

**SOLID WASTE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
June 12, 2018**

MEMBERS:

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

Staff: David Nails, WC Transfer Station; Elinor Huber, Clerk.

Audience: Layne Merritt, J-U-B Engineering; Meagan Gilmore, DOE.

3:04 p.m. – Devon Felsted called the meeting to order.

MOTION by Eileen Macoll and seconded by Matthew Pederson to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2018 meeting. Motion passed.

David Nails stated that Whitman County has contracted with the Palouse Clearwater Environmental Institute through the CPG grant for recycling education in the schools. They bussed the second through fourth graders from the small towns out to Klemgard Park and to the landfill for a tour of our facility. The kids had lots of questions about recycling and we stressed that the containers have to be empty, clean and dry. They also had questions about composting. It is a good program and a great way to get recycling education into the schools.

We have started with the maintenance of Cells 1-3. We had some drainage spots that were plugged up and so we are redoing some and adding new gas well heads. They should be installed by the end of the month.

We have a fill plan for Cell 4, which is the inert limited purpose landfill. We will survey and stake it to know where to fill it. The tanks are done and have been approved by Ecology. Environmental Health will be coming to inspect the tanks so we can start evaporating any leachate that we collected during the winter, which is very minimal.

If we put in a compactor we have drains underneath that will also convey leachate to the tanks. There is a 2% grade in the tipping floor so everything goes into that drain and then gets pumped up into those tanks.

Layne Merritt handed out the draft of the Solid Waste Management Plan. He asked that everyone look over their section and send any corrections to him. We want to get this finalized for the meeting in September and we need your comments in the next 2-3 weeks. Chapter 6 is not done yet.

David Nails stated that he asked Travis from Great West to do a study on a Material Recovery Facility for Whitman County. We already have a vacant building with a conveyor. The County is not in it to make a profit. I just want to separate cardboard, tin and aluminum. We will charge a processing fee that will equal to run the plant and maybe some amortization of new equipment. After that, we will pass any extra money to Empire Disposal and Pullman Disposal. This is something I am very passionate about.

Matthew Pederson reported that Republic will continue to process as usual. He did not have anything new to report on the international front of recycling. Over the last years we have continued to be the best provider for the County and we have the infrastructure to facilitate that. We are warehousing a lot of material and a certain segment has been landfilled because it has been exposed to weather. Moisture is a major component.

At this time we are processing about 60% of all the material that we are taking in. It is not getting any easier and the markets do not look like they are going to be bouncing back as quickly as we had hoped. We are in the "wait and see," phase and we are still looking for solutions. It might be a three to five year process, so it is not as short as we were hoping for. In that time I would be hopeful that domestic resources would be able to pick up some of that slack. There is no right or wrong answer as long as you continue to do what is best for your constituents.

Devon Felsted stated that Pullman Disposal takes cardboard and aluminum separately at no charge and we pay for aluminum cans. There is a \$5 charge for unlimited amounts of glass.

David Nails reported that in the SWMP on Page 50, it shows Empire Disposal with a recycling rate of \$9.98 or you can take it to the drop off site for free.

The next meeting will be a tour of the Whitman County Landfill on Wednesday, September 12, 2018, at 2:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned - 4:03 p.m.