additional recoverable materials from their loads.

Mr. Kampfer added that with the addition of a regional transfer station in Troutdale that the wear and tear on the highway system would surely be an advantage, not to mention a transfer station there would be that much closer to the regional landfill. Additionally, the advantage of less on-the-road time, meaning there is less of a chance of accidents, will only enhance the advantage of a regional transfer station.

Chair McLain said this discussion would continue to the next advisory meeting. She thanked the committee members for their input and reminded them that through their input policies were made for their region.

Other Business and Adjourn

The committee meeting was adjourned.