

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
March 22, 2005, 6:30 PM
Senator Hearing Room – Main Floor – Courthouse Square
555 Court Street NE, Salem OR 97301

ROUTINE BUSINESS: Thomas Smith, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Anderson, Larry Bevens, Colleen Bromagem, David Furr, Russ Johnston, Mary Kanz, Judy Skinner, Thomas Smith, Ellen Twist, Glenn Zimmerman, Nora Schliske, Susan Riches, David Phelps

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Thomas Smith announced the excused members: Michael Clark, Joe Gordon, Sarah Killion, John Matthews, Dennis Nielsen

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

PUBLIC SIGNED IN: None

STAFF PRESENT: Jeff Bickford, Carol Ault

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Mary Kanz motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded.
Discussion: None
Abstentions: None
Dissentions: None
RESULTS: Minutes approved as written.

PUBLIC INPUT **None**

Glenn Zimmerman introduced Brad Botkin who is the Son and Brother of the owners of Pacific Land Clearing (PLC). Brad works with Glenn.

COUNCIL INPUT/ANNOUNCEMENTS/ NEW BUSINESS

- Ellen Twist suggested that when members resign, we should see if we can get the information back that they were given. For example, the Solid Waste Management Plan, Orientation Handbook, etc. Then this information can be passed on to the new member.
- Mary Kanz announced that the City of Turner is starting a mixed recycling program next week.
- Susan Riches mentioned that the Environmental Services web site is awesome and very useful.

GROUP UPDATES:

BYLAWS REVIEW: The bylaws subcommittee did not meet because the meeting wasn't public noticed, so the meeting was rescheduled for April 5, 2005. Therefore, there will be no bylaws review tonight and will be tabled until the April meeting. The April 5 subcommittee meeting has been noticed.

GROUP UPDATES:

PVC Reduction Subcommittee Report

Glenn Zimmerman announced that the PVC Reduction Subcommittee met on March 10, 2005. Those present were: Glenn Zimmerman, Michael Clark, Bob Anderson, John Matthews, Ellen Twist and Jeff Bickford.

Ellen Twist made the following motion:

- MOTION:** The PVC Subcommittee would like to submit the following for recommendation to the SWMAC for consideration:
1. Increase the amount of infectious medical waste accepted by the Marion County Waste-to-Energy Facility for disposal from outside the county from 1500 tons to 2500 tons per calendar year.
 2. Prepare and carry out a promotion and educational campaign to eliminate materials that are suspected of releasing dioxin and/or toxin when incinerated, including the personal and/or commercial unregulated burning of solid waste, commonly known as backyard burning.
 3. Use all additional revenues received by the acceptance of out-of-county infectious medical waste to support #2 as well as increase monitoring, waste reduction, reuse, recycling, public education, and composting.
 4. Provide data back to SWMAC annually on out-of-county infectious medical waste tonnage, new contracts, revenues and how these funds are spent.

The motion was seconded.

DISCUSSION:

- Q. The current tonnage is 1500 tons per year. What are we currently receiving from out-of-county?
A. About 650 tons per year currently.

Jeff Bickford explained the reasoning for wanting to raise the tonnage limit. A couple companies from Washington were potentially interested in bringing infectious medical waste to the waste-to-energy facility. However, they were cautious, since when we get close to 1500 tons, they will be shut off, and then what would they do with their medical waste. There's a certain amount of time that they have to get rid of the waste and they didn't want to take the chance of not being able to dump. By having a higher limit, the companies will feel more confident that the waste-to-energy will be able to meet their needs.

Under #1, Jeff suggested adding the word "maximum"...Increase the 'maximum' amount of.....

- Q. How do we prioritize the users of the facility in the category of infectious medical waste?
A. We have contracts with everybody that hauls to the WTEF. As far as tonnages in, it's first in as to when we have to shut off when we are nearing the 1500-ton limit.

Q. Does the incoming waste get shut off like the out-of-county?

A. No. This is only for out-of-county.

Q. I didn't see anything about PVC mentioned in the recommendation. What was the discussion about that?

A. Jeff answered that the Department is prepared to:

- Provide an active campaign to educate the public about PVC regarding purchase and disposal as well as personal burning of solid waste. ie; backyard burning.
- Provide a PVC collection site with no charge at Brown's Island Demolition; and also provide a one-day event each year for collection of PVC at the Salem Transfer Station.

Glenn explained that the subcommittee didn't see a need to include PVC reduction in the recommendation itself since Jeff had said that Department would be initiating a program for it.

Mary Kanz commented that should the out-of-county companies come in and the tonnage limit is near, then those companies have a 'plan b' and even a 'plan c'.

Suggestion: In Part 2 of the recommendation, there was question on the word 'eliminate'

Q. Does this recommendation go to legal counsel before it goes to the BOC?

A. Jeff answered that legal counsel will take a look at it first.

Q. Has Marion County ever looked at changing the statutes for making backyard burning illegal?

A. First of all, burning of any solid waste anywhere in the State of Oregon is illegal. Burning of yard debris is another story. Salem made that illegal in the city limits back in the late 90's. There are certain days you can call your local fire department to burn your yard waste in the county if it's a burn day.

Judy commented that she talked to a person involved in agriculture who seemed to be under the impression that they were allowed to burn a certain amount of plastic per day. Judy informed him that this is not allowable, but suggested that this might be something to address in the educational efforts of the county.

Q. How much is paid per ton for burning out-of-county infectious medical waste?

A. \$200 per ton. The agreement is that the county gets \$120 per ton of that fee. This goes into the Solid Waste Fund.

Q. The money for the grant program is coming from this medical waste revenue, correct?

A. Yes, the grants still get paid from the medical waste revenue and any revenue received from the "additional" tonnage will also go into this fund.

Q. Was there any cost analysis done to see if \$200 per ton is on par with other disposal services?

A. Jeff answered that the nearest disposal facility is in Utah and it's private company, so I don't know what their tip fee is.

Comment: In the early 90's, we were charging \$300 per ton and the haulers were scurrying away. So around 1995, the fee went down to \$200 per ton.

Comment: I think it's more important to know how much it costs to do the business, rather than knowing what the market value is.

Comment: Russ Johnston clarified that the in-county medical waste is not \$200 per ton. It's the same as the general waste.

David Phelps questioned whether it's viable to only have Brown's Island as a drop off for PVC and felt it might be better to have three sites located conveniently throughout the county. David also felt that the three points that Russ made following the written recommendation from the PVC subcommittee, should be made part of the motion. Those comments are listed below:

Provide an active campaign to educate the public about PVC regarding purchase and disposal as well as personal burning of solid waste, ie; backyard burning.

Add a PVC collection site with no charge to residents to be located at the Salem/Keizer Transfer Station, North Marion County Transfer Station and Brown's Island Demolition Landfill and advertise its availability.

Continuing the present annual PVC collection events that are held and advertise when and where these will be held to increase participation.

Mary Kanz commented that she didn't agree with the comment about "free disposal" because that is not giving an incentive to reduce buying that material to begin with. FREE disposal doesn't teach better or alternative buying habits. David Phelps responded that contractors are one of the biggest users of PVC and until a substitute comes along for PVC, they are still going to use it. If we can control how they are disposing of it, and at the same time have an educational program, maybe that would be part of the solution.

Clarification: At Brown's Island, the intent is for free disposal of PVC for business and residents.

Q. It was asked of Russ Johnston if he would be for having his suggestions (listed above) as part of the motion.

A. Russ answered that he liked the motion as it is, with the few suggested changes.

Q. If the cap is raised and generates enough funds to pay for this process, is there some reason to assume it cannot encompassed the other facilities? ie; North Marion or Salem Transfer.

A. Jeff answered that the problem with Salem Transfer Station is that they are running out of room for drop boxes. John Matthew has mentioned that Garten Services might be starting a program for recycling of PVC but probably for a fee.

Thomas Smith agreed with Jeff that if it does pass, sites could always be added at a later time.

Ellen Twist questioned the cost of a drop box at the Transfer Station. Mary explained that it's not the 'cost' of the drop box that's the expense, but the hauling of the material.

There was discussion as to whether this discussion would be carried over to the April meeting for a possible vote at that time instead of voting this evening. Thomas explained that by carrying this over to the next meeting, there would be a lot of the same questions asked from the members that weren't able to be here tonight.

David Furr felt that a decision could be made without deciding how many locations for dropping the material off or how it will be handled after it is dropped off. What we can do is vote on whether this is

appropriate, carry out a promotional/educational campaign, and use of revenues. Then at a later time, define how these revenues will be used.

Larry Bevens shared some discussion about the amount of revenue and possible revenue. Mary Kanz agreed with David Furr's comments and felt that getting into the revenue prospect would be micro managing and that's not the SWMAC's mission. Thomas agreed that the SWMAC's mission is to make the recommendations and the Department implements them.

Ellen Twist asked that the acronym PVC be mentioned in the body of the recommendation.

Nora Schliske moved to close debate. No second.

Glenn Zimmerman moved to amend #1 so it reads: *Increase the "maximum" amount.....*; and amend #2 of the recommendation. (Suggested changes below.) The motion was seconded. The wording for No. 2 was amended as follows:

2. *Prepare and carry out a promotional and educational campaign to reduce and subsequently eliminate materials such as PVC that are suspected of releasing dioxin and/or toxin when incinerated, including the personal and/or commercial unregulated burning of solid waste, commonly known as backyard burning.*

Vote: All in favor

Larry Bevens moved to amend #3 of the recommendation by removing the word "additional". The motion was seconded.

Vote: All in favor.

Ellen Twist asked Jeff if anyone wrote or called in regarding the discussion of this recommendation. Jeff stated that he had not received and emails or phone calls from the public, but had received notice from the five excused members and that Joe Gordon had expressed concern about the PVC disposal not being at the Salem Transfer Station and North Marion.

Thomas Smith read the entire amended main motion:

MOTION: The SWMAC is recommending to the BOC the following motion to:

1. Increase the maximum amount of infectious medical waste accepted by the Marion County Waste-to-Energy Facility for disposal from outside the county from 1500 tons to 2500 tons per calendar year.
2. Prepare and carry out a promotion and educational campaign to reduce and subsequently eliminate materials, such as PVC, that are suspected of releasing dioxin and/or toxin when incinerated, including the personal and/or commercial unregulated burning of solid waste, commonly known as backyard burning.
3. Use all revenues received by the acceptance of out-of-county infectious medical waste to support #2 as well as increase monitoring, waste reduction, reuse, recycling, public education, and composting.
4. Provide data back to SWMAC annually on out-of-county infectious medical waste tonnage, new contracts, revenues and how these funds are spent.

Yes Votes: (12) Robert Anderson, Colleen Bromagem, David Furr, Russ Johnston, Mary Kanz, Judy Skinner, Thomas Smith, Ellen Twist, Glenn Zimmerman, Nora Schliske, Susan Riches, David Phelps

No Votes: (1) Larry Bevens-reason: Uncomfortable with the potential problem with turning Marion County into everyone's garbage dump.

Results: Motion passes

OUTSTANDING ITEMS LIST:

- Thomas Smith suggested changing the PVC Education to the "PVC Program" or something like that.

STAFF UPDATES: by Jeff Bickford

1. HHW Facility: The opening date for the HHW Facility is April 21, 2005. This will be by appointment only, every Thursday and the first Saturday of each month, by calling 1-800-444-4244. The name of the company receiving the calls is Clean Harbor Environmental in Washington.

Q. Does the HHW Facility take mercury in bulk?

A. Yes. It's free for residents of Marion & Polk County, but for businesses there is a fee.

Wednesday, March 23, Yamhill County and Polk County commissioners are approving the intergovernmental agreement and the following week our commissioners will be approving the intergovernmental agreement. This will be a three-way agreement between Marion, Polk and Yamhill for household hazardous waste services. The consultant, Clean Harbor, will be running the events in Polk and Yamhill County. The waste that's collected at the one-day events will come back to our facility where it will be bulked and they will be billed for the cost. Polk County residents will be able to come over and use our facility for free. We will be tracking those individuals by their zip codes.

Q. Will the mercury thermometer exchange program continue?

A. Absolutely. Seven days a week at the Salem Transfer Station.

Q. How will they answer the 800-number so our customers won't get confused when they hear they are calling a Washington company?

A. They will have the system set up so they will know that it's a Marion or Polk County resident calling. They will also be able to handle the Spanish-speaking customers.

The fluorescent light program will continue at the Salem Transfer Station on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday as usual.

Bob Anderson commented that the Northwest Auto Trade Association is entering into an agreement to more aggressively remove the mercury from automobiles. Getting rid of the mercury becomes a difficult issue when there's an expense involved. So what we'd like to do is try to pave a way in our county so they aren't apprehensive to participate and know how to get rid of the product.

Jeff answered that as it exists now, there will be a fee for businesses to dispose of mercury. A fee of \$2.50 per pound has been set in the contract.

Q. Will there be an open house for the new HHW Facility?

A. Commissioner Brentano will be there opening day. DEQ may also have a representative there.

HHW Facility cont.

Q. Where can one access a copy of the acceptable materials for the HHW Facility?

A. It's easier to say what materials **WILL NOT** be accepted at the HHW Facility:

- * Explosives
- * Fire arms
- * Radioactive materials
- * Infectious medical waste
- * Asbestos

2. Ash Cell Topcap going to bid the end of April.

AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING: April 26, 2005

- * Bylaws 60 min.
- * Subcommittee Updates 30 min.

* Suggestion: On the Bylaws discussion next meeting, Ellen suggested discussing and approving section by section instead of trying to do it all at once.

Meeting Review:

What went well:

- * No personal attacks
- * Got something done
- * Thanks to Glenn & PVC committee

MOTION:	Larry Bevens moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded.
Discussion:	None
Abstentions:	None
Dissensions:	None
Results:	Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.