

MARION COUNTY
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes



Date:
8 Apr. 2026



Time:
12:00 PM – 1:30 pm



Location:
City of Salem Public Works

Meeting Called to Order at 12:06 pm

Attendance	
Name	Present/Absent
Members	
Kevin Cameron (Chair)	Present
Daniel Kohler	Present
Jenny Ammon	Present
Linda Nishioka	Present
Ryan Zink	Present
Frank Lonergan (Vice-Chair)	Present
Jim Row	Present
Walter Wick	Present
Marie Traeger	Present
Jordan Ohrt	Not Present
Brian Asher	Present
Walter Perry	Not Present
Ken Hector	Not Present
Michele Tesdal	Present – Via Teams
Treva Gambs	Present
Duane West	Present
Shane Kuenzi	Not Present
Mark Lowery	Present – Via Teams
Sarah Steen	Present – Via Teams
Staff	
Brian May	Present
Cory Swartwout	Present
Toni Whitler	Present – Via Teams
Whitney Ned	Present
Guests	
Cat Rhoades (DEQ)	Present
Marcus Gerber (Lorens Sanitation)	Present – Via Teams
Julianah Douglas (City of Salem)	Present
Kennedy Jantzi (MVHA)	Present
Derek Neliton (D&O and MVHA)	Present
Kathy Rogers	Present – Via Teams

Quorum: Yes

Welcome & Introductions – Kevin Cameron

City of Salem Councilor, Linda Nishioka, called the meeting to order at 12:06 pm.

Administrative

- Agenda Changes:
 - None
- Approval of March 2026 Meeting Minutes – **Action:**
 - Motion: Duane moved to approve the March 2026 minutes.
 - Second: Frank seconded.
 - Vote: Motion passed unanimously.
- Public Comment:
 - None

Joint Task Force on Municipal Solid Waste in the Willamette Valley - Brian

Brian presented an update from the task force's March and April meetings.

Key Points:

- Task force formed following House Bill 3744.
- Regional collaboration includes counties from Lane County to Metro.
- Focus areas:
 - Long-term waste disposal planning (10+ year horizon).
 - Anticipated closure or limitations of existing landfill capacity.
 - Coffin Butte Landfill ~1M tons/year
 - Avoiding redundant infrastructure investments.
 - Emphasis on regional solutions and partnerships.
 - Structuring for Mid-Willamette Valley instead of individual jurisdictions/counties.

Discussion Highlights:

- Marion County benefits from strong hauler collaboration and an established infrastructure (Resource facility processes ~400,000 tons/year).
- Other counties (Polk, Linn and Benton) lack similar systems and funding mechanisms.
- Importance of waste reductions strategies, regional planning structure similar to historical (specifically 1970's) efforts.

Recycling Modernization Act - Cory

Cory shared an update on contamination reduction funding and planning for the 26/27 fiscal year.

Key Updates:

- Contracting delays with Circular Action Alliance (CAA).
- Funding not yet released; expected soon.
- Compliance enforcement in 2026 will focus on technical assistance (TA) rather than penalties.

Operational Impacts:

- Delays affect equipment purchases (e.g. recycling carts) and program implementation timelines

City of Salem delegated 100% of contamination reduction funding to the Haulers Association for this and next fiscal year, streamlining implementation and reducing administrative burden.

- Haulers Association to be the designee on funding authorization forms going forward.

Contamination Reduction Program Planning

- Initial focus: single-family residents
- Future area of focus: multi-family residents
- Challenges identified with multi-family recycling
 - High contamination rates
 - Property managers often not engaged
 - Lack of direct accountability; shared containers complicate enforcement
 - Vandalism and damage to signage/equipment
 - Inconsistent infrastructure and space limitations
 - Older buildings not designed for recycling systems and inconsistent building code requirements for new(er) buildings
- Potential solutions for multi-family challenges
 - Pilot programs
 - Enhanced signage and outreach
 - On-site technical assistance
 - Learning from other jurisdictions (Portland, Eugene, Lane County)
 - Possible audits of multi-family properties

Updates/Announcements - All

- Potential May and June meeting locations:
 - Resource, Silverton or Salem Recycle Center
- Facilities for tour:
 - Salem Recycle Center
 - Coffin Butte Landfill

- Events this month: Earth Month
 - City of Salem, Center 50+ and Circular Salem hosting a Children's clothing swap on April 11
 - Earth Day - April 22
 - City of Keizer: Earth Day Litter Cleanup at Wallace House Park on April 25
 - 1000 Friends of Oregon: Land Use Leadership Initiative on April 25

Meeting Adjourned at 1:27 pm