

**SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SUMMARY MEETING OF: January 17, 1996**

Voting Members Present

Committee Chair: Ruth McFarland, Metro Councilor
Hauling Industry: Steve Schwab, Clackamas County Haulers Assoc.
Jim Cozetto, Jr., Multnomah County Haulers Assoc.
Tom Miller, Washington County Haulers Assoc.
David White (Oregon Refuse & Recycling Assoc.,
Tri-County Council)
Solid Waste Facilities: Ralph Gilbert (East County Recycling)
Citizens: Jeanne Roy (Recycling Advocates)
Government: Ken Speigle, Clack. County (County Staff)
Debbie Noah, Mult. County Cities (Mayor, City of Gresham)
Lynne Storz, Wash. County (County Staff)
Loreen Mills, Wash. County Cities (Staff, City of Tigard)
Susan Keil, City of Portland (City Staff)

Alternate Members Present

Recycling Industry: Jeff Murray (Farwest Fibers)
Government: Lynda Kotta, Mult. County Cities (Staff, City of Gresham) *
* Did not vote because regular member, Debbie Noah, was present

Non-Voting Members Present

Metro: Bern Shanks (Director, Regional Environmental Management)
Clark County: Carol Devenir (Staff)

Voting Members Absent

Recycling Industry: John Drew (Far West Fibers)
Solid Waste Facilities: Doug Coenen (Oregon Waste Systems)
Steven Miesen (BFI/Trans Industries)
Citizens: Merle Irvine (United Disposal)
Bruce Broussard (Cad Tek)
Government: Gary Hansen, Multnomah County (County Commissioner)
Bob Kincaid, Clackamas County Cities (Staff, City of Oregon City)

Guests Present

Easton Cross, Consultant
Ray Phelps, OWSI
Diana Godwin, Regional Disposal
Lexus E. Johnson

Metro Staff Present

Debbie Gorham Kelly Shafer Hossaini
Marie Nelson Tomas Parker
Doug Anderson Chuck Geyer
Jim Goddard Connie Kinney

1. Updates and Introductions

Chair Ruth McFarland introduced herself to the Committee and told them she was glad to be back as chair.

Bern Shanks announced that the final Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) had been printed. Each SWAC member and alternate present was then given a copy of the document in a canvas bag with a waste reduction message. The bag was a thank-you to the Committee for their hard work on the RSWMP.

Mr. Shanks then reported that over the holidays there had been numerous incidents of illegal medical waste at the transfer stations. Staff will be developing strategies for addressing the problem. One incident involved radioactive waste from a local hospital. Each of the transfer stations will soon be equipped with equipment to detect radioactive materials.

Mr. Shanks then told the Committee that the bids to haul waste from the Forest Grove Transfer Station have been withdrawn, and it is hoped that it will be re-bid in March.

2. Approval of Minutes

Jeanne Roy noted two errors in the November 8, 1995 SWAC minutes. In agenda item four of the minutes, Other Business/Citizen Communications, the minutes should have read "The first method is a cellophane-lined brown paper bag that residents fill with food waste and put in their ~~garbage~~ yard debris cans. The hauler then sorts the food into one truck compartment, and the ~~waste~~ yard debris into another." There were no objections, and the minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

3. Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) - Strategy to Monitor and Report on Plan Progress

Douglas Anderson, Technical Services Supervisor, presented RSWMP requirements for measuring and monitoring the plan. He began by stating that RSWMP supplements existing measurement programs, rather than replace them. For example, the Recycling and Recovery Level Survey will continue, and recycling and recovery rates for the region will be reported. The SWIS Report will also continue to be published. And so forth. To these, the RSWMP adds reporting of per-capita disposal rates and disposal rates by households and businesses.

Mr. Anderson identified the three broad areas of measurement and reporting specified by RSWMP: (1) Program Monitoring - a regional "checklist" approach to determine what programs are implemented for which materials and generators, by jurisdiction. (2) Program Evaluation - designed to determine whether specific programs are functioning as required. This fiscal year, at least two programs will be evaluated: the regional curbside yard debris programs, and the Compost Bin Distribution program. A third may be added: comparing wet-dry collection/MRF recovery with other approaches to recycling. (3) Regional Benchmarks - general measures designed to monitor solid waste trends and the net effect

of solid waste programs. Regional benchmarks include the regional recycling rate, per-capita disposal, etc.

The RSWMP calls for annual reports during the first quarter of each fiscal year. Mr. Anderson presented a very early draft of a "State of the Plan" report that shows some possibilities for content and format. The purpose of sharing a draft with SWAC is to provide an early opportunity for comment and suggestions.

Sue Keil told Mr. Anderson that the City of Portland is interested in the potential wet-dry collection program, and might want to collaborate with Metro on the program if it is pursued. She also said that the results of the City of Portland's Commercial Cost of Service study might be of some assistance, and something might be gained by going back to the same businesses involved in that study.

4. Disaster Debris Management Planning - Report from the Disaster Debris Management Task Force

Kelly Shafer Hossaini, Assistant Solid Waste Planner, gave the Committee an update on the Disaster Debris Management Plan planning process. She said that the purpose of the project was to ensure that the Metro region is prepared to deal with the removal and disposition of disaster debris in a way that is coordinated, efficient, effective, and that causes minimal environmental impact. When finished, the Plan will specify goals, objectives, management practices, and implementation strategies. The completed Plan will become a part of both the Regional Emergency Management Plan and the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan.

A task force has been assembled for the purpose of developing the Disaster Debris Management Plan and forwarding recommendations to SWAC. The task force consists of representatives from emergency management, solid waste, public works, and the Army Corps of Engineers. Three of the task force members are also on SWAC - Tom Miller, Lynda Kotta, and Lynne Storz.

Ms. Hossaini then reviewed the proposed timeline for the project, as well as the draft format of the Disaster Debris Management Plan.

Ms. Hossaini introduced the proposed recommended practices for disaster debris management. Their purpose is to create a path for achieving the disaster debris management goal and objectives through the outlining of tasks and the assigning of responsibilities to both public and private agencies. She then reminded the Committee members to give her a copy of their completed questionnaires, as attached to their packets, either after the meeting, or by fax or mail. (See attachment 1 to these minutes for the results of this questionnaire.)

Lynda Kotta reviewed the proposed recommended practices with the Committee. She began by explaining the main objectives of the practices:

1. Ensure efforts are coordinated and cooperative.
2. Ensure local resources are the first choice for use in collection and disposal.
3. Ensure a high degree of recycling and recovery.

4. Ensure FEMA reimbursement.
5. Restore normal garbage service as quickly as possible.

Sue Keil recommended that some work be done to determine the state of emergency planning in each of the jurisdictions. She also noted that it wasn't clear who would be in charge of seeing that this plan is carried through. Tom Miller replied that coordination efforts will be addressed through Recommended Practice 5, and will be a part of the Plan.

Loreen Mills stated that often documents like a Disaster Debris Management Plan are released but they end up unused on a shelf, and the people who need the information never get it. She said it is important to identify key people that need the information and ensure that they get the document.

Debbie Noah said that the coroner or other medical personnel should be added to the list of private sector players in disaster debris management. She asked what would be done with bodies and body parts in the debris.

Dave White asked at what point would the completed Plan take effect? Would it only be activated when the federal government becomes involved? Or when a disaster crosses jurisdictional boundaries? Or only when it is of a certain magnitude? Kelly Hossaini told him that the task force would take a look at that and define it.

5. Organic Waste Management - Long-Term Implementation Framework

Jim Goddard presented the framework goals and objectives for long-term organic waste management. He explained that their purpose was to provide direction for developing and implementing management practices, as mandated by the RSWMP, to reduce the amount of food waste and non-recyclable paper disposed in landfills. He said that the core group that will be used to develop the framework will include, local governments, haulers, processors, the DEQ, and Metro. He asked if the Committee had any comments about the goals and objectives or the process for their development.

Sue Keil said she thought it was thorough and thoughtful. Jeanne Roy agreed, but asked that in Goal 2 the year 2000 benchmark be included, as well as the year 2005 benchmark. Mr. Goddard replied that it might be too confusing if that were added, and the interim goals cover that. This was intended to be an overall, long-term goal.

Dave White asked whether the Goal 1, Objective 3 was meant to include flow control. Jim Goddard replied that it wasn't.

Ruth McFarland then asked the Committee for approval of the Framework Goals and Objectives, which was given unanimously.

6. Set Tentative Calendar and Topics for SWAC

Marie Nelson gave the Committee a copy of the tentative SWAC calendar listing meeting dates and topics through June 1996.

7. Other Business/Citizen Communications

None.

8. Adjourn

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