

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 5, 2011

Mission Statement: To enhance communication and the working relationship between the Department and the solid waste management facility owners/operators, through the discussion of issues and the exchange of ideas.

Committee members in attendance:

Barb Butler-City of Billings
Martin Bey-City of Bozeman
Rick Thompson-DEQ
Max Bauer – Allied Waste
Mark Nelson- Lake Co.
Joe Aline- Sheumaker Trucking & Excavating
Sherrel Rhys-Lewis & Clark County - Chairwoman
Clay Vincent- Unified Disposal District

Others in attendance:

Barry Damschen-Barry Damschen Consulting
Gordon Higgins-DEQ
Stephanie Reinig-Great West Engineering
Bonnie Rouse – DEQ
Bruce Meyer-DEQ
Jim Chilton – Flathead County Solid Waste District
Dave Prunty – Flathead County Solid Waste District
David Seeberger-Allied Waste
Allan Grant - Jefferson County

Called to Order at 1:38 pm by Sherrel Rhys.

Approval of Minutes From The Previous Meeting.

Sherrel Rhys asked if there were any discussions on the minutes. Hearing none, the minutes were approved as drafted.

Solid Waste Issues From Previous meetings:

-Selection of replacement for Bob McWilliams (Intermediate Class II landfills)

- Sherrel asked for nominations from the floor for someone to replace Bob McWilliams, the former operator of the Beaverhead County Landfill and SWAC representative for western intermediate Class II landfills. Sherrel said that she had called and invited Larry Laknar, the Beaverhead County replacement for Bob to attend the meeting.

- Rick announced that Tom Barth, the SWAC representative for eastern intermediate Class II landfills, will be resigning his position with Fallon County effective 10/21/11. Sherrel asked that we include all of the landfill managers on the mailing list. Also include the two vacancies on the committee.

-Solid Waste FA Rules Update – Gordon Higgins

- Gordon Higgins updated the committee stating that he has finished the stringency analysis component of the rule writing effort. He also stated that the accompanying forms were also near completion. His next step is to finalize the rule and give to the legal division for their review. Gordon anticipated the finalized rule by the end of the calendar year. He encouraged the committee members and those in the audience to contact him with any questions they may have on the draft rule.

-Solid Waste Business Plan – Rick Thompson/Ed Thamke

- Ed gave a brief background on what the annual WUTMB Business Plan Retreat was about. Rick briefly went through the Solid Waste Section 2012 fiscal year business plan and made special note of the action items in the back of the document.

Local Government & Recycling Section (LGR) Update:

- -Bonnie Rouse talked about some of the items that the LGR Section has been working on. Sherrel asked for a summary of Bonnie's work projects. Barb asked about the status of the integrated waste plan – Bonnie reminded committee that Dusti Johnson had been on a mobility assignment until November 7, 2011.

Bonnie talked about the reorganization within the LGR Section and indicated that Brian Green is the new section supervisor. Lou Moore was present and explained in more detail some of the changes in the in LGR Section.

Bonnie announced that the LGR will be sponsoring a conference on September 11, 12, 13 & 14, 2012, focusing on efficiency, pollution prevention, and waste management. The conference will be held in Livingston.

New Agenda Items Discussed:

-Hub & Spoke – Bonnie passed out a summary to show what the grants were used for. Mark has asked Lou to present them with an organizational chart.

-ASTSWMO Solid Waste Managers Conference – Rick Thompson

- Rick had the agenda for the conference passed out to those present. Rick talked about some of the sessions that he attended.

- What state legislators want to hear – This session focused on the basic things to do when approaching a legislator, i.e. Do your research; be professional and courteous. Be prepared to give the legislator the information they need on a particular item in 2 – 3 minutes. Know your legislators background.
- Ed talked about what we do already with our current legislators making note that we give them the white papers for them to review later.
- Measurement 1 – what's being produced in your state,
- Measurement 2 – Region 8 has been working on a Measurement Methodology for measuring recyclable commodities in the EPA Region 8 States. Rick did a PowerPoint presentation and he will send it as an attachment in an email to members.
- Sustainable Materials –
- Waste Definition Rule – EPA has been looking at defining Solid Waste for Hazardous Air Rules. This rule primarily affects incinerators. Also impacts recycling to some degree. Tires were the primary topic. Ed explained what some of the issues were regarding Tires being a solid waste which can be beneficially used.
- Look at abandoned landfills and long term care – when to stop post closure care.

-Upcoming Solid Waste Training – Rick Thompson

- Rick talked about possible options for providing operator training since it was determined that we cannot do a direct grant to MACO. The options include; direct contracting with MSU Extension – Solid Waste Institute; use department staff resources to provide operator training; or solicit training contractors via the request for proposal process, who can organize and provide the operator training on a biennial basis. Sherrel talked about her comments at the meeting held with MACo on the future of operator training Barb asked the committee members how they felt about keeping MSU Extension Service involved. In response to Barb's question, Sherrel expressed her concern with the high over head cost for contracting directly with the MSU, and stated that there were several companies out there that can provide this service. Barb acknowledged Sherrel's comments and they agreed that the current training offered has been getting "stale". It was agreed that the training needs to be "freshened" up. Rick stated that the department will organize the next two or three trainings and reschedule the training that was scheduled for September 15, 2011. The department will also develop a RFP for future trainings. The department will also consider a modification to the solid waste fee rule to insert language mandating a percentage of the fees collected being dedicated to operator training.

- There was discussion regarding a newsletter. Talk regarding the upcoming SafetyFestMT.

-Oil Field Analysis –

- Ed stated that he wanted to give the members a heads up that the Hazardous Waste Program will be doing an Oil Field Analysis. Rick mentioned that he has been in discussions with a consulting firm on the possible construction of a 300,000 ton per facility for oil and gas production wastes in north east Montana. Rick added that the disposal of Technologically Enhanced naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials (TENORM) at Class II Landfills in the north eastern region of the state is becoming an issue.

- Pharmaceutical Wastes-

- Dave Prunty Flathead County Public Works Director stated that his county provided full time 24/7 pharmaceutical drop off at the detention center in Kalispell. Those wastes are subsequently placed into the lined section of the Flathead County Landfill final disposal. The transporting of the pharmaceuticals is in conjunction with the law officials. This is part of the Pharmaceutical Waste Education Act and trying to eliminate people from flushing Rx drugs down the toilet. Rick talked about the small incinerator purchased by the City of Great Falls for the disposal of pharmaceutical wastes. Rick advised the committee that those incinerators have to receive an air quality permit and a solid waste license prior to accepting wastes for disposal.

-Acknowledgements-

- Dave Prunty and Max Bauer thanked the SWP staff for the timely work and expediency in approving expansions and other changes to the operations at their facilities.

-Other-

- Sherrel asked Bruce about the JV program. She would like to get the definition of Junk Vehicle changed. Bruce commented that the county commissioners need to be better educated. Ed talked about the counties working with the private entity.
- Allan Grant Jefferson County stated that his county received a small grant to collect used pesticides and herbicides containers. It is going really well.

Agenda items for next meeting:

- SW FA Rules
- Update on training
- Selection of replacement for Bob McWilliams and Tom Barth

-Junk Vehicle definition

Adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Next meeting is set for January 11, 2012 from 1:30-3:00.