

**SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Meeting**

**September 13, 2016**

**MEMBERS:**

Devon Felsted, Chair  
Matthew Pederson (Excused)  
Eileen Macoll (Unexcused)

Dot Sharp, Vice-Chair  
Rick Finch (Excused)  
Jeff Wilmoth

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

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

**MOTION** by Dot Sharp and seconded by Devon Felsted to approve the March 8, 2016, minutes. Motion passed.

There was discussion about the lack of SWAC members. David Nails has been visiting the small towns and trying to promote more members. We need to have someone here from Empire Disposal, as well as the smaller communities. Mark Storey will visit with the BOCC regarding this and maybe send a letter to the city councils of each town.

David Nails reported the total for garbage in 2015 was about 26,000 tons, and with the asbestos, tires and demolition it comes to a total of 28,009 tons. In 2014, the number was a total of 27,800. Recycling was up a little bit at 2,300 tons. When you add in the yard and wood waste it comes to 5,901 tons. We had 879 participants for Household Hazardous Waste customers compared to last year at 848 participants.

Comingling recycling and OCC are definitely the strong drivers of what we are collecting and also the single stream in the smaller communities. Single stream is up enough right now to cover the transportation costs.

Mark Storey stated the new transfer station is in good shape and running. One of the things we held back is what to do with the effluent water which is the contact water from the garbage room floor. Most people just store it in tanks and then haul it away to a local waste water treatment plant. Our local waste water treatment plant operators may not want to take it.

We are moving forward with the leachate tanks and possibly a small evaporation pond. We had a pond in the past and we hauled it to Colfax when we had high rainwater. We have switched to a different design to underground tanks to store the effluent water through the winter and then in the summer we will fill the small evaporation pond. It will only be used in the summer and will be covered in the winter so it doesn't collect rain water. It will be about 10' x 50' with shallow water and sprayers to evaporate the water so we don't have to haul it away in the summer. We will probably have to clean out the ponds and put it into the waste stream at the landfill.

So, we will probably get rid of the pond that is out there behind the transfer building. We will just have the underground tanks and an evaporative facility. Great Western Engineering is beginning the design of that and we hope to go to bid in January or February with hopes of constructing next spring or summer.

David Nails stated is going to do an evaluation of Cells 1, 2, and 3 and he has been in contact with Environmental Health about gas monitoring. We are looking at getting a fill plan for all four together so we can see what it will look at in the end. The baler needs to be re-lined and the building that was hit a couple of years ago needs to be fixed so that will be about \$100,000. David has been working with TD&H for an engineered drawing.

Jeff Wilmoth reported they had a safety exercise at the Transfer Station of what to do if the Household Hazardous Waste caught fire, how they would respond and who to contact and who to get involved. David Nails said it gave him a chance to discuss with everyone about knowing where everybody is at all times and which way to get out. The goal is if anything happens anywhere on site, get everyone out of harm's way. We use the radio every time somebody goes out in the back, etc. Communication is everything.

We had a recycling booth at the Fair again and David made contact with a lot of people interested in recycling. There were questions and a lot of interest from some of the small towns. He encouraged them to join SWAC. There were two people from Oakesdale who were interested and one from Tekoa.

The Fall Clean Up begins on September 23-October 1<sup>st</sup>. There is an ad in the paper this week. We don't have tire amnesty anymore. We haven't been able to get a grant. We take tires at the reduced rate for clean-up week.

Great Western Engineering is also doing water storage for fire suppression for about 10,000-20,000 gallons of water. The estimate for both projects, (effluent and water storage) is about \$400,000. David also asked them about a feasibility study for a material recovery facility in our old building.

Mark Storey stated they had a meeting with the Mayor of Pullman, Mark Workman, and they discussed taking glass out of the single stream because it devalues the product and tears up the baler. No decisions were made but they agreed to start thinking about it. We can still recycle glass at the landfill as a separate commodity.

Dot Sharp reported that the total for cardboard in Colton was \$87.50 for July and \$100 in August. They don't take glass and there haven't been any complaints about it.

The next meeting will be at 3:00 p.m. on December 13, 2016.

**4:05 p.m. - Adjourned.**