

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Meeting

March 10, 2015

MEMBERS:

Devon Felsted, Chair

Dot Sharp

Matthew Pederson

Rick Finch

Eileen Macoll

Bob Hooper (Excused)

Staff: Mark Story, Whitman County Public Works Director/Engineer; David Nails, Whitman County Transfer Station; Chris Skidmore, Environmental Health; Chelsea Cannard, Environmental Health; Elinor Huber, Clerk.

3:04 p.m. – Devon called the meeting to order. Introductions were made around the room.

Dot Sharp had a correction to the December 9, 2014 minutes. On page 2, the City of Colton had collected 1,500 pounds of cardboard instead of 15 pounds.

Devon Felsted also had a correction on page 2 regarding the recycling containers to be “larger” rather than smaller for apartments.

MOTION by Dot Sharp and seconded by Eileen Macoll to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion passed.

David Nails reported he has some grant money and will be purchasing more recycling containers for the small towns that are interested. He also has picked up some extra CPG grant money that has been turned in to Ecology from other areas. He has received \$55,000 already and is planning on getting another \$180,000 for a roll-off truck and more containers. We have to do a 25% match and it is exciting that there is money out there just waiting to be picked up.

We did another walk through at the new landfill facility and we are hoping to be in the new facility by Spring Clean-Up Week on April 17-25. The paving will be done around the first of April and that will probably be the last item to finish. The price for single stream is not very good right now.

Mark Storey showed some pictures of the new facility so the SWAC members could see the progress that is happening out there. We are tentatively planning on March 25th at 2:30 p.m., for the ribbon cutting ceremony and the BOCC and the SWAC members are invited to attend.

Mark Storey stated there are three other projects in the future. One is the issue with the effluent pond. The pond is a double lined pond but there is ground water coming in from somewhere. We have been in touch with Ecology regarding this and they have given us permission to finish this new facility project before we start that one.

The second project is the demolition cell floor which is about 97% full now and we have to cover that in the next few years. When it settles we will go out for request for qualifications for an engineering consultant to start looking at closure of that cell. That closure will require grading; cover it with plastic and then a couple of feet of dirt on top to stabilize it. That will be about a million dollar project but we have been diverting \$2.70 for every ton of waste that comes through the facility and that fund has about a million and a half dollars in there now. The other half million is for ground water monitoring and all the other things we do. We will start that project pretty soon.

The third project is the exploring the idea of building another landfill cell. We put that project on hold a while ago because we were not effective at negotiating land purchase at that time. We have met the landowners again and they are up for a discussion about filling up the land so we can move forward with that project some day. This project is probably 3-4 years out before we start this. At this point we have a great contract with Republic Services but we still think this is better for the County to have that land and that cell available to build.

Mark Storey mentioned that the SWAC committee needs more members and he encouraged everyone to start recruiting for the committee. We have a total of 18 positions available with only 6 positions that are currently filled.

Rick Finch stated that the "Move out, Pitch In" event needed some leadership. The County has led it in the past and it benefits the nonprofit groups with good quality food items, clothing, electronics, furniture, etc. He is going to contact WSU community involvement group. He will send out an email with information.

Matt Pederson stated they had a fire on New Year's Eve in their Seattle recycling facility. There was a bit of damage but no injuries and they are up and running again.

Dot Sharp said that Colton ordered a dumpster to provide free service for the city and the outlying areas during the Spring Clean-up.

Eileen Macoll stated that the Pullman City council was delighted that Whitman County was able to put together a new facility in a timely and efficient manner.

The next meeting will be June 9, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.