

MARION COUNTY

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

OTR Subcommittee Meeting Minutes



Date:
08 June 2026



Time:
10 AM – 11 AM



Location:
Via Microsoft Teams

Meeting Called to Order at 10:08 am

Attendance	
Name	Present/Absent
Members	
Jenny Ammon - Chair	Present
Kennedy Jantzi	Not Present
Marcus Gerber	Not Present
Stacey Perry	Not Present
Brian May	Not Present
Greg Dittman	Not Present
Cindy Rogers	Not Present
Alyssa Lockwood	Not Present
Cory Swartwout	Not Present
Jim Row	Not Present
Erin Burt	Not Present
Julianah Douglas	Present
Travis Comfort	Present
Sarah Steen	Not Present
Guests	
Cat Rhoades – DEQ	Present
Whitney Ned – MCPW	Present
Josh Landis – Republic Services	Present

Quorum: No

Welcome & Introductions – Chair

Jenny called the meeting to order at 10:08 am and welcomed participants. Whitney noted she was attending on behalf of Cory, who was ill.

Administrative – Chair

- Agenda Changes:
 - None
- Approve May Meeting Minutes - Action

- No action taken due to lack of quorum.
- Public Comment:
 - None

OTR Quarterly Planning/Review – Chair/Cory

Marion Sustainable Business Network

The committee confirmed this initiative is no longer being pursued, with technical library and reuse efforts addressing those needs through different approaches.

Website Updates

No website updates were presented due to staff absences.

Members discussed conducting a periodic review of website resources to ensure information being referenced remains current and accessible.

Commercial Composting Outreach

Republic Services reported:

- Initial outreach materials and welcome packets had been distributed.
- No new commercial participants had adopted the program.
- Previous success was largely driven by dedicated staff leadership, illustrating the importance of ongoing engagement.
- Statewide commercial food waste requirements do not appear likely in the near future.

Quarter 2 Messaging Campaign

“Help prevent waste by using less stuff. Waste prevention refers to upstream actions that reduce waste before it’s created, including changes to product design, purchasing habits, and how materials are used.”

Marion County developed and shared outreach materials that partners used across jurisdiction.

Additional discussion included:

- Silverton incorporated the messaging into its newsletter.
- Republic Services included messaging on customer invoices.
- Participants appreciated the consistency but suggested improving access to graphics and images through a simpler sharing process.

E-Waste and Shred Event Planning

The committee reported:

- Funding challenges had been addressed through multiple partners.
- The shredding component secured financial support.
- The event will proceed, with a target date in late July or early August.

Discussion also focused on opportunities for better coordination and financial support through CAA while avoiding duplication of existing community outreach efforts.

CAA Outreach Coordination

Members discussed concerns regarding CAA outreach materials and messaging.

- Topics included:
 - Need for better alignment with existing recycling education.
 - Avoiding confusion by promoting items at special collection events that are already accepted in curbside recycling.
 - Providing constructive feedback to improve consistency.

DEQ indicated that such feedback would be welcomed.

Communication Improvements

Members discussed improving coordination by:

- Sending email notifications when new county social media materials are available.
- Making it easier for partner organizations to amplify messaging.
- Sharing community event information among participating jurisdictions to increase attendance and outreach effectiveness.

RMA, OTR & General Updates - All

DEQ Update: Cat Rhoades

- Rulemaking #3 remains underway.
- Contamination reduction programming elements and goals have been updated based on feedback.
- The contamination reduction messaging document has also been revised, with formatting changes but no major changes to messaging.
- Updated documents will be distributed to local governments and service providers.

Universal Service Collection List (USCL)

Members discussed implementation of the expanded collection list.

- Observations included:
 - No significant increase in collected materials has yet been observed.
 - Mailers alone appear to have limited effectiveness.
 - Battery recycling education remains a higher priority due to continued battery fires in recycling systems.
 - Public outreach should continue emphasizing proper battery disposal.
- DEQ noted ongoing discussions regarding clarification—not expansion—of certain USCL definitions, such as what qualifies as a "tub." Glass remains under discussion but is not part of the commingled collection list.

Haulers/Organizations Updates:

- Republic Services – Travis Comfort
 - Sustainable Oregon Conference is approaching.
 - Registered attendees should sign up for available tours.

Cities/Agencies Updates:

- City of Keizer – Jenny Ammon
 - Public Works Day on June 17, featuring:
 - Food waste education
 - Waste prevention messaging
 - General recycling information

The event will include participation from multiple haulers and community partners.

- City of Salem – Julianah Douglas
 - Upcoming Salem Service Day on June 11.
 - A regional heat mapping campaign planned for July 25 (weather permitting).
 - A Heat Awareness and Resource Fair at the Salem Transit Mall.
 - The Solid Waste Advisory Committee approved a waste reduction component establishing a goal of reducing waste generation by 56% per capita from the 2016 baseline, emphasizing waste prevention alongside recycling.

Public Outreach During Budget Constraints

- Members discussed balancing budget limitations with community education efforts.
- Several participants noted that outreach events remain valuable opportunities to educate residents despite financial pressures and staffing challenges.

Recycling Clarification Discussion

Prior to formal business, members discussed whether butter boxes and refrigerated/frozen food paperboard packaging are recyclable.

Key points:

- DEQ staff referenced the rule excluding poly-coated paperboard packaging used for refrigerated or frozen food products from accepted paperboard recycling.
- Members agreed additional clarification would help the public, particularly regarding the differences between poly-coated packaging and aseptic cartons.
- DEQ agreed to seek further technical clarification and provide talking points for outreach staff.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:45 pm