

**WHITMAN COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
December 12, 2017**

**MEMBERS:**

Devon Felsted, Pullman Disposal, Chair  
Dot Sharp, Colton, Vice-Chair  
Matthew Pederson, Republic Services (Excused)  
Rick Finch, WSU Waste Management  
Bob Curry, Endicott  
David Hansel, Albion  
Chris Skidmore, WC Environmental Health  
Eileen Macoll, Pullman

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

**Audience:** Layne Merritt J-U-B Engineers; Deb Olson, League of Women Voters.

**3:02 p.m.** – Devon Felsted opened the meeting. Introductions were made around the room.

**MOTION** by Eileen Macoll and seconded by Bob Curry to approve the minutes from November 14, 2017. Motion passed.

David Nails reported that we are now accepting leachate into our new tanks. We have a pool cover on top of the concrete basin so no more moisture can get in there. It has been hydro seeded and we are getting those projects closed up before winter sets in.

Mark Storey handed out copies of the Capital Facilities Plan. We will be developing a capital facilities plan for the facility and also doing a financial model update in the Spring. These are tasks that have been on our “to do” list for five years and we will start that in January 2018.

We developed a financial model about 5-6 years ago and it is time to look closely at that. The solid waste division is healthy from a financial perspective. We need to look at what it takes to operate and develop a priority list. There is a list of preliminary projects that we still have out there.

I am happy that we are meeting our environmental requirements now with everything finished on our effluent tanks. We no longer have a surface pond.

Layne Merritt reported that he updated the goals from the comments at the last meeting. Most of these things were pretty straightforward. *“Encouraging policies and practices to minimize waste,”* was one of the things that was added.

David Nails added that this says to provide educational opportunities to students and the public at large about types of waste; where it ends up and ways to recycle, by reusing and reducing solid waste in the community. This also encourages these policies and practices at the educational level.

The Clearwater Environmental Institute had a Fall session with the education of recycling with the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders in the small towns and Pullman schools. We might change it to the 2-6<sup>th</sup> graders but we are short on grant money and that is how we fund those programs.

Mark Storey commented that the BOCC are generally in support of having goals and policies. They want us to be careful of developing policies that might be contradictory to their bigger goals as counties. I have no trouble with that statement going into the SWMP as stated, because it says, "encourage," and it is not the same as "required."

Layne Merritt stated that this is just a draft and we have incorporated the language of Beyond Waste. Everyone has a copy of the Solid Waste Management Plan to look through and I just sent you the Beyond Waste Plan and Toxics so you can see more of the specifics what the State is trying to do.

Devon Felsted reported that Pullman Disposal, Whitman County and Pullman have come together and decided that glass should not be in the mix anymore. It destroys the quality of recycling and it is counter-productive. We haven't set up a drop off at our station yet because it we don't have the funding for it.

We are working on a program for glass collection for commercial bars and restaurants. We have roll carts out for glass for weekly collections. Small roll carts are \$15 a month and the larger are \$25 a month. We have been putting information in our billing the last few months.

David Nails said he will be going to the city council meetings of the small towns and let them know about leaving the glass out of the recycling and putting it in the regular garbage. Also, we need Interlocal Agreements from each of the small towns.

Rick Finch reported on the WSU composting at the Greek houses. The information is provided on the Environment Science Alliance website, which is a combined environmental group on campus. We haven't worked out all of the details yet. It should launch in January 2018.

Layne Merritt reminded the members of their homework to get the data current from 2010 to document what has been done in Whitman County. He sent them some information from the old report in the new format.

The SWAC members were encouraged to email any additions or deletions they might have such as any new operations that failed or operations they decided to phase out. Also, any comments about the Capital Improvement Plan should also be in the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Chris Skidmore said he had been checking previous correspondence from 2008 when the landfill was considering closure and doing gas monitoring. At one point we thought we had an agreement from Ecology on the closure of the landfill but we haven't been able to locate the agreement.

**The next meeting is March 13, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.**

**4:05 – Adjourned.**