

**WASHINGTON STATE SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING SUMMARY
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2009
9:30 – 12:00 NOON
WA STATE DEPT. OF ECOLOGY – HEADQUARTERS
ROA - 36**

Steve Wamback, Chair of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC), called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

Steve welcomed the new Committee members to the meeting and there were self introductions.

The meeting minutes from the November 10th meeting were distributed electronically to the committee. There was a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded. The minutes were approved.

Ecology has appointed two new members from Tribal Solid Waste Advisory Network (TSWAN). There are Steve Pendleton and Danny Joe Stensgar. They were not able to attend this meeting so introductions will be made at the meeting in March. Another new appointee, Steve McGonigal, the new Executive Director to the Washington State Recycling Association, was introduced at the last meeting.

Today, on the legislation hearing schedule, anaerobic digesters will be discussed. Laurie Davies and other SWAC members announced they would be leaving early to participate in the hearing. For this reason, the Chair proposed to modify the agenda, which was done without objection.

PROPOSAL TO CONVENE SWAC MEETINGS ON A QUARTERLY BASIS – STEVE WAMBACK, CHAIR

This item was considered later in the agenda, but this item and all others, are reported in these minutes in the order in which they appeared on the pre-distributed agenda.

Steve Wamback led the discussion to hold SWAC meetings on a quarterly basis versus meeting 6 times per year. He talked with Laurie Davies, SWFAP Manager, about reducing these meetings with the potential to have four meetings per year with a slightly longer meeting, due to the current fiscal climate.

Do the members of the SWAC want fewer meetings with a schedule of January, April, July and possibly October? October meeting can be used to fine tune proposals for legislation (however, we may not know much about upcoming legislation in October). November is always a traveling problem due to the weather.

There was discussion about the upcoming March meeting. Should this meeting be canceled/rescheduled for April, when the legislative session ends? Steve will not be able to attend the March 17th, meeting.

Some concern was expressed that if there were fewer meetings would the meetings just become presentations and would information be shared with the committee in a timely manner. Also, fewer full SWAC meetings may not mean fewer subcommittee meetings. For example, the Finance subcommittee may need to continue its more frequent meeting schedule. In addition, four meetings may not be enough to get adequate SWAC input on the Beyond Waste Plan's new milestones for the next five years.

As long as there would be support with subcommittees leading other projects, mini meetings, more formalized subcommittee meetings, this new meeting schedule could work. It was noted that subcommittees will not change to four times per year meetings; they would/could continue to meet more often.

Based on this discussion, there were many pro's and con's brought up. Steve Wamback, Laurie Davies, and Lorie Hewitt will discuss the potential to have fewer full committee meetings.

As a reminder, Steve Wamback asked that material for discussion be distributed to all committee members well before the meeting. If the committee has had ample time to read and do research, if necessary, decisions can be made. Otherwise, the committee cannot make recommends.

PRESENTATION ON PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP – JAY SHEPARD

Jay Shepard gave a brief report to the SWAC members on Product Stewardship with a PowerPoint presentation.



Product
wardship EHC 12-5.1

Highlights of his presentation are:

In just over one hundred years, we have gone from having ash as a primary waste stream to products. Products are wasteful, become obsolete, harmful and toxic. This is the reason why we want to focus on product stewardship. The US GHG Emissions Sources – systems approach provides a great opportunity to address these problems.

Elements of product steward presented in the PowerPoint presentation were: scope of Product Stewardship, roles and responsibilities, financing, benefits of product stewardship, e-cycle Washington, future products, alternative approaches to product stewardship, benefits to environmental health, benefits to taxpayers I and benefits to local government.

CLIMATE ACTION TEAM UPDATE AND DECISION OF SWAC ROLE – JAY SHEPARD



1-16 EcoParks BW
Co-lead Prese...

Highlights of the presentation are:

- BW the next 50%
- Consumption and GHG Generation
- Optimize the Collection of Recyclable Materials
- Product Stewardship Framework Legislation
- Market Development for Diverted Organics
- Environmentally Responsible Purchasing
- Collaborate with Retailers to Reduce Consumer Waste
- Stimulating recycled material use by the manufacturing industry (currently most critical issue about recycling)

There are no bills currently being considered by the legislature from the Beyond Waste Implementation Working Group recommendations.

Discussion with the SWAC members included questions about potential compact fluorescent legislation. Compact fluorescent lights are an interim technology; nevertheless, there are still a lot of them put there. A concern was expressed that if people lose confidence in compact fluorescent light, they won't use. An effective compact fluorescent light recycling program is important and should be expanded --- a bill that will cover residents, small school districts, etc.

The question was asked, "How can SWAC assist or participate even though no bills on the product stewardship piece, organics piece, tariff setting, permitting were picked up this session?"

SWAC can help on the collection pieces and by continuing conversation. On the procurement piece, they can continue to support Ecology.

Working with our sister agency, General Administration, has been a challenge to have them join us in many of these areas of good green products, etc.

Jay mentioned three issues ongoing and asked for any interested SWAC member to join/lead a subcommittee. Those issues included:

- Environmentally Responsible Purchasing
- Collaborate with Retailers to Reduce Consumer Waste
- Stimulating recycled material use by the manufacturing industry

After the SWAC lead is identified, they will work with the rest of the committee to gather feedback on working these issues. Although it would be very helpful to form a subcommittee, given staffing and funding situation, it's not practical at this time.

If you are interested in one of these issues, or have any ideas on how to move forward, let Steve Wamback, Jay Shepard, or Laurie Davies know.

RECYCLING RATE REPORT/DISCUSSION – GRETCHEN NEWMAN



Waste Gen for
SWAC 1-09.xlsx

The areas of focus during this presentation were on the annual update (for 2007 data) on Recycled and Diverted Materials and Rates were:

- Recycling Numbers
- Solid Waste Facilities Reporting
- Solid Waste Generation
- MSW Recycling Rate
- MSW Recycling Rate 1986-2007 (20 years of data)
- MSW Recycled & Disposed 1986-2007
- Individual MSW Disposed, Recycled, and Generated
- Diversion Rate – more than just MSW
- Diversion rate 1999-2007
- Waste Generation and Population
- Overall Individual Disposed, Recycled & Generated
- Paper Recycling slide, 21 years of data
- Glass Recycling
- Aluminum Cans Recycling
- Yard Debris Recycling
- Electronics Recycling (hopefully will go way up in 2009)
- Asphalt & Concrete

Some of these numbers feed into the Beyond Waste report which will be updated in the summer of 2009.

ELECTRONIC PRODUCT RECYCLING UPDATE – MILES KUNTZ



WMMFA pounds by
item and county Jan

There has been positive feedback on E recycling with only some questions. Currently, there are two hundred and thirteen collection sites on the database, but it continues to change and grow. Redmond, Sunnyside, and Mercer Island are areas of concern, no collection sites there yet.

The Goodwill representatives stated that their facilities were overwhelmed the first days and sent in 131 tons/electronic devices.

There were 150,000 units taken in for Goodwill donations in first three weeks. Goodwill asked county officials not to designate them as a location to recycle. The Goodwill facilities didn't know what to expect and were blown away by number of electronics they were receiving. The Goodwill staffs have been told to hang in there, it will level out in February.

Some of the incoming items have shifted from electronics to televisions. They are receiving flat panel televisions, 3 or 4 years old, that are cracked.

The SWFAP Recycling hotline has been very busy with people asking where to go. There have been as many calls in the first week, than there was in the previous month.

TIRE PILE CLEANUP – UPDATE – KARA STEWARD



SWAC Tires
date_1_20_09.pptx

Summary of the tire pile update presentation:

Ecology continues to identify waste tire pile sites that qualify for cleanup using the Waste Tire Removal Account. Cleanups address sites with more than 800 tires that are not licensed for waste tire storage. Ecology hires the contractor to complete the cleanup at no cost to the site owner. Funded by the Tire Fee; \$1 fee on new replacement tire sales; fee sunsets June 2010; transfer of funds to DOT in 2008.

Annual reports submitted to Ecology by tire haulers, landfills, and other recycling businesses. These businesses report the amount of material recycled, reused, or landfilled. For tires, these reports also detail tire retreading, tire bale use (reported since 2006), and tire derived fuel use. The totals for 2007 include tire pile cleanup efforts (started May 2007).

Tire fee collected from July 2005 projected through June 2010, estimated total value \$18.3 million. Over these 5 years, the tire fee annually collects \$3.7 million. Ecology efforts in 2009-11 will continue site cleanups and fund enforcement.

The question was asked if there are any assurances that cleaned up/removed tire piles won't come back. Is there work with local agencies to show they are doing something to prevent new sites?

Although there are still many existing tire piles, these cleanup facilities and locations must sign form saying they will manage future product. Kara helps monitor that this process if follow with county facilities.

COMMINGLED STUDY/NEXT STEPS - SHANNON MCCLELLAND

The process to move this issue forward is:

- Convening local government first to focus on collection the system, then moving on to local MRF's to focus on processing
- Targeting the first week of March for local government meeting on collection.

With the current economic downturn in the recycled commodities market, the importance of focusing on quality and local markets to ride out volatility is being emphasized in the media.

Oregon was a key player in this regional process and is moving forward on implementation. Their first meeting will be January 29th.

Vicki Salazar will be presenting on the regional stakeholder process and outcome at the SWANA Conference in Portland on Feb 9th. Peter Spendelow or Mary Lou Perry with DEQ, and Shannon will provide updates on state implementation.

There will be an article coming out in the March issue of *Resource Recycling* on the EPA regional process on quality in comingled recycling systems.

Comments from SWAC:

Any assistance SWAC can provide on collection standards, including a number of new products in the marketplace, such as pure contamination and others, would be helpful.

Shannon was asked to check with SWAC and other stakeholder meetings to keep from having a conflict before setting the date for the first WA focused meeting on collection.

BUDGET/LEGISLATION UPDATE – REPORTS FROM SWAC MEMBERS

Legislation update:

- Mercury lamps has been dropped from last year
- Medicine take back – this is for collection and disposal-- in committee
- Anaerobic digesters – moving forward quickly
- Lead wheel weights

- Bisphenol A – this is for banning products in children’s toys and is in committee

Legislative updates from SWAC members:

There are five different agencies involved with permitting.

Suellen Mele spoke to the legislative committee on the mercury bill, medicine take back and disposal. The mercury in lights legislation came about from the work on the Climate Action Team and the Beyond Waste work.



MercuryLightingRecyclingAct_010909.pdf



LightingSWACletter.doc

There are currently four bills being worked on by the various committees that will impact the Solid Waste and Financial Assistance Program. It is anticipated that there will be three additional bills a little later in the session.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR MEDICINE RETURN – SUELLEN MELE



STATE SWACletter Medicine Return.doc



UnwantedMedReturn_2pgr_Jan09.pdf

The secure medicine return bill introduced this year is similar to the bill which was introduced during the last legislative session. Drugs that accumulate in our medicine cabinets can contribute to accidental poisonings and illegitimate access that can lead to abuse. Some of the unwanted medicine that is flushed down toilets will end up in our surface or ground waters.

The bill would require drug producers to set up and pay for a program to take back expired or unwanted medicines. The medicines would be disposed in a hazardous waste facility. There would be an oversight and enforcement role for Ecology, who would set a fee on the producers to recover those costs.

Laurie Davies responded that it may be hard to get approval from OFM for Ecology to get a fee. If Ecology is not allowed to collect a fee to help with the cost occurred to implement this plan, (approximately \$475,000) for the fiscal impact, we can’t support the bill if there is a fiscal impact to the agency.

Prescribed controlled substances can legally only be in the hands of the Drug Enforcement Agency or law enforcement if out of the possession of the patient. A pilot program in Maine is legally collecting controlled substances using mail-back to law enforcement.

There was some discussion among SWAC members regarding this bill and whether to support it. The conclusion was that members did not have enough time to research and review the bill, so they did not want to make a decision at this meeting. If the bill is still ‘alive’ before the next SWAC meeting in March, it will be discussed in more detail at that meeting.

WRAP UP/ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION PLUS AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 17.

Beyond Waste

SWAC Members Present:

Laurie Davies
Dennis Durbin
Jan Gee
Tiffany Hatch (Alternate to Colling)
Pete Keller
Kevin Kiernan
Craig Lorch
Brad Lovaas
Jim Matsuyama
Steve McGonigal
Suellen Mele
Bill Reed (Alternate to Jackson)
Bob Schille
Jerry Smedes
Jody Snyder (Alternate to Westmoreland)
Steve Wamback

Members and Alternates Absent

Ken Colling
Tim Croll
Gene Eckhardt
Terry Gillis (Alternate to Lorch)
Joe Hyer (Alternate to Croll)
Penny Ingram (Alternate to Eckhardt)
Sego Jackson
Patti Johnson (Alternate to Mifflin)
Dean Large
Anita Largent (Alternate to Large)
Wendy Mifflin
Russ Menke
Cal Palmer (Alternate to Schille)
Steve Pendleton
Jim Sells (Alternate to Lovaas)
John Sherman (Alternate to Starry)
Art Starry
Danny Joe Stensgar
Eddie Westmoreland

Other SWAC Alternates Present

David Baker (Alternate to Kiernan)
Pat Campbell (Alternate to Wamback)
Linda Dennis (Alternate to Smedes)
Greg Schoenbachler (Alternate to Gee)

Meeting participants:

Lorie Hewett
Miles Kuntz
Shannon McClelland
Gretchen Newman
Jay Shepard
Kara Steward

Interested Parties Present:

Andy Comstock
Domenic Calabr