A regular meeting of the Pend Oreille County Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) was held on Thursday, March 3, 2011 at the Commissioner’s meeting room in the old County Courthouse building in Newport, WA.

The sign up sheet was passed around. Bob Nichols, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm.

The meeting began with introductions of people present: 1) Bob Nichols, B&N Sanitary; 2) Dave Alvarado, NW Industries; 3) Beth Gillespie, SW Coordinator; 4) Cindy Low, Excess Disposal; 5) Harley Seger, HHW & Recycling; 6) Sam Castro, Public Works Director; 7) Rene Wehreing, citizen 8) Travis Low, Excess Disposal

Beth was asked by Dennis McLaughlin of Rabanco and Scott Campbell of Ponderay Newsprint to be an alternate and vote for them in their absence. Rene Wehreing talked to Charles Kress, who submitted his written resignation as of Feb 22, 2011, and is his alternate today. Rene also agreed to become a voting member of SWAC upon approval of the Commissioners. Two other voting members were absent with no designated alternates: Don Hutson of the Kalispel Tribe and Judy Henshaw, citizen.

A count of voting members was 7 (Bob, Dave, Cindy, Travis, plus Rene for Charles and Beth for Dennis and Scott). Quorum established.

Bob asked if there were any corrections to the April minutes. There were none.

- Beth moved to approve the April 1, 2010 SWAC minutes. Motion seconded, carried.

Bob asked if there were any corrections to the November minutes. The green flyer is now out of date as the County does not accept glass anymore and the three stations are now open 8am to 4pm. But when the minutes were taken, the flyer was correct so no corrections are needed to the minutes.

- Dave moved to approve the November 4, 2010 SWAC minutes. Motion seconded, carried.

Old Business:

We need more voting members to join SWAC. Travis will see if the Newport mayor is interested. Sam will see if the Tribe would like to have someone other than Don Hutson (who has not been active in a year) get involved in SWAC. State SWAC By-Laws state we need 9 voting members at least. Beth will see if Nancy Thompson is interested in becoming a voting member. Call Beth for a SWAC new member application, if someone is interested in joining us.

New Business:

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair - Bob said he would need to step down as Chair due to health issues. Bob asked if Travis would go from Vice Chair to Chair. Travis accepted. Bob asked who would want to be Vice Chair. Dennis McLaughlin’s name came up but he was not present to accept. Beth read an email from Scott Campbell that said he would be willing to be Vice Chair if nobody else offered.

- Beth moved to approve Travis and Scott as Chair and Vice Chair of SWAC. Motion seconded, carried.
2. **SWAC By-Laws Changes** – Beth related that in the future, the Commissioners would like to see any SWAC items to be signed by them to first be signed by the Chair and Vice Chair of SWAC.

3. **Solid Waste Plan Update** - Beth couldn't find the acceptance letter from Ecology but said they approved the plan and thanked all those involved to get the plan done. (See attached letter dated January 7, 2011 from Wayne Krafft at Ecology). Beth also pointed out a portion of the Newport Miner article from February 9, 2011 that said "... a bill is going before the legislators that, if passed ... Waste management renewal plans would be due every 10 years instead of every five years. Updating solid waste plans can cost counties between $50,000- $100,000".

4. **Update on Roosevelt Landfill tour** – Sam talked about the tour he, Dennis and Beth took of the Roosevelt Landfill in mid November. It was very informative and quite interesting to see how they are able to process 8,000 tons of trash a day (that is about our County's total tonnage for a year) and fill one cell a year and a cell is about 20 acres.

5. **Solid Waste** - The County transfer station rates increased January 1, 2011. The times of operation also changed to 8am - 4pm (from 9-5 before).

6. **Household Hazardous Wastes (HHW)** – Beth shared the 2010 totals for the County's HHW collections:

   - 12 tons of used oil
   - 2.2 tons of antifreeze
   - 6.8 tons of auto batteries
   - 4.8 tons of oil based paints
   - 6.3 tons of latex paint
   - 210 Freon based appliances

7. **Recycling** – Beth passed around the 2010 Recycling summary graph (attached). Total recycling tonnage has gone down from 2007 as has the total tonnage of trash collected. Harley said with the down economy, unemployment and high price for recycled commodities, more people are bringing their own recyclables directly to the buyers to get paid rather than bringing them to the transfer stations. When the commodity prices decline, unemployment eases and the economy picks up, then the County seems to get inundated with recyclables.

Discussion followed as to when the next meeting should convene. Bob decided to set the next SWAC meeting for Thursday, **June 2, 2011** in the Commissioner's meeting room at the old County Courthouse in Newport (625 4th Street, Scott & 4th) from 3-5pm. Beth will notify SWAC members, via email, regarding the agenda for the next meeting.

Bob adjourned the meeting at 3:45pm.
January 7, 2011

Mr. Sam Castro  
Director of Public Works  
Pend Oreille County  
P.O. Box 5041  
Newport, WA 99156

Dear Mr. Castro:

RE: Ecology Approval of the Pend Oreille County Solid Waste Management Plan Update Final Draft of June 1, 2010

Ecology is pleased to approve Pend Oreille County’s Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, submitted for final review and consideration on Nov. 23, 2010. This plan demonstrates Pend Oreille County’s continued commitment to sound solid waste management even in times of great fiscal challenge to the county.

Planning efforts by their very nature force a hard look at difficult issues. Plans are documents that draw roadmaps which set direction for future activities. The recommendations in the Pend Oreille County Plan, from Ecology’s viewpoint, support three important activities: 1) the guidelines for the orderly development of programs, policy and operating plans; 2) the basis for permitting decisions, and, 3) the support to obtain grants for future actions.

We believe this plan will allow you the flexibility you need to respond to changing conditions, yet gives clear enough direction that those charged to implement the plan can stay within your original intent.

We truly appreciate the efforts of your staff, SWAC members, consultants, government officials and the public to pull this plan together.

We look forward to the successful implementation of the plan per its implementation schedule, and to Pend Oreille County’s continued progress with environmentally sound waste handling practices and waste reduction and recycling activities.

Sincerely,

Wayne Kraft
Section Supervisor
Waste 2 Resources Program
Eastern Regional Office

cc: Beth Gillespie, Pend Oreille County Solid Waste  
David Danner, Executive Director, WUTC  
Jim Wavada, Ecology
Bill would delay growth management requirements

Y JANELLE KOHNERT
/SPA OLYMPIA NEWS BUREAU INTERN

OLYMPIA — Deferring state requirements to meet growth, shoreline and storm water management mandates would save cities and counties untold amounts of money, legislators heard Thursday, Feb. 3, at a hearing before the Senate Government Operations, Tribal Relations and Elections Committee.

The same bill would eliminate the requirement for municipalities to publish their public notices in newspapers, instead allowing them to post such notices to their respective websites as an alternative means to keep the public informed about meetings and planned actions. (See separate story.)

As it came up in committee hearings last week, the bill was met with resistance from advocates of open government, growth, shoreline and storm water management programs.

In an effort to reduce costs to government, Senate Bill 5360 would allow mandatory pavement inspections to be suspended until 2013-15 biennium. Small cities like Newport and towns would be able to delay providing pavement preservation ratings on their arterials to the state. Collecting that information currently costs the state about $179 per mile, according to a legislative fiscal report.

Waste management renewal plans would be due every 10 years instead of every five years. Updating solid waste plans cost counties between $50,000 and $100,000, according to the Department of Ecology. Changes in those requirements would cut expenses in half, according to the report.

Ecology would extend storm water permits through June 2013, and each county’s Growth Management Act (GMA) standing would be reassessed every 10 years instead of every seven. Pend Oreille has until December 2014 to develop its shoreline master program. If the bill passes, it would need updating every 10 years instead of every seven. That would save local governments about $1 million, according to the fiscal report.

One of the bill’s co-sponsors, Sen. Craig Pridemore, D-Vancouver, observed that Washington state counties would benefit because they would be able to cut less from essential county programs like public safety and health.

However, “All of these programs would continue this year and on into the future,” he said. “But this bill will provide them with a little more time (to meet state requirements).”

Pridemore also said that the effects of the bill would vary from county to county.

“Counties like Clark will likely be most impacted by extension of the GMA and SMA (Shorelines Management Act) provisions of the bill, while smaller counties will probably benefit more from extension of timelines for complying with the state’s green-car initiative,” he said.

April Putney, of land management organization Futurewise, said at the bill’s hearing before the Senate Government Operations Committee that she’s opposed to the permanent change from seven to 10 years between each county’s renewal of their comprehensive GMA plan. Most other local government changes that the bill makes are temporary until the counties can generate more revenue, and Putney said it would be better to offer only certain counties a 10-year plan review instead of the whole state.

According to Rep. Larry Springer, D-Kirkland, who’s sponsoring the House companion bill (HB 1478), it would also allow cities to delay compliance with new and costly storm water regulations, requirements for land use implementation deadlines, and road building regulations.

Dave Williams from the Association of Washington Cities spoke in support of the bill before the Senate committee Thursday. He said nothing in the legislation eliminates a state mandate or reduces protection of environmental impacts. “That can give us relief without going backwards,” he said.

Additional reporting was provided by Janelle Atyeo of The Miner.
PEND OREILLE COUNTY RECYCLING

- In 2007, residents & businesses threw out 8,775 TONS of trash
- In 2008, 8,348 TONS
- In 2009, 8,224 TONS
- In 2010, 7,649 TONS

TONS COLLECTED

MIXED METAL | PAPER | CRDBD | GLASS | AUTO BATT | ALUM CANS | E-CYCLE | OTHER

291 | 97 | 133 | 43 | 9 | 2 | 16 | 11

381 | 98 | 35 | 54 | 10 | 4 | 19 | 3

363 | 88 | 123 | 53 | 9 | 4 | 4 | 4

420 | 86 | 117 | 61 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 4

TOTAL TONS
- 2007: 710
- 2008: 692
- 2009: 658
- 2010: 580