

Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2019

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 attending:

Jim Simon – Compost Public/Private
Roger Bridgeford – Major Private Class II Landfills
Barb Butler – Major Public Class II Landfills (by phone)
Amy Ferguson – Public Intermediate Class II Landfills (by phone)
Mary Louise Hendrickson – MACo/Class III Landfills and Burn Sites
Rick Thompson - DEQ Solid Waste Program
Dave Duffy – Private Intermediate Class II Landfills
Joe Aline – Landfarms
Mark Nelson – Transfer stations / Recycling

Committee members not attending:

Vacant - Small Eastern Class II Landfills representative

Other attendees:

Jake Paetsch – Republic & MT Waste
Julie Ackerlund - DEQ Air Quality Bureau – Planner
Stephanie Beckert – Great West Engineering
Travis Craig – Great West Engineering
Joe McElroy– Pioneer Technical Services
Glen Rafish– Butte-Silver Bow landfill
Mike Rieger – DEQ Enforcement
Brian Hohn – Jefferson County
Bob Church– Great West Engineering
Emily Ewart – DEQ Waste and Underground Tank Management Bureau
Fred Collins – DEQ Solid Waste
Matt Elsasser – 406 Recycling
Brady Christensen – DEQ Motor Vehicle and Recycling
Dianna Robinson – DEQ Motor Vehicle and Recycling
Andrea Staley – DEQ solid waste

- **Meeting called to order at 1:10 p.m.**
- **Committee member introductions**
- **Discussion and approval of minutes**
 - The October 11, 2018 meeting minutes were approved

- **Solid Waste Section updates**

- Solid waste training update – Fred Collins
 - Fred distributed a handout that will be emailed to attendees
 - 24-hour HAZWOPER in Billings sometime in April
 - Checking Tony Olson’s availability for HAZWOPER
 - Equipment rodeo in Glasgow, probably second week of June
 - Composting with Jean Bonhotal, Missoula in late July/early August
 - MOLO in Helena late Aug/early Sept
 - Webinar in March by Neal Bolton
 - We are exploring communications/PR training; time to be determined
- TENORM rules update – Emily Ewart
 - Oct 16 Billings workgroup meeting in Billings produced revisions
 - will go to legal after revising
 - Feb – rules to workgroup
 - April – released by Sec of State’s office
- Licensing – Rick Thompson
 - City of Billings expansion license was finalized in December
 - NMJRDD EA going into final stage
 - Tire Depot EA is close to being done
 - Solid Waste renewals will be sent February 1st
 - The form has been shortened
 - The survey is being done with Survey Monkey (online) this year because we think it may generate more responses
 - Integrated Waste Management Plan recycling numbers need to be more accurate.
- Inspections – Rick Thompson
 - 22 inspections (more than usual for this time of year)
 - 2 minor violations
 - 1 major violation
 - The SW Section has done more inspections than usual for this time of year
- Materials Management – Rick Thompson
 - Integrated Waste Management Plan public comment period produced one comment
 - Renewal period for motor vehicle wrecking facilities was Oct 30, 2018 – Jan 1, 2019
 - 143 renewals submitted; 3 are incomplete and one was revoked.
 - 2 did not have payment
 - 1 hasn’t complied with the motor vehicle wrecking yard shielding requirement(s)

- **Other updates**

- Federal emission guidelines – Julie Ackerlund
 - Nothing to report
- Enforcement– Mike Rieger

- 20 new complaints
 - 7 asbestos
 - 4 junk vehicle
 - 1 septic tank pumper
 - 7 solid waste
- The number of complaints is steady/average

- **New Items**

- New staff introductions
 - Rick talked about Mike Eder, who is new to Solid Waste Program (Mike wasn't present)
- Legislative update - Ed Thamke
 - LCs are legislative concepts, and HBs are house bills.
 - HB 137 about drug take-back day. The Solid Waste Program will be involved because the bill involves disposal
 - HB 165 Styrofoam ban
 - LC 2711
 - Generally, about revised landfill laws
 - LC 2116 asbestos laws
 - LC 1508 bottle bill
 - LC 1268 tow-truck operators
 - LC 1148 effects to real estate transaction disclosure if meth has been consumed or produced on a property
 - LC 939 septic tank pumper laws
 - LC 263 bag bill
 - A 4¢ fee will be imposed on plastic bags
 - The funds will go to special revenue account at point of sale to get used for recycling programs
 - WUTMB is preparing fiscal note
 - HB 15 expands access to junk vehicle fund for non-motorized vehicles
 - Gives counties option to accept motor homes, trailers
 - The motor vehicle program determined it wouldn't affect the fund as written

- **Round Robin Discussion**

- Glen Rafish – redoing price structure and updating ordinances. Hope to have them in place by May 1. Charges will change from per yard to per ton (\$25/ton). A weight limit is being imposed on residents. A \$20 fee will be collected at the gate for unsecured loads and/or tarps, to increase compliance.
- Matt Elsasser - e-recycling is up and running. Doing big events this summer. Interacting with communities around the state about their recycling questions. Advised committee about General Services Division's (GSD) display with their quarterly recycling drive results and educational information on. The recycling drive, for state employees' personal recycling, is held at 1425 9th Ave the second Friday of every third month (first one this year is Jan 11) from 7:30-3.

- Jake Paetsch – Working on assimilating High Plains with Republic. Republic acquired High Plains last year.
- Stephanie Beckert is doing a lot of work at Jim’s facility:
 - Phase 4 expansion is progressing
 - Put in mono-pole
 - Adding outbound scale
 - Exploring adding a drop-off facility
 - License expansion

Work in other areas:

- Tri-County expansion
- Waiting for DEQ to finish Tire Depot EA
- Title 5 annual reports
- Bob Church is working on Sanders Co transfer station and Billings’ twenty-million-dollar drop-off project
- Brian Hohn – probably closing a facility
- Jim Simon – land swap started 12 years ago was finalized. Starting major expansion.
- Dave Duffy – prelim stage of expansion. Bought a second scale. May need a third. Inspection performed by Mike Eder (DEQ Solid Waste) went well.
- Mark Nelson-his board tasked him with evaluating staffing container sites and fees. They did a survey of the landfill’s life expectancy and are repeating it this spring to double-check the results. They’re still recycling everything. Public sorts plastics and landfill sells for 3¢ a lb. Cardboard prices are very low. Recycle MT has been building “trunks” (a container of items & information about recycling) for distribution to schools and libraries. Mark asked the Solid Waste Program to provide household hazardous waste disposal training. Rick responded that he & Fred have inquired about including or adding this to the HAZWOPPER training.
 - Mary asked Jim about his facility’s household hazardous waste disposal experiences. Their facility identifies these items by using testing strips. They had a 2-day training and then an 8-hour refresher on the subject with Patrick Ryan from MSU.
 - Rick Thompson - asked Fred if he had created a questionnaire to send to the solid waste community to gather training suggestions. He then asked the solid waste system operators to respond to survey when it’s sent.
 - Mark wants training to prepare for Dept. of Labor inspections
- Ed asked the Solid Waste Program to assess obstacles to DEQ’s attempting to produce zero waste within two years.
- Roger – operating hours changed on Jan 6 and they are increasing efficiencies – fencing to control litter, radiation monitoring at scale, leachate monitoring at infrastructure. Rick Q: did you change O&M to take TNORM? Stephanie Beckert A: their plan does not have it
- Joe Aline – they’ve found value in recycling waste asphalt from public
- Mary Hendrickson – she’s putting together canister site and is looking for ideas on how to control costs. Out-of-county vehicles dump construction wastes at her sites. Mike Eder – introduced himself
- Brady Christensen – IMP went out & renewals are pretty much done.

- Shaun McGrath - introduced himself. He worked on SW issues while leading EPA Section 8 and as mayor of Boulder CO and appreciates the issues facing the community.

- **Agenda items for next meeting**

- Training materials update (Blue Ridge).
- Ed will review the legislative session

- **The next SWAC meeting will be April 11, 2019**

- **The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.**