

## Solid Waste Advisory Committee 5-7-09 MEETING

A regular meeting of the Pend Oreille County Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) was held on May 7, 2009 at the Commissioner's meeting room in the old County Courthouse building in Newport, WA.

The sign up sheet was passed around while waiting for the meeting to begin. Dave, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:08pm

The meeting began with introductions of the 16 people present: 1) Dave Alvarado, Northwest Industrial Services; 2) Beth Gillespie, SW Coordinator; 3) Sheila Pachernegg, Consultant; 4) Roberta Rene Wehreing, Citizen (works in County Mailroom); 5) Cindy Low, Excess Disposal; 6) Judy Henshaw, Citizen (works at Newport Schools); 7) Travis Low, Excess Disposal; 8) Rose Low, Excess Disposal; 9) Terri Ann Hedtke, Citizen (works in County Building & Planning); 10) Harley Seger, County HHW/Recycling; 11) Charles Kress, Citizen (retired from Pend Oreille County); 12) Bob Nichols, B&N Sanitary; 13) Scott Campbell, Ponderay Newsprint; 14) Jim Wavada, Department of Ecology; 15) Randy Knight, Consultant; 16) Don Olson, citizen.

Five SWAC voting members were absent this month: Bob Spencer, Cusick Mayor; Tara Leininger, Metaline Falls Mayor; Dennis McLaughlin, Regional Disposal Company; Don Hutson, Kalispel Tribe; and Kathy Grass, Selkirk Community Health Center.

Beth announced Travis Low was appointed by Ron Curren as a new voting SWAC member. A count of voting members present was 6 (Dave, Cindy, Travis, Charles, Bob, and Scott) with five absent; quorum established.

Dave asked if everyone had read the March and April minutes and asked if there were any corrections. None.

- Dave moved to abbreviate and summarize the minutes more with bullet points. Motion seconded, carried.
- Dave moved to approve the SWAC March and April minutes without a reading. Motion seconded, carried. Beth will post the final minutes on the County website.

Dave, Acting Chair, asked for nominations for Chair and Vice Chair positions. Scott nominated Dave for Chair, but he declined. Dave nominated Travis for Chair, but he declined.

- Cindy moved to nominate Bob Nichols for Chair. He accepted and the motion was seconded, carried.
- Dave moved to nominate Travis Low for Vice Chair. He accepted and the motion was seconded, carried.

Bob, as the new Chair, asked for discussion on Section 3, "Recycling & Waste Reduction" of the 2008 Solid Waste Plan. Discussion highlights were: Bob mentioned having more recycle containers in easily accessible places for the public like Stevens County has about 30 collection containers located in parking lots, etc. Randy suggested that at some future time, could the Usk transfer station be moved onto Tribal land and with joint County and Tribal effort be enlarged to include scales and a scale house. Rose suggested incorporating student groups or various student classes or Scout groups into doing community service hours to keep the recycling bins sorted at the schools. Don said he attended this meeting to find out recycling options on an entrepreneurial basis. If the County has a 10% recycling rate now, what could be done to increase that by 40% more so we are at the Washington State goal of a 50% recycle rate.

- Cindy moved to have a SWAC member talk to Port of Pend Oreille (or POVA) at 1981 Black Road in Usk and the various railroads involved to investigate having Pend Oreille County's refuse be by rail transfer only from Usk to Roosevelt Landfill in Klickitat County. Pend Oreille Valley Railroad needs work now that the lumber mills are closing. Motion seconded, carried. Dave volunteered to inquire about more rail transfer. Someone mentioned Kelly Driver as the contact person (509-445-1012 or 509-447-1090).
- Scott moved to have a SWAC member talk to Stevens County Recycling people to find out how they are handling recycling in their county. No second, motion died. Don Olson said he may just pursue this on his own.

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Bob then asked for discussion on Section 4, "CDL & Inert Waste" of the 2008 Solid Waste Plan. Discussion highlights were: Bob read Dave's memo (sent out with the Agenda) regarding how to handle special waste. Dave mentioned the need for awareness training for haulers, commercial businesses, construction companies, homeowners, etc. so everyone knows what material is being hauled to the transfer stations so the workers, drivers, customers and environment are kept safe at all times. Sheila clarified some history of hazardous materials and Jim talked about the potential liabilities if unknown materials are being disposed of. Bob asked if the consultants could come up with some type of protocol or procedure as to how to handle "special waste". Beth mentioned that the County is working towards making a CDL stockpile area at the South County Transfer Station in an effort to recycle the CDL into hog fuel rather than transfer it and dispose of it at the landfill. Jim explained that an "inert landfill" has a very narrow definition of acceptable materials. Basically just dirt and rocks; no longer asphalt road material or roofing shingles. But Sheila said the monitoring criteria for inert landfills are minimal as long as only "inert" materials are accepted. Someone asked if Pend Oreille County transfer sites have any intention of collecting compost materials. They do not as in the non urban growth areas, burning of slash is still allowed and composting in the cities can be done quite readily in your own backyard. Someone asked if a neighboring county had a wood chipper that could be used by the County a weekend or two each year to chip up homeowner's cut tree branches and bushes (items that don't easily compost). Someone commented about the posted warning signs about unsecured garbage loads; what is the fine and who enforces it. One would assume law enforcement personnel issue the fines but some counties have tarps for sale at their stations to help the public comply with the law.

No new business was brought up.

Next SWAC meeting is Thursday, June 4, 2009 in the Commissioner's meeting room at the old County Courthouse in Newport (625 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Scott & 4<sup>th</sup>) from 3 to 5pm. Please turn in any comments you may have on Sections 5 "Moderate Risk Waste Management" and Section 6 "Special Wastes" to Beth by May 28th.

- Scott moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:50pm. Motion seconded, carried.

*Approved by SWAC as is on 7-9-09.*

*Beth Pellegrino*