

**MARION COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**Meeting Minutes**

Date: August 25, 2020  
Time: 5:30-7:30 PM  
Logistics: WebEx meeting with limited “in person” attendance due to COVID-19

PRESENT: **Members:** Judy Skinner, Keith Bondaug-Winn, Kaileigh Westermann-Lewis, Bonnie Sullivan, Kurt Tackman, Julie Jackson, Matt Marler, Brian Sund  
**Staff:** Brian May, Elizabeth Parker  
**Guests:** Alan Pennington, Kyle Elwood, Ryan Zink

ABSENT: Tim Rice, Will Posegate, and Kevin Hines

**APPROVE MINUTES**

MOTION: Bonnie moved to approve the June 23, 2020 minutes.

DISCUSSION: None

RESULTS: Judy seconds the motion. Voice vote – motion passes

**ADMINISTRATIVE  
(Information/Action)**

PUBLIC INPUT: None

AGENDA REVIEW: None

**Nomination Sub-Committee Recommendation**

The Nomination Sub-Committee convened on July 20, 2020 to interview two candidates for Solid Waste Management Advisory Council. Kyle Elwood is seeking to fill the “Citizen-at-Large” position and Ryan Zink (City of Salem) is seeking to fill the “Community Organization” position. Both applications were reviewed and the Sub-Committee members asked applicants several questions regarding experience, knowledge, and commitment. Both applicants satisfied all of the requirements for appointment, and the Nomination Sub-Committee moved forward toward the recommendation. The Sub-Committee approved a motion to recommend Kyle Elwood and Ryan Zink to the Solid Waste Management Advisory Council for membership. This was reported to the council who called for a motion.

Julie moved to approve the Sub-Committee’s recommendation and proceed with a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to approve the appointment of Kyle Elwood and Ryan Zink to the Solid Waste Management Advisory Council. Matt seconded the motion. Motion passes.

## Marion County Master Recycler Overview

Guest speaker: Alan Pennington

The Marion County Master Recycler Class consists of the following structure and content. Among basic curriculum, students give brief presentations on something they're interested in to the class, discussion about outreach techniques, a session on Marion County volunteer rules including safety liabilities, confidentiality, working with public in a respectful manner, and payback opportunities. Our goal is to make sure people feel their time has been well spent and what they have learned can be put into a continued "recycling life style" that they can use, share, and teach to others. Students take field-trips; materials recovery facilities, construction debris, Covanta tour, and North Marion Transfer Station. Other field trips include Pringle Creek Community, Salem Keizer Transfer Station (including the hazardous waste site), Coffin Butte (on a Saturday) and Garten Services. Our focus has been moving away from just recycling to a deliberate focus on climate change, CO2 emissions, use & reuse, and other materials.

Some changes in class content include Brian M giving a presentation of Solid Waste, Materials Management, sorting, and recycling education. We plan to remove Sally White's vermiculture presentation due to minimal participation, but plan to record her presentation (You Tube) for those interested in a deeper understanding. The class will now include more styrofoam and wood recycling education, use & reuse education, mattress recycling, and removing food out of waste-stream. 25% of garbage is food waste.

Kaleigh suggested implementing an analysis of lifecycle, climate change, and materials management to promote a mental shift in purchasing, etc. Brian reported that the Recycler 101 website contains a lot of material on these subjects. Julie asked if a virtual master recycler class had ever been considered. Alan didn't want to do virtual class because of the close connections made with the people in the class and makes great chemistry and amazing bonding. "Master Recyclers are our eyes and ears in the community." Julie is doing a virtual class in September and will let Alan know how it goes. The virtual class she is attending has a waiting list; will attendance be an issue? Keith asked if a hybrid format would be considered; both virtual and in-person. Kaileigh agrees with a virtual format as it has the potential to reach a more diverse demographic and areas outside Salem. Judy stated with connections being made "during the class", has an outlet to have connections "after the class is over" been considered? Judy will send Recycling FB link to Elizabeth, which could promote "after-class bonding." Previous classes have gone to Northern Lights (get-together) with all Master Recyclers from previous classes to promote comradery.

Brian M asked what producers are doing to reduce waste? Could this be part of the class and does Marion County have any EarthWISE members who are making headway in Materials Management? There are numerous distribution centers in Salem (Home Depot and Amazon); could we get in contact with them to promote taking steps and get involved? This is definitely worth considering and should look into ideas and concepts. Keith reported that Amazon has programs we could consider adopting or being part of. There are groups like Trash for Peace who joined with another company to partner in these efforts. They would be a good model.

Elizabeth emailed Alan's presentation to the group.

## STRATEGIC PLAN FOLLOW UP AND BRAINSTORMING SESSION

Keith and Kaleigh presented results from Master Recycler questionnaire and answers. They focused on main points of feedback – Keith presented a document showing questions and answers people provided. An Education & Outreach Sub-Committee was formed and will meet before the next SWMAC meeting. Their goal is a deeper dive with staff to formulate a live working document to point the group in which direction to go with the Marion County Master Recycling Class and Recycling 101. The recommendations will be presented to SWMAC and be considered for a formal presentation and recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for approval – this probably not until Fall/Winter 2020. Sub-Committee members are Bonnie (chair), Keith (vice-chair), Kurt, and Kaleigh. Staff will include Alan Pennington. Brian and Elizabeth will serve as a support role. Bonnie will have something to report at next SWMAC meeting.

### OVERVIEW & DISCUSSION

- SWMAC needs to look into applying for grants for additional funding for MR program
- Brian M stated Barb Young is intently listening to legislation issues; if you hear of anything, please bring to the group
- Judy discovered there's no rural recycling in Gates, Idanha, and Detroit; was surprised to learn there are areas of Marion County that don't get rural recycling; not sure what percentage of Marion County residents this affects
- Brian updated group that the Covanta contract expires in June 2021, which is an extension from September 2020; Brian will be included on a call on Thursday to start negotiations

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

**Announcements and Upcoming Events:** Bonnie would like to plan a Holiday Party and gift-exchange for SWMAC. Bonnie is trying to find a location that accommodates COVID-19 restrictions and food-handler permit issues. Kaileigh suggested we could have a summer picnic instead since it could be outdoors? Bonnie would like to move forward with the Holiday Party in December 2020. Bonnie asked everyone to email location suggestions and whether to have it or not (Covid) to Elizabeth who will report back to Bonnie.

**Membership/Attendance/New Member applications:** With Kyle and Ryan joining committee, there is only one "citizen at large" position available for SWMAC. Should a sub-committee consider changing the "Chamber" position to another Citizen at Large position? Marion County could post on FB information regarding the open position to stir interest.

**Staff Updates:** Brian advised group that Elizabeth is working with Sherry Lintner regarding mandatory volunteer training for all advisory councils – SWMAC will be seeing more information on this soon.

**Meeting Review:** None

**Motion to adjourn meeting:** Kurt moved; Julie seconded. Voice vote –motion passed.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm**