

# MARION COUNTY

## SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

### Meeting Minutes

Date: November 24, 2020  
Time: 5:30pm -7:30pm  
Logistics: WebEx meeting with limited “in person” attendance due to COVID-19

PRESENT: **Members:** Keith Bondaug-Winn, Julie Jackson, Brian Sund, Bonnie Sullivan, Ryan Zink, Will Posegate, Kevin Hines, Judy Skinner, Tim Rice, Matt Marler, Kyle Elwood, Kurt Tackman  
**Staff:** Brian May, Rachel, VanWoert, Elizabeth Parker

ABSENT: Joe Fowler, Kaileigh Westermann-Lewis

### OPEN MEETING

Keith called meeting to order at 5:32pm. Welcome and introductions made by SWMAC members and staff.

### APPROVE MINUTES

MOTION: Julie moved to approve the October 27th, 2020 meeting minutes. Matt seconds motion.  
DISCUSSION: None  
RESULTS: Voice vote – motion passes

### ADMINISTRATIVE – INFORMATIONS/DISCUSSION

PUBLIC INPUT: None

AGENDA REVIEW: None

### COMMITTEE MEMBER INDUSTRY UPDATES

Matt Marler – Covanta: Has been working from home and no signs of changing in the near future. Had COVID waste concerns in March 2020, but they’ve been proceeding at “warp speed.” They’re seeing an increase in clamshell/take-out food containers and are anticipating unique waste products in 2021 relating to continued COVID precautions, the COVID vaccine, etc. The plant is running well and they haven’t seen much difference in volume from Canyon Fire. Personnel changes ahead including a new facilities manager.

Will Posegate – Garten: shared information on the recent fire they experienced on sorting line. Thankful it wasn’t worse, but it burned the belt, beam, and damaged lights. Believes this is a good example to use to show the public how putting wrong items in recycling can be destructive, cost jobs, and cost lives. Insurance will cover business loss. Commodity revenue is low, but cardboard is higher at \$90. Hasn’t seen a change in coming or mixed, and Will doesn’t think it will hit a low in 2021 like it did in 2020. With so much online shopping and upcoming holidays, cardboard is high supply/demand. They will have a new baler in February/March of 2021.

Julie Jackson – Republic: Household waste is up 40% in weight and there is significant contamination with take-out containers, etc. Moving forward into 2021, they anticipate people to continue working from home, and continued COVID restrictions keeping household waste volumes up. Regarding Wildfires, DEQ continues to be a great partner. DEQ estimates 200 tons of waste per structure. Coffin Butte has ramped up significantly – adding a new scale house to help with volume. They’re ready to proceed. They’re seeing more yard debris in compost – record amounts. Trying to understand how long trends will last and estimating what will happen in 2021. Brian May reiterated the great collaboration and communication with DEQ – they’ve been very responsive.

Kevin Hines - MRFF: From the hauler/collection standpoint, it has been very busy. Three buckets of use: Residential, Commercial, and Drop Box/Industrial. He has seen a major shift from commercial to residential. They know restaurants being closed has caused a solid waste increase in residential. Drop Box/Industrial has been extremely busy - more than they anticipated. MRFF is extremely busy – Haulers volume up 10%, North Marion up 10%, and SKRTS is up 20% - with all the volume going to MRFF. MRFF is expanding their facility; construction is ongoing. He shared the new layout design, process, and equipment updates and additions for the facility. This includes a new “Education Center” that they hope to fully utilize once COVID restrictions lift. Consider SWMAC meeting there. Brian May shared some volume reports and trends of materials going through MRFF. They’re seeing good returns and trends leading us to our 64% recovery goal.

Tim Rice – Recology: Tim shared details on the expansion and updates there. New technology, state of art, and completely automated; cuts down on labor. They’re able to take 75 tons at Aumsville footprint. They have a new high pressure system for lagoons. Compost sales are up – people ordering large quantities bark and compost.

## **SUB-COMMITTEES**

Bylaws: Will shared that they met regarding the open Chamber of Commerce spot for SWMAC. The intent of this position is to have a large or small business or industrial business in our community represented on SWMAC. After discussion, they decided to proceed to fill as a Chamber position. Each sub-committee member will reach out to an assigned Chamber in the area to recruit directly. Recruiting efforts will be promote via Social Media and volunteer coordinator, as well. Bonnie asked if he and Julie had prepared a phone script to use when calling the chamber. Will stated they don’t have a script, thinking direct, warm calls are best approach.

Budget: Dennis Mansfield shared the budget actual numbers with the group. Revenue is up due to increased volume and contract language but saw decline in metal. Capital Projects – looking to invest money into a Centralized Transfer Station or add a transfer station for a total of three in Marion County. Covanta is 1/3 revenue stream. Five year forecast: small increase/wet waste and construction debris stay flat. Brian said they are trying to build a solid waste system that is “recession-proof.” Kevin H asked about GGB report for where transfer station should be located. Brian said part of analysis is looking at flow – regarding siting a new facility, they don’t want a new site to have negative impacts on rate-payer. Marion County flow comes to the Brooks area – they want to reduce transfer costs and emissions and be in this central hub.

Ryan Z shared that there is an emerging issue coming from City of Salem, Gretchen Bennett, in how to address the increasing amount of trash coming from the “unsheltered” or homeless community. Ryan asked for input on solutions or if anyone knows of other programs in the area, such as Metro’s Bags Program – RID program. Rachel VanWoert mentioned Trash for Cash/Church at the Park. It was suggested that we form a SWMAC sub-committee to explore options, Marion County’s involvement, etc. while being aware of safety issues for campers, haulers, and drivers. Keith, as chair set up the sub-committee; Ryan will chair the sub-committee; members will include Matt M, Kevin H, Brian S, Tim R, Rachel (staff), Julie J, and Judy S. Elizabeth will schedule first meeting for January 2021.

Bonnie reminded the group there is no SWMAC meeting in December.

**FUTURE TOPICS/EMERGING ISSUES/OTHER BUSINESS**  
**(Information/Discussion)**

**Announcements and Upcoming Events:** Judy suggested the group read “Second Hand Travels and The New Global Garage Sale.”

**Membership/Attendance/New Member applications:** None

**Staff Updates:** None

**Meeting Review:** None

**Motion to adjourn meeting:** Bonnie moved to adjourn meeting; Kevin seconded the motion. Voice vote – motion passes.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:33pm**

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, January 26, 2021