

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 28, 2006 6:30 PM
Senator Hearing Room – Main Floor – Courthouse Square
555 Court Street NE, Salem Oregon 97305

Routine Business: Thomas Smith, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Members Present: Thomas Smith, Michael Clark, David Furr, John Matthews, David Phelps, Susan Riches, Nora Schliske, Judy Skinner, Glenn Zimmerman, Bob Anderson, Russ Johnston

Members Absent: Larry Bevins and Mary Kanz

Public Signed in: Bonnie Sullivan, Jerry Sheetz

Staff Present: Jeff Bickford, Carol Ault

BOC Present: Commissioner Janet Carlson came in shortly after the meeting had started.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Michael Clark moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded.
Discussion: None
Abstentions: None
Dissensions: None
Results: Minutes approved as written.

Public Input:

Jerry Sheetz, Chair of East Salem Suburban Neighborhood Association (ESSNA)

- Mr. Sheets expressed interest in ESSNA being able to pick up the trash along Cordon Road and take it to the Transfer Station at no cost. Jeff said there is a county person who picks up the trash when the calls come in and you can reach them by calling County Dispatch at 503-588-5034. Jeff also spoke about the Adopt-a-Road Program in which the group can clean up their section of road and leave the bags of debris along the roadside and county workers will pick them up.
- Mr. Sheets said he received a letter from his garbage hauler regarding the recycling in the blue roll carts. The letter said that they are no longer able to recycle some plastic items and asked that these be placed in the trash. Judy explained that if there are items that can't be recycled in the mixed recycling bin, they might be accepted at the Transfer Station in the recycling bins.

Q. What kinds of plastic things did they say couldn't be recycled?

A. They were the black trays for Chinese food from Safeway and they were imprinted with the recycling logo. Susie explained that just because they have the recycling logo, they may not be recyclable in the co-mingle cart. John Matthews will check into this.
- Mr. Sheetz asked for information concerning membership to the SWMAC. Thomas explained that the SWMAC is made up of volunteers from different industries and citizen-at-large positions. There are currently three positions open at this time: Community Organization, Building/Construction Industry, and one Citizen-at-large position.

Bonnie Sullivan: Ms. Sullivan said she felt that Public Meeting Law was violated since the date for the February SWMAC Agenda posted on the web said February 21, and not the 28th. Carol explained that once she caught the mistake, it was corrected on the web page and an email went out to the council members advising them of the correction. Bonnie felt that a notice with corrected date should have been sent to all on the mailing list. The council apologized to Bonnie for any inconvenience and Carol agreed to send notification of any changes to the whole mailing list in the future.

Ongoing items list: No comments

MEMBERSHIP: Thomas asked if there have been any applicants for the vacant Citizen-at-Large, Community Organization, and Building/Construction Industry positions. Glenis is seeking volunteers from the Salem Home Builders and League of Women Voters. Jeff said that one application came in for the Citizen-at-Large position and wondered if the interview subcommittee wanted to wait to see if others apply or interview this one now. The Council suggested waiting to see if any more applications come in. If none are received by the March meeting, an interview for the one Citizen-at-Large applicant will be scheduled.

Overview of the new Code Enforcement Manual presented by Byron Meadows

The concept for the new code enforcement manual came about when the BOC agreed to fund a second code enforcement officer. The manual was created as a tool to instruct staff on how to record information, prioritize it, and get the information back to the citizen. The manual also has allowed us to put information on the web page letting citizens know what they should expect once they make a complaint. The final draft manual is on the Internet web page. A couple things that the BOC strongly agreed with was educating the public in the outlying county on things such as height of grass, broken down cars, etc. Once these folks have had a chance to correct the problem, there will be a follow up and if not done, then a fine may be assessed. There have also been procedures incorporated to help those who do not have the resources to do the necessary cleanup.

Mr. Meadows distributed two handouts. The first handout (See Handout #1) is a Status Report of Incidents By Type in 2005. It lists the number of complaints that were opened. The 'closed' number of complaints may include complaints from a previous year. With the addition of a second Code Enforcement Officer, the caseload went from about 300 per year to about 800 per year.

Q. David Furr asked for an example of a land use issue and what is involved.

A. Byron explained that the most common issue is people running a business on EFU property, or living in barns or out buildings that are not designated as that type of structure. They can only have one home on the property.

Q. Thomas Smith asked about the policy on graffiti.

A. Byron explained that they modeled the policy from the Ordinance that the City of Salem uses.

Q. Nora asked what kind of coordination the two Code Enforcement Officers do.

A. We meet each morning and review the complaints that came in the day before and assign them as appropriate.

The second handout lists current 'Open' Cases through January 2006. (See Handout #2). These cases take a little longer to close. The list gives an idea of what is going on in the county. Some cases take years to close.

Q. How does the public report incidents or complaints?

A. Byron explained that the majority of complaints come over the phone. Code Enforcement is listed under Marion County Public Works and the web site is listed under code enforcement as:
<http://publicworks.co.marion.or.us/enforcement/enfcom.asp>

Q. Does code enforcement get involved in cleanup of meth labs?

A. Byron answered no, due to the hazards involved. The Sheriff's Department accompanies the Code Enforcement officers to handle these properties.

Q. Bob Anderson asked if Code Enforcement periodically inspects properties with large amounts of tires or wrecked vehicles?

A. Byron answered that a wrecking yard has to be licensed once a year through DMV and requires the County to sign off so a pretty good record is kept of those that have been licensed. A lot of these started back in the 1960's and were never legal.

Note: Mr. Meadows had planned on giving a power point presentation, but due to the projector malfunction, a verbal presentation took place instead.

Thomas Smith thanked Mr. Meadows for a great presentation and for the good job done by Code Enforcement.

Backyard Burning/Illegal Burning, by Glenn Zimmerman (See Handout #3)

In the past, concerns of an illegal burn centered around dioxins. DEQ and Marion County agree that there are more problems presented into the environment from an illegal burn barrel than there is by the entire WTE Facility.

The first sheet of the handout is Page 20 of the Solid Waste Ordinance No. 1173, 2.5. Open Burning Prohibited. It discusses open burning of waste materials that emit dense smoke (basically household garbage). On the second page of the handout, 7.7 Enforcement of Ordinance, it talks about the county enforcing the ordinances and the

penalties. The third page of the handout is Ordinance No. 1105 which defines County Ordinance, violation citation, and who can enforce it. The fire department is the one that usually respond to those complaints. They don't write citations, but they do write reports, which are forwarded to county code enforcement for a follow-up. Byron stated that Legal Council said that a Code Enforcement Officer has to see the complaint themselves in order to pursue it. They can't just go by a report from the fire department or DEQ.

Nora wondered if the Fire Chief took photos of the illegal incident and gave the photos to Code Enforcement, if they could act on it then. Byron said that they have received a video in the past of an incident, and it was not enough evidence for Code Enforcement Officer to cite from. Nora stated that she asked the Marion County Fire Chiefs Association if they would like to work with us and they stated they would.

Commissioner Janet Carlson stated that she and another Commissioner are interested in this issue and suggested getting a work session together, which could include a couple SWMAC members, Jeff Bickford, and Byron Meadows. The BOC could give some direction to the SWMAC as to what they would like to see researched, and once the research is done, a recommendation could be made to the BOC. There are a number of options such as: look at other ordinances in other jurisdictions about backyard burning, or look at what code enforcement can do with current resources under the current ordinance. Nora asked if the council would like a fire chief to come talk to the BOC and Commissioner Carlson said that's something that Jeff might want to look into.

Michael Clark asked how we would survey what the overall management of backyard burning might be since enforcement really sits with DEQ. We don't know what their aim is or what we could do to help enforce their rules, let alone the Marion County ordinances. Is it appropriate to hear their goals to support the compliance with backyard burning rules? Glenn felt that we should focus on illegal burning of noxious garbage, etc.

Bob Anderson agreed with Mike. If we were to form a group to look at this, it would be good to include DEQ to get more information on their restrictions. Jeff said that DEQ is hiring a new person, so possibly in the future they may come talk to the council.

David Furr asked if this group to be formed would be the existing Illegal Dumping Subcommittee, or if a new subcommittee be formed. Thomas said the subcommittee could be whoever shows an interest.

Thomas asked staff to set up a meeting/work session with the BOC. Nora Schliske, Glenn Zimmerman, Susie Riches, and Bob Anderson volunteered to sit in on this work session. Jeff will put together a date for the work session and Nora will invite the Fire Chief's chairperson. The subcommittee will be called *Illegal Burning* and will be added to the Ongoing Items List.

Glenn expressed concern about putting a lot of time into this when it might go nowhere. Thomas agreed with Glenn and suggested asking if it's our issue or everyone else's issue that people are going to buy into before a lot of time is put into this. Bob Anderson disagreed with that theory in that if we don't do those things, we will circumvent future environmental triumphs and that we need to address these issues, whether they are successful or not.

COUNCIL INPUT/ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEW BUSINESS

* Nora expressed her concerns of having to dispose of the entire syringe in the medical waste container. Since she has many sheep to vaccinate and the container fills up quickly by having to put the entire syringe in, it gets very expensive. Metro has a program for subsidized disposal. Why can't Marion County have a program like this? Jeff explained that Metro's program is for residential, not commercial. It was suggested to put this on the agenda for next month.

John asked what kind of dollar impact this would be and how we would get information on subsidizing. Susie suggested that Marion Environmental Services might have some information. Suzie will contact them and bring the information to the March SWMAC meeting.

* Bob Anderson shared an article in the Statesman Journal, which suggested a medical waste violation by St. Charles Medical Center. Improper medical waste disposal was taken to the Deschutes County Landfill. Bob explained that he brought this up because the medical waste issue is important now and in the future.

* Bob Anderson mentioned that he would be giving a presentation in Eugene to the auto repair businesses and auto recyclers on March 14, 15, and 16, 2006. Bob will also going to New Hampshire to receive the National Small Businesses Stewardship Award.

* Judy showed a plastic lid that was a number 7, but can't go in the mixed recycling bin. Also, paper bags with plastic in them like the pet food bags can't be recycled. Judy also mentioned that Agri Plas will be collecting nursery pots from Al's Garden Centers and Wilco in Silverton. Bailer twine will also be accepted. John Matthews explained why the paper mills don't want the paper bags that are lined with plastic. Susie questioned if the informational material on co-mingling should be updated. John agreed.

STAFF UPDATES by Jeff

- * The recycling area at the North Marion Transfer Station has been revamped and upgraded. (ie; recycling of cell phones, latex paint, ink cartridges, household batteries) Currently working with Agri Plas for a bin for nursery pots and plastic bags.
- * Brown's Island Demolition Landfill has a new gatehouse. The river is down and work can also be completed on the access road.
- * It's budget time and the first draft is almost done. Jeff will email the first draft to council members prior to the March meeting, and then questions can be asked/answered at the March meeting. Michael asked Jeff to let the Council know when the budget presentation would be so SWMAC members wanting to attend may do so. Nora asked if the cost of pamphlets, radio announcements in languages other than English was considered in the budget. Jeff explained that Bailey from Environmental Services has done a lot of education in Spanish over the radio, TV, and in pamphlets. Commissioner Carlson explained that the figures in the budget are figures from the past two years, the current year and the proposed budget for next year. If Environmental Services is doing exactly as they've always done and adding this new piece on, then it should show more money. If they are actually re-prioritizing so they are doing less of something else, but more within the same line item, you may or may not see it, so it would take some explanation. Public Works presents their budget to the BOC from 2:00-5:00 pm on May 23, 2006.

Judy Skinner mentioned that she recently learned that United Disposal shut down their Silverton recycling depot and now the city is doing something at their public works site. Silverton will be holding a HHW event at the Silverton Fire Station on April 22 and in Stayton it will be on April 29, 2006 at the Roth's parking lot. Judy asked to have more recycling with the HHW events, but Jeff explained that the two facilities have very limited space for these events. Judy asked Bailey to mention where these depots would be to the Master Recyclers.

David Furr asked Bob Anderson if he gave tours of his business and Bob said he'd be glad to and that groups of ten usually work out great.

Nora Schliske announced that the absent members were Larry Bevens and Mary Kanz.

AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING: MARCH 28, 2006

SHARPS DISCUSSION	15 MIN
MEMBERSHIP	15 MIN
BUDGET DISCUSSION	15 MIN
ILLEGAL BURN UPDATE	15 MIN

MEETING REVIEW:

Meeting went well
 Nice to have Commissioner Carlson
 Thanks to Byron for presentation

MOTION:

Adjourned:	Glenn Zimmerman moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded.
Discussion:	None
Abstentions:	None
Dissensions:	None
Results:	Motion passes