

King County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

October 19, 2012 - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
King Street Center 8th Floor Conference Room

Next SWAC meeting – November 16, 2012 - 9:30-11:30

Meeting Minutes

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>King County Staff</u>	<u>Others</u>
David Baker	Anne Berrysmith	Signe Gilson
Jerry Bartlett	Jeff Gaisford	Chris Husband
William Beck	Kathy Hashagen	Keith Livingston
Joe Casalini	Laila McClinton	Martin Westerman
Bob Dixon	Pat McLaughlin	Doreen Booth
Jean Garber	Yolanda Pon	
Steve Gerritson	Grace Reamer	
Sean Green	Eric Richardt	
Mathew House	Thea Severn	
Craig Lorch	Kathy Wright	
Joan McGilton	Diane Yates	
Suellen Mele	Polly Young	
Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann	Lisa Youngren	
Releana Sindelar		
Judy Stenberg		
Stephen Strader		

Approve September Meeting Minutes; Review Agenda

Action Item: September meeting minutes were approved as amended. The amendment makes it clear that the speaker discussing the Board of Health Subcommittee on Medicine Return was Gaisford.

Action Item: The following motion passed unanimously. The May meeting notes will be revised to comply.

I move that the second and third sentence of the final paragraph on page three of the May meeting minutes be revised to read as follows. "The division asked the King County Ethics Board staff for advice. After reviewing previous Ethics Board Opinions they said it would not be appropriate for SWAC members or representatives from their company or groups to participate in the development of a grant program to which they ultimately can apply and benefit."

Nomination and Election of Vice Chair

Action Item: With a vote of 10 in favor and 5 opposed, Schmidt-Pathmann was elected as Vice Chair.

Updates

Pat McLaughlin, the new Solid Waste Division Director introduced himself and discussed his diverse business experience.

The King County Council adopted a new solid waste rate of \$120.17 per ton that will go into effect January 2, 2013. This rate is primarily to fund capital improvements. Some expenses were deferred including the proposed Zero Waste Grant program. The customer service survey is retained in the rate as is restoring free recycling services.

As a result of the new rate, the minimum fee will increase from \$20 to \$22 including taxes and fees. Additionally, the unsecured load fee will increase from a maximum of \$10 to \$25.

The Washington State Department of Ecology has published proposed amendments to Chapter 173-350 WAC – Solid Waste Handling Standards. The proposed amendments, related documents, and more can be found on their webpage at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/rules/rule350.html>. The public meetings/hearings will be held October 24 and 25. Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 PM November 5, 2012.

An ordinance authorizing the division to use a negotiated procurement process for was passed by Council October 15. A companion ordinance requires the division to consider alternative project delivery methods for future transfer station projects.

John Taylor has resigned from SWAC. A new recycling industry representative will be recruited.

2013/2014 Budget Preview

This is the division's first two-year budget. Council is scheduled to take action on the proposed budget on November 13th

Revenue:

- Disposal income is higher due to the rate increase though tonnage is projected to be essentially flat.
- Landfill gas to energy revenues are increasing now that the plant has been repaired.
- Recycling revenues are projected to more than double from 2012 to 2013 due to changes in the division's procedures and shifts in the recyclables market.
- Grants are projected to continue to decline reflecting the difficult economy and slow recovery.

Expenditures:

- Debt service is up because the Bond Anticipation Notes used to finance Bow Lake will be converted to General Obligation Bonds.
- The Capital Equipment Replacement Fund contribution has been increased to reflect a new four year planning model.
- The Landfill Reserve Fund increase is needed to fund projects such as Area 8 and to make up for less interest income from lower rates of return.

- The Construction Fund contribution was reduced because the benefit of paying cash for construction is less in due to lower financing and interest costs.
- Other changes reflect transfers between work units, changes in centralized services costs, lower rent payments for Cedar Hills, higher sewer rates, and salary and benefits costs.

SWAC Letter Regarding Unwanted Medicine Policy

Action Item: With a vote of 14 in favor and two abstentions, SWAC approved the [attached letter](#) expressing support of a county-wide drug take back program.

South County Recycling and Transfer Station Siting Process

SWAC received an update about the South County Recycling and Transfer Station Siting Project. The division has:

- Developed criteria to evaluate sites.
- Gathered input from the Siting Advisory Committee (SAC) that met on four occasions.
- Hosted an open house attended by more than 70 people.
- Identified and ranked sites.

Additional sites were identified from input at the open house and at SAC meetings. Those sites were not feasible because they are designated as farmland or have significant wetlands.

Two sites were identified for environmental review. Those sites will go through the EIS process and will be evaluated along with a “no-action” alternative. The next step is to issue a Scoping Notice indicating the dates of the comment period and of the scoping meeting open house.

Open Forum

During the comp plan discussions, cities made it clear that disposal “bans” were not a preferred alternative. As such the division does not refuse loads of refuse that are within the waste acceptance policies. However, new facilities are built to allow a greater ability to re-direct disposed recyclable materials.

Through their contracting, cities determine whether recyclables are collected at the curbside via single stream.

The Board of Health will determine how unwanted medicines are disposed. The US EPA recommends disposal through combustion at a permitted hazardous waste combustor.