



# COLUMBIA REGION ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS

429 S. W. 4TH AVENUE • SUITE 500 • PORTLAND, OREGON 97204 • (503) 226-4331

CLACKAMAS COUNTY, OREGON  
*Cities in Clackamas County*

CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
*Cities in Clark County*

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON  
*Cities in Multnomah County*

WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON  
*Cities in Washington County*

## METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

### MINUTES

JULY 30, 1970

#### ATTENDANCE

Eldon Hout  
Robert Schumacher  
Lloyd Anderson  
Sid Bartels  
Harold Ruecker  
Frank Schumaker  
Homer C. Chandler, Acting Director

#### EXCUSED

David Eccles

Mr. Hout stated that the purpose of this meeting was to hear a report concerning the status of solid waste disposal in the Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington County areas. He stated that several technical people were there to present what each of their jurisdictions are doing at the present time and what their long-range plans call for. Mr. Hout then called on the following:

1. Mr. Robert Baldwin, Multnomah County Planning Director

Mr. Baldwin gave a review as to how the disposal of solid waste affects other aspects of community life and stated that, if we are to solve this problem of solid waste disposal, we must do the following things:

- a. Solid waste disposal must be included as a part of a total comprehensive plan for the community.
- b. The problem should be broken into a short-range and a long-range program.

- c. The elements of the long-range disposal plan should include a study of (1) the various methods of disposal; (2) the relationship of disposal methods to land use, air, highways, recreation, the future use of land fill sites, and other elements of comprehensive planning.
- d. The study of the economics of the various methods of solid waste disposal.

He stated that, until solid waste disposal is related to the other elements of long-range planning and until all known methods of disposal are thoroughly reviewed, the area will not realize its full potential.

2. Mr. Bill Cullum, State Board of Health

Mr. Cullum, representing the Oregon State Board of Health, reviewed the highlights of the state-wide solid waste program that was completed in the year 1969.

He stated that the publishing of this report was instrumental in getting the State Legislature to adopt legislation which would streamline the operations of the State Health Program. He stated further that the report recommends the development of a regional solid waste disposal system, and that for this community, the area that should be considered for service by a regional facility would include all of Multnomah County west of the Sandy River, the north one-half of Clackamas County, and the urbanized sections of Washington County, plus the eastern half of Columbia County.

Mr. Cullum also stated that the State report accepts that sanitary land fill is the most feasible method of disposal for the present time, but does not consider this method as the ultimate answer and that there needs to be a regional overall study to determine the most desirable method. He stated that the report recommends that CRAG be given the responsibility for the development of the regional solid waste disposal system.

3. Mr. Homer Tunks, CRAG Engineer

Mr. Tunks, representing the Columbia Region Association of Governments, presented a progress report of CRAG planning for a regional solid waste disposal system. He stated that the scope of work in this planning project consists of:

- a. Developing an inventory of existing methods and places for disposal.
- b. Determine what capacity each existing disposal site has left and how long it will be before each site will be filled to capacity.

- c. Study the alternative methods of disposal of solid waste.
- d. If the land fill method of disposal is considered the most feasible, then a review of various sites will be conducted. This review will relate the disposal sites to transportation accessibility, source of cover material, etc.
- e. The needs of disposal sites in the year 1980 and the year 2000.

Mr. Tunks demonstrated that a considerable portion of the work has already been completed and that the CRAG staff is working diligently to complete the study and to ready recommendations for the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan District as well as the CRAG Executive Committee.

4. Neil Thompson, Clackamas County

Mr. Thompson stated that the Clackamas County Commissioners and Solid Waste Commission recognizes and urges the development of a regional solid waste disposal system. This has become especially apparent to them with the Air Pollution Authority placing a ban on open burning.

He stated that their one sanitary land fill and three demolition sites will not be able to handle the increased dumping which has already risen by 33% since the burning ban was imposed. He further stated that one of the critical needs is to develop a method to prevent illegal dumping along road sides, vacant properties, and in canyons.

5. Ken Meng, Washington County

Mr. Meng stated that Washington County presently operates one sanitary land fill known as the Shadybrook. It is 60 acres in size and all 60 acres will be filled to capacity by July 1, 1971. He stated that the County, in anticipation of having to look for other sites or methods of disposal, employed the engineering firm of Clark and Groff to study the problems of solid waste disposal and to propose solutions to the problem.

Mr. Meng stated that the Clark and Groff study has been completed and it recommends two specific programs:

1. Acquire a new 100 acre site which would serve for approximately 10 years and then the property would be reclaimed for other uses.
2. To work for and help to develop a regional solid waste disposal system which would include transfer stations.

Mr. Meng also stated that several private firms had made offers to operate a disposal service in Washington County, but they have found that the costs per ton is generally twice as great as the tonnage fee required if Washington County operates its own system. Again Mr. Meng emphasized that the County supports the need of a regional operation.

6. Oliver Domries, Multnomah County

Mr. Domries reviewed Multnomah County's operation of the disposal site known as the Vance Gravel Pit. This pit, which is located on approximately N. E. 190th between Stark and Division Streets, is near capacity. He stated that the site, as it is presently operated, will be completely full by January 1971. However, with some work, the life of this site can be extended for a short period of time. Once it is filled, the County contemplates using the site as a county park. Because the first pit is nearing capacity, the County is looking for replacement sites, one of which is located in the northwest section that would serve the county from seven to ten years. Mr. Domries also emphasized that Multnomah County urges the development of a regional facility.

7. Jim Apperson, City of Portland

Mr. Apperson's opening remarks drew the attention of the Committee to the fact that many of Portland's existing parks were former solid waste land fill projects.

He stated that, at the present time, the City owns approximately 800 acres of land near the Smith and Bybee Lakes. Of that acreage, approximately 190 acres are currently being used as the City's solid waste site. He stated that the continued operation of the site, as it is presently, poses a conflict with the Port of Portland's plans of the area. The Port's plan calls for the Smith and Bybee Lakes and surrounding areas to be a water oriented recreation area. However, Mr. Apperson is of the opinion that, once a determination is made as to whether or not the existing site should continue to serve the City of Portland or become a regional disposal site, the apparent conflicts with the Port of Portland can be resolved.

He stated that, if only 190 acres of the area is used for a solid waste disposal site, it would have capacity enough to serve the City's needs for the next five years or the metropolitan area's needs for three years. If the full 800 acres are used, then it would offer 30 years of service if it is only to serve the City of Portland, or 15 years of service if the operation is put on a metropolitan basis.

Mr. Apperson pointed out that, at the present time, the solid waste operation does not carry itself financially; therefore, the City of Portland is taking steps necessary to raise the necessary funds to put the operation on a pay-as-you-go basis. He stated that the present operation handles approximately 1,000 tons of garbage per day and that it is an open site. To convert this area into a regional operation, it would mean the importing of great quantities of cover material inasmuch as the present site does not have the cover material necessary.

Following the presentation by the engineers, planners, and public works directors, it was determined that this matter would be turned to the staff of the Columbia Region Association of Governments to come up with a proposed course of action by the Metropolitan District.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULE

The Metropolitan District Board determined that time is of the essence in the development of a work program and a financial status; therefore, they selected August 7, 1970, at 8:30 a.m. as the time for their next meeting. During that meeting, they will devote their efforts to studying proposed bylaws and a financial plan.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.



File - Metropolitan District

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Service District Officials  
FROM: Homer C. Chandler DATE: July 27, 1970  
SUBJECT: Meeting, July 30, 1970

Just a reminder of the July 30, 1970, 8:30<sup>a.m.</sup>~~p.m.~~ meeting of the Metropolitan Service District. The meeting is at the Portland Water Bureau Office, 1800 S. W. Sixth in the old Blue Cross Building.

The agenda will include a report from technicians of Portland, CRAG, and the three counties on what is being done to solve the solid waste problem.

Sincerely,

Homer C. Chandler  
Executive Director

HCC:jec