

Solid Waste Advisory Committee December 3, 2003

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.

Call to Order: Doug Sparrow – 9:45 am.

Committee members in attendance: Barb Butler - City of Billings, Clay Vincent – Unified Disposal District (Havre); Max Bauer – BFI Missoula; Sherrel Rhys; and Rick Thompson – DEQ.

Others in attendance: Jon Dilliard, David Seeberger, Mike Vogel, Brian Spangler, Barry Damschen, Bonnie Rouse, Bob Church, Gary Keeler, Jim Johnson, and Mark Nelson.

Review and acceptance of minutes from September 15, 2003.

Solid Waste Issues From Previous Meeting: Rick Thompson gave the report on the adoption timetable for the Solid Waste fees. Nothing had changed since August. He planned to send the Solid Waste rule packet before the next meeting.

Rick also gave a report on the Septic Pumper rule changes. He reported that one of the comments from the pumpers was on the issue of litter disposal from the traps after field spreading there loads.

Issues: Jon Dilliard gave a report on the re-organization of the department. He gave the new names for the bureaus. Stating that Judy Hanson would be the “acting bureau chief” for the Solid Waste Section starting on December 15, 2003, until a new chief would be appointed.

Mike Vogel gave a report on how E-Waste is handled. He focused on the use of vendor type programs. He also spoke about logical pick-up sites for the various types of E-waste. Mike also updated the committee on his efforts in applying for federal funds for E-Waste disposal research. None of the owners/operators present could approximate the percentage of computers now being accepted at their facilities for disposal

Sherrel Rhys asked if there was a chance of CRTs being banded from the landfills? Rick stated that not at this time, but recognizing that a problem still exists. There was much discussion on the possibility that states would band CRT's.

Rick turned the discussion to the MOLO training classes and suggested combining the classes into a one-week school type format in order to best utilized the limited training budget. .

Mike Vogel distributed a draft owner/operator Training Survey to the committee and those in attendance. He explained what the draft survey and asked for input from the committee. Mike's intention was to get the survey to the facilities by the end of the year and to have the results before working with Rick to finalize the MACo/DEQ Solid Waste Training Contract in early February 2004. Based on preliminary surveys, Mike explained that safety at landfills was a major concern of owners/operators.

Barb Butler raised the issue of how much out-of-state attendees should pay for the courses.

Mike Vogel stated that OSHA Haz-Woper courses should be rotated in the course offerings for each of the proposed solid waste schools.

All agreed that twenty-four hour training plus eight-hour refresher should be added to the survey letter. Everyone also agreed that a meth-lab class should be added to the list. Mike agreed to rework the questions on the survey.

Will Selser had questions on SWANA's cost for teaching the MOLO course; alternatives to the MOLO course that could equally benefit the operators with the high cost; a cheaper way of doing a training using local consultants or contractors.

Rick stated that he would need the contract by early January, if the training is to be held in the Spring. March 29 through April 2, 2004 in Helena, was agreed on for the Spring Solid Waste School.

Announcements / Training Issues: S.W.A.C. will meet again on March 3, 2004 at 9:30 am in the Director's Conference Room 111.

Agenda for the next meeting: How to dispose of PBC Waste; if it can be taken in the landfills in Montana. Open burning permits. Time tracking for six months.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.