

King County Solid Waste Advisory Committee
June 20, 2014 - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
King Street Center 7th Floor Conference Room 7044/7045

Meeting Minutes

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>King County Staff</u>	<u>Others</u>
April Atwood	Mendy Droke	Jamie Clegg
Bill Beck	Kathy Hashagen	Signe Gilson
Joe Casalini	Beth Humphreys	Peter Thermos
Bob Dixon	Morgan John	
Jean Garber	Ross Marzolf	
Chris Husband	Laila McClinton	
Stacia Jenkins	Thea Severn	
Craig Lorch	Margaret Shield	
Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann	Diane Yates	

Approve Meeting Minutes; Review Agenda

The May minutes were not acted upon as there was no quorum.

Updates

SWD

The County Council voted unanimously to approve the Executive signing a contract for construction of the new Factoria Recycling and Transfer Station. The project team's goal is to begin construction in July.

The project will occur in four phases:

1. Demolish two warehouses to make way for new transfer building
2. Construct new transfer building
3. Move into new transfer building 4th quarter 2016 and demolish existing transfer building
4. Construct new Household Hazardous Waste on location of old transfer building; complete access roads and any remaining project elements 4th quarter 2017

On June 9, the County Council acknowledged receipt of the Transfer Plan Review report. They required that SWD prepare another report in collaboration with stakeholders that addresses strategies for management of transfer station transactions, analysis of options that would obviate the need for a new transfer station in the northeast service area, and analysis of the effect of the closure of the Renton Transfer Station on the self-haul service. The division will bring a proposed process for collaboration to the advisory groups in July.

Transfer station recycling tons for January through May 2014 are up about 1,600 tons over the same period last year. The resource recovery pilot targeting removal of metal, cardboard, and clean wood from the waste stream began at the Shoreline Recycling and Transfer Station (RTS) in April. In May, the pilot surpassed goals for recovery of metal and clean wood, recovering 106 and 95 tons respectively. Later this year the pilot will be expanded to the Bow Lake and Enumclaw stations.

The Office of Civil Rights and Open Government is providing the division's SWAC recruitment brochure to all King County Boards and Commissions liaisons for use as a model recruitment brochure. SWAC members were provided with a copy.

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) announced that the Bow Lake Recycling and Transfer Station won its Silver Excellence Award in the Transfer Station category.

All elected officials and all public officials – which include SWAC members – must complete training on the open public meetings act. Members are asked to send a copy of the certificate of completion of that training to Yates.

SWAC members are reminded to contact Yates with their plans related to the July 18 tour of Cedar Hills and Cedar Grove Composting.

MSWMAC

SWAC and MSWMAC Liaison Stacia Jenkins gave the MSWMAC update. MSWMAC had a similar agenda to SWACs. There were questions about the advisability of delaying a rate increase and an update on the Financial Policies Subcommittee. MSWMAC members are happy with how the Sustainable Solid Waste Management Study is coming together.

Other

Recently, a SWAC member inquired about dioxins and furans in relation to the Roosevelt Gas-to-Energy Facility. Casalini gathered the following information.

- The facility is not required to test for dioxins. Dioxins are formed by the direct combustion of materials that contain chlorine-based compounds and hydrocarbons, such as polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastics. Therefore, they are of concern primarily for waste incinerators.
- The facility tests for one furan tetrahydrofuran (THF). After flaring or processing for energy, THF is non-detectable.

Because his organization is considering proposing for work that may result from the Sustainable Solid Waste Management Study Schmidt-Pathmann recused himself from discussions on that topic.

Rate Analysis

Based on a wide range of factors, the division is not proposing a rate increase for 2015/2016. Another rate study is planned in 2016 regarding the 2017/2018 biennial budget period. Though the division was able to avoid proposing a rate increase at this time, it is unlikely to be able to maintain the same rate for 2017/2018.

Product Stewardship

The committee received the first of three presentations about product stewardship scheduled for June, July and August. The first [presentation](#) is about a statewide program for collection and recycling of mercury-containing lights. Additional information is available at <http://www.lightrecyclewa.org/>

- The Light-cycle Washington program begins Jan 1, 2015. Mailings and other promotional efforts are scheduled to begin in November and December.
- Lights are recycled and processed within the state.
- The work of the [WMFFA](#) which was originally created to deal with electronics recycling has been expanded to deal with mercury-containing lights.
- A “unit” is one tube or light regardless of its size.
- Light-cycle Washington will look again to add a collection site on Vashon Island and will focus on True Value Hardware.
- Collection sites are required to have liability insurance allowing them to handle and transport HHW.
- Light-cycle Washington and the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program would be happy to work with cities and other organizations with messages about why appropriate handling of mercury is important.
- Enforcement to ensure that manufacturers are participating in the program is provided by Washington State Department of Ecology.
- The mercury is not shipped overseas. The residuals are sent to rare earth recovery.

Sustainable Solid Waste Management Study

SWAC received the Executive Summary of the sustainable Solid Waste Management Study. The study focused on five areas including resource recovery at transfer stations, construction and demolitions debris management, organics processing, disposal alternative and technologies, and sustainable system financing. Advisory groups and SWD staff provided evaluation criteria and twenty-one of the most promising best practices were selected for future study. In May, the advisory committees received a comprehensive implementation plan that considered the limitations of division resources and the interrelatedness of several of the best practices.

Comments on the Executive Summary included:

- Continue the materials recovery pilot at Shoreline. Consider a handout to encourage recycling. Look for different ways to educate and incent the public.
- The division is looking at public/private partnerships, particularly for new technologies.
- Anaerobic digestion at division facilities c/would be done in enclosed processes which changes food waste into energy, ammonium, phosphate used for fertilizer and compost. About 22% of the material disposed at Cedar Hills is food waste.
- Advisory groups will be invited to provide input on evaluation criteria.
- The division is looking for public/private partnerships, particularly for new technologies.
- Rate redesign may include a shift from a strictly tonnage based fee to assessing a fee on garbage bills. The current system which funds the system through disposal does not support zero waste of resources. Ensure the restructure doesn't create a disincentive for recycling.
- Consider how a minimum fee and automated pay system could limit scalehouse contacts.
- Onsite organics processing as referred to in best practice number eight refers to processing at the site where the waste is generated. The division would support this effort using available staff and resources but is not recommending programmatic changes.
- Model ordinances and programs for contractor incentives to help cities improve recycling rates of construction and demolition debris would be very helpful.

In September, the division will ask SWAC to consider a motion supporting the general direction of the Sustainable Solid Waste Management Study. Then, the concepts would be incorporated into the comp plan update.

Open Forum

The [IFAT](#) is a leading trade fair for water, sewage, waste and raw materials. More than 3000 exhibitors shared information at the fair. Schmidt-Pathmann recommended that the county attend the next fair in 2016.

In response to a question, division staff noted that with the advent of more advanced technology in materials recovery facilities, co-mingling recyclables allows for a savings in hauling costs while still allowing the materials to be effectively recovered. Cardboard continues to be separated at transfer stations because it is a high value material.

A group of advisory committee members is planning the presentation of the green fence issue at the joint SWAC/MSWMAC meeting scheduled for July 11.