

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting
September 8, 2015

MEMBERS:

Devon Felsted, Chair	Dot Sharp, Vice Chair
Eileen Macoll	Chris Skidmore
Rick Finch, (Excused)	Matthew Pederson, (Excused)
Bob Hooper, (Unexcused)	

Staff: Mark Storey, Whitman County Public Works Director/Engineer; David Nails, Whitman County Transfer Station; Art Swannack, Board of County Commissioners; Heather Huston, PCEI; Elizabeth Larter, Northwest Stewardship Council; Elinor Huber, Clerk.

3:03 p.m. – Devon Felsted called the meeting to order. Introductions were held around the room.

MOTION by Eileen Macoll and seconded by Dot Sharp to approve the minutes from June 9, 2015. Motion passed.

David Nails introduced Elizabeth Larter from the Northwest Stewardship Council to talk about product Stewardship. Whitman County like many of the counties throughout the state are hard hit by the CPG cuts that the legislature enacted this year. Product stewardship is all about taking back toxic materials.

The E-cycle program has been in place about 6 years collecting computers and TV's throughout the state. Whitman County has collected more than a million pounds in the first 5 years of the program.

The LightRecycle program is allowing the consumer to bring 10 fluorescent tubes a day to the landfill. When you purchase a CFL or fluorescent tubes you pay an extra 25 cents which pays for the disposal of the product. Through product stewardship the consumer pays for the disposal of the product instead of having local government pay for it.

One of the programs that we hope to help the County with is dealing with disposal of oil based paint and getting a paint stewardship program passed in the Legislature. Paint can actually be recycled and resold for about \$11-12 a gallon. Producers of paint are working in Washington State on programs and legislation to provide safe disposal and recycling services for their products.

PaintCare is connecting the product to the person who is purchasing and using the product and would relieve some of the pressure on the solid waste budget. Like the LightRecycle program the consumer would pay thirty-five cents to seventy-five cents extra on a \$30 gallon of paint for the disposal.

Mark Storey reported the landfill staff had to go back to the old facility because two of the bolts on the stationary crane broke off so we took it out of commission. It is still under warranty and we are working with the engineer to replace the bolts.

Mark Storey stated that since the CPG budget has been cut in half we are looking for other ways to do business and provide the same level of education. He introduced Heather Huston from the Palouse Clearwater Environmental Institute to talk about some of the educational programs they have available.

Heather Huston stated they are an environmental non-profit organization that has been around for almost 30 years. Our wish is to create a partnership in some capacity to educate middle school kids with field trips and hands-on activities. In this way it gives young people a chance to learn about recycling and the environment.

MOTION by Eileen Macoll and seconded by Dot Sharp that the SWAC committee support the County in exploring a partnership with PCEI. Motion passed.

Dot Sharp reported that recycling cardboard went up from \$77.50 to \$82.50 with Lewis and Clark recycling.

David Nails reported the Fall Clean-Up is October 5-10; \$35 a ton, with a minimum charge of \$15.00.

Mark Storey reported that Cell 4 is almost full and they will be going out to ad soon to select a consultant to design a cover and closure plan. The construction money is set aside by the post closure fund with almost 1.5 million dollars already in that fund. For every ton of garbage that is collected \$2.70 goes into that fund.

David Nails reported he is recruiting for more SWAC members.

4:05 p.m. – Adjourned until December 8, 2015.