

**SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting**  
**March 8, 2016**

**MEMBERS:**

**Devon Felsted, Chair**  
**Matthew Pederson (Excused)**  
**Chris Skidmore**  
**Paige Collins**

**Eileen Macoll**  
**Dot Sharp**  
**Rick Finch**

**Staff: Mark Storey, Whitman County Director/Engineer; David Nails, Whitman County Transfer Station; Elinor Huber, Clerk.**

**3:05 p.m.** – Devon Felsted called the meeting to order.

**MOTION** by Eileen Macoll and seconded by Dot Sharp to approve the minutes from December 8, 2015. Motion passed.

A video on the Open Public Meeting act was shown to the members. Mark Storey stated that everything we do is open to the public so you need to conduct yourself in accordance with the Public Meeting Act.

There was discussion on recycling. David Nails reported the single stream is definitely not doing well. We are finding the transportation costs are more so there is a shipping shortfall that we are dealing with. Cardboard is steady at about \$80 a ton.

Rick Finch said he got a price quote that was \$9 a ton better than last month on the single stream. Apparently, China is starting to become a player in the market a little bit more. There is more demand for the lower quality paper that is coming out of comingled. The total is a negative \$34 a ton with the shipping costs. That is at our warehouse door and that is about 30 ton loads. We are sitting on quite bit of material and we are out of room. We have been shipping what we generated for the last three months; compared the total tipping fee it is still a cost savings to recycle.

David Nails reported that single stream is about \$15 a ton at our cost. Right now, we are getting a positive number with comingled about \$9 a ton or somewhere in there but then you add shipping costs which then brings it into a negative number. We are getting a positive number for it but it is a very low number that doesn't cover the cost of transportation or the cost of processing.

Devon Felsted stated that when the price of fuel dropped that is when the price of single stream dropped and so we are saving on fuel, so it is kind of a wash. Then when prices start going back up the single stream price goes back up, too.

David Nails gave an update on the water contact system. We have decided that a tank system and an existing pond system would be a better fit. We have an engineer's estimate and a scope of work from CH2MHill and will be making a decision soon. The engineer's estimate was about \$400,000 including the reconstruction of the existing pond liner. We hope to go to bid this summer or next summer.

Mark Storey gave an update on the recycling education. We are going to try some recycling education with a consultant on a test basis in the schools and some of the community events like the Lentil festival and the Palouse Empire Fair. We will try it for next year and see how it works out. We will start with the 4-5<sup>th</sup> graders in Pullman and any of the small towns that are interested. We believe it is good stewardship and it will help us in other ways by reducing how much goes into the garbage. We think it will be a good program.

Chris Skidmore stated that they have CPG grants and they usually give back close to half of it. He suggested that maybe they could tie some of their CPG dollars into recycling education.

Rick Finch stated WSU is looking at a different process for handling medical and pathological waste. We usually incinerate the waste. This new system is basically a large grinder that injects steam and changes the character of the material, so they could legally handle the end product as a solid waste through the landfill.

Paige Collins stated that the recycling boxes in Rosalia are great but they need some training as to what goes inside the box. David Nails said he would drop off some brochures for her to take to the city council meeting.

Devon Felsted said that the new Pullman Disposal website is up and they are almost ready to take payments online with credit cards.

Dot Sharp said the recycling in Colton is successful except some of the cardboard boxes aren't getting flattened out.

Chris Skidmore reported from Environmental Health that he is working with property owners on some solid waste issues. He has been doing inspections on Greek Row and also encouraging the Fraternities and Sororities to recycle.

David Nails announced the Spring Clean-Up is April 8-16, 2016.

The next meeting is June 14, 2016, at 3:00 p.m.

**4:14 p.m. – Adjourned.**