

**Clark County  
Solid Waste Advisory Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, October 6, 2011**

Clark County Auto License Office  
1408 Franklin Street  
Vancouver, WA

**SWAC Members Present:** Lisa Schmidt, Don Ebbeson, Richard Baker, Allan Jeska, Dan Kaler, Jack McClary, Stephen Smythe, Jeanne Stewart, Brandon Vick

**Staff Present:** Anita Largent, Mike Davis, Gary Bickett, Tanya Gray, Leslie Johnson, Sabra Hall-Nelson

**Others:** Scott Campbell, Waste Connections

**I. Introduction of new SWAC members:**

**Allan Jeska:** Retired elementary school teacher from the Lakeshore area and also retired military serviceman. While teaching school I had a real interest in ecology, at that time we had an outdoor school at Camp Bonneville and was involved in recycling. Also the military utilizes everything they possibly can. Allan also volunteers at Legacy Hospital on their Green Team. Allan represents Public Interest Groups.

**Stephen Smythe:** Grew up in Seattle then moved to Clark County (Battle Ground) in 1980. Stephen has been in transportation most of his life. First started coming to solid waste meetings about 10 yrs ago when he had a drop box business, he is no longer in that industry. He drives truck for Freightliner. Stephen represents North Clark County.

**Don Ebbeson:** Works for Peterbuilt. Don represents the Solid Waste Industry and has been in the garbage truck industry for some 30 years now - Vancouver, Seattle and Spokane area. Don has been in Clark County since 1990, on the SWAC the last 5-6 yrs and is the Co-Chairman.

**Jack McClary:** Jack's background is in solvent recycling. This is his second time around on SWAC. First time around Jack was involved in selecting the separate bin system that we had to collect our recyclables. He left for Arizona in 1987 and returned five years later. Jack is back and interested in what is going on in the solid waste industry. Jack represents SW Clark County.

**Jeanne Stewart:** Jeanne is on the Vancouver City Council, she is the longest serving SWAC member. She originally started on the commission representing public interest groups as a private citizen. When elected to the City Council, they wanted Jeanne to continue serving on SWAC representing the City of Vancouver. She has a small family business, wholesale and distribution sales for products used in the construction industry, for about 25-30 yrs. She raised her family and has been in Vancouver since the late 60's.

**Dan Kaler:** Dan represents SE Clark County, and lives between Camas and Vancouver. He moved here in 1998 and has been employed by Clark County since then. Dan does computer mapping (called GIS) and was introduced to solid waste while working on various mapping projects. He has an interest not only professionally but also as a resident.

**Lisa Schmidt:** Represents Small Cities and Towns. Lisa moved here ten years ago from Lake County Indiana where she was previously employed by Lake County Solid Waste District. She has a marketing background, with a strong solid waste history.

**Anita Largent:** Anita is the staff liaison for the SWAC and Division Manager with the Environmental Services of Clark County and has been with the county for over eight years.

**Gary Bickett-** Clark County Public Health

**Brandon Vick:** No longer the newest member on SWAC and represents Clark County Business. Brandon is the third generation in his family business, Vick Landscape. This is a landscape business and now a maintenance company. His business creates a lot of garbage and debris which was one of the reasons for being involved in SWAC.

**Dick Baker:** Dick is a retired engineer for the Army Corps of Engineers out of Seattle District, where he was Chief of their construction. They did a lot of military construction, a lot of Superfund clean-up for EPA throughout the northwest, out of Seattle, including two projects here in Vancouver. Dick has always been interested in recycling; he applied and was accepted as a member of SWAC in 2000.

## **II. Roll Call, Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for August 4, 2011 were approved as written. Don Ebbeson made motion to approve the minutes; Jeanne Stewart seconded the motion. Lisa Schmidt and Dick Baker abstained.

## **III. STAFF UPDATES**

### **County Solid Waste – Anita Largent**

#### Handouts:

- Clark County Environmental Services October calendar of events
- Master Composter Recycler 2011 Fall Workshops
- Master Composter/Recycling Volunteer Training – Thursdays 6-8:30 p.m. Feb. 2 - April 5, 2012
- Free Leaf Disposal / Coupon
- Free Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Coupon
- Recycling Directory of Clark County – booklet
- Flyer: Do you have *out-of-date* or *unused* medications?

#### News Releases:

- Many Hands help with cleanup at Vancouver Lake, Riverside – Hundreds of volunteers pick up trash, clear invasive plants during cleanup. Environmental Services was also involved in this event - 550 volunteers and removed 6700 lbs of waste and cleaned out blackberry bushes.
- In Our View: Curbside Progress – Local recycling efforts show improvement, but we still can do better
- More answers to questions about Portland's new curbside composting plan, including cost
- A proposal to move food waste through Portland's Lents neighborhood boils over

The County is waiting and watching the outcome of this new program. Portland will start collecting yard debris and food waste on October 31, 2011, with every other week garbage collection. Next summer the Clark County yard debris will go out for RFP. The city of Vancouver has a comprehensive contract where all collection services are combined into one. Metro has an RFP out now for transfer of food waste and compost facility.

#### Additional Information:

The first week of October is Household Hazardous week. Empower Up received the 2011 Non Profit Excellence Award for Innovation from the Nonprofit Network of Southwest Washington.

**Mike Davis - Update on Leichner Landfill:** We have completed updating the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and in the process of updating the Master Operation plan, and the Compliance Monitoring Plan. We have an internal draft of the Financial Assurance Model.

On the maintenance side we cleaned out stormwater ponds to prepare for winter, lot of vegetation removed including trees. Also found some seepage coming into the sedimentation pond which is a natural cycle. We sprayed for noxious weeds and removed lots of blackberries. We had a flare vibration which has been fixed and are in the process of upgrading electrical panels for the stormwater pumps.

Purchase & Sale: We prepared draft agreement for the state agencies which is currently in legal review. Miller Nash has completed a draft for the consent decree and we should be reviewing those amendments in the next few weeks. The next phase of due diligence is about to start. We will have a mostly internal facilitated meeting to identify potential reuse alternatives and develop criteria for completing fatal flaw analysis. The purpose is to assist the Board in showing what types of reuses are potentially possible for this site. The basic parameters are job creation, recreation, energy, and other. Within that we will have sub categories such as light recreation use such as, walking trails, some type of light industrial development. We will then rank each alternative. The ones that pass will be included in the phase II planning, and then become part of the master planning. Hope to close on the purchase of the property mid 2012.

#### **City of Vancouver – Tanya Gray**

Leaves are starting to fall and the fall leaf coupons are available and you can get as many as you need. This is to encourage residents not to put leaves in the street. You can use your coupons at West Van Materials Recovery, McFarland, H&H. Additional coupons are available in the Recycling Refresher, you can get them from the city's website, from Waste Connections website, you can actually show up and if you forget your coupons they are available at each location.

We are also looking at customer rates for garbage, yard debris and recycling curbside service for residential and commercial in the city of Vancouver.

#### **County Public Health – Gary Bickett**

There is a Letter of Intent to purchase the 43-acre Boise Cascade Landfill site. SWAC members will be informed as additional information unfolds. We should know more information in about a week. All the conditions will go with the sale, including the financial assurance. **Solid Waste Advisory Commission's continued interest has helped to move this project forward.**

We received an amendment from Department of Ecology to the current CPG grant - funding remaining for 2011. The following day CC Public Health received a draft contract for the 18 month grant for 2012-2013.

Clark County Public Health, Clark County General Services and a representative from Schneider Electric met to discuss the proposed biomass facility to be located at the former Pepsi Building downtown Vancouver. Clark County General Service is asking Clark County Public Health to provide a public health assessment; SW Washington Clean Air will be a part of that assessment. The fuel

source is wood, forest raw material, forest cleanup debris. This does not fall in the realm of solid waste, forest waste is exempt.

The Site Hazard Assessment Grant has not been finalized; the draft agreement is ready for approval.

Melissa Sutton did a presentation to a group on September 22 about Clark County Public Health regarding proper solid waste handling, solid waste complaints, dumpsters, compactors, recycling compost, and pet waste in apartments. She handles 100's of complaints a year. Melissa developed a Power Point Presentation and Gary suggested she present it at SWAC meeting when an opportunity arises. Melissa also attended the National Environmental Management Academy for Environmental Enforcement Inspection Training.

Third quarter reports will be ready before next meeting and will be sent out electronically.

#### **IV. Update on Closure/Decommission of Boise Cascade Landfill – Gary Bickett & Anita Largent**

Current information on the Boise Cascade Landfill was presented during the Clark County Public Health update.

#### **V. New Program Initiatives: Clark County Green Business Program – Leslie Johnson**

Leslie provided an overview of the Clark County Green Business Pilot Program website located at [www.clarkgreenbiz.com](http://www.clarkgreenbiz.com). This is funded partially through a grant and rate fees. The committee began meeting 6 months ago, which consists of Pete DuBois, Erin Rowland, Bob Patterson and Leslie Johnson. We contracted with Normandeau Associates to work with Clark County to help organize and facilitate the pilot project. The project started with 12 pilot business participants throughout the county, with different realms of business such as transportation, hospitality, food and so forth.

The fact sheet explains the purpose of the program: to help businesses to improve the things they do, such as recycling, waste reduction, water conservation, energy conservation. There is an assessment for each of the six categories. We discuss the assessment and any challenges the business may experience while moving forward through this program. This is not a certification program but rather a recognition program helping business to make improvements, help them save money on their garbage, energy and water. The blue medallions are being installed at each of pilot businesses to help educate people about stormwater; that it goes directly into streams and creeks. The goal is to have each pilot business certified green by end of the pilot program.

Clark County Green Business program will offer assistance, tools and RECOGNITION for our local green business leaders. Recognition is based on verification of established green business practices in the following program categories:

- Stormwater Management
- Waste Reduction and Recycling
- Water and Wastewater
- Purchasing & Toxics
- Energy
- Community Engagement

Clark County' Green Businesses will receive guidance and technical assistance at no cost from the Green Business Program staff who will work with businesses and local agencies to assist in areas including:

- Green Team Motivation

- Education and outreach to business about Clark County Green Business Program
- Site visits from specialist in each of the program categories
- Technical assistance to help your business in reaching and maintaining regulatory compliance

There was a question regarding the stormwater management assessment which included information about permeable pavement. There was a request to have more information provided to SWAC as to how permeable pavement and low impact development works to prevent stormwater pollution.

#### **Using Volunteers – VolunteerClark.com – Anita Largent**

We developed a website called [www.Volunteerclark.com](http://www.Volunteerclark.com) that lists volunteer events, dates, and locations. This is not just for the county but is available to businesses, agencies and other entities. The focus is mostly on environmental type volunteer opportunities. Individuals interested in volunteering can go and see what opportunities/events are listed. It provides information about various agencies that have registered (currently there are five: Vancouver Watersheds Council, Washington State University Clark County Extension, Underwriters Laboratories and Clark County Environmental Services) and lists their events. People can search by location and date, and then the events will come up. Each agency listed has to register with the site; they are given a login and password. Anytime they have an activity or event they go in to enter the information. The posting has contact information for volunteers to call and sign up for listed event. Once the date has passed, the event “falls off” the website making maintenance easier.

#### **V. Other Business**

#### **VI. Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda items**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58