

**THURSTON COUNTY**  
**SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2019**  
**9605 Tilley Rd. S., Suite B, Olympia, WA**

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>		<b>Alternate (A)</b>
		<b>Excused (E)</b>
		<b>Not Present (NP)</b>
		<b>Present (P)</b>
<b>Members</b>	<b>Interest/Organization</b>	
Jim Cooper	City of Olympia	P
Gary Edwards	Thurston County Commissioners' Office	P
E.J. Zita	Port of Olympia	P
Joan Cathey	City of Tumwater	P
Michael Steadman ( <i>Lenny Greenstein</i> )	City of Lacey	E
Dave Watterson	City of Tenino	P
E.J. Curry	City of Yelm	NP
Greg Schoenbachler	District #1, Citizen Representative and Agricultural Representative	P
Burton Guttman	District #2, Citizen Representative	P
Renee Radcliff Sinclair (Vice Chair)	District #3, Citizen Representative	P
Delroy Cox ( <i>John Cox</i> )	Industry Representative – Refuse	P
Chad Sutter	Industry Representative – Recycling	P
Daniel Venable	Business Representative	NP

**Staff Present:** Amanda Romero and Angela Celestine – Public Works; Chris Hawkins - Public Health and Social Services.

**Guests Present:** Peter Guttchen – Department of Ecology; Gary Franks – City of Olympia

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The March 6, 2019 Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Renee Sinclair at 10:00 am.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

Dave Watterson made a motion to approve the agenda for the March 6, 2019 SWAC meeting and the minutes from the February 6, 2019 SWAC meeting; E.J. Zita seconded the motion. The committee voted and unanimously approved.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

### 4. NEW BUSINESS

#### SWAC members' terms—status update (requested by staff)

Amanda Romero informed the committee that E.J. Zita representing the Port of Olympia and Jim Cooper representing the City of Olympia were appointed to the SWAC by the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) and no other member terms expire until December 2019.

#### Review of SWAC By-laws (requested by staff)

Amanda briefly reviewed the SWAC by-laws with the committee. Jim Cooper inquired if there was a process to review and update the by-laws annually, commenting that rule #5 Waiver of Rules:

*“Any of the above rules or procedures may be waived by a majority vote provided further that the reason therefore be included in each motion for waiver”*

and rule #6 Amendments:

*“Any of these By-laws may be amended or repealed, and new By-laws may be adopted, by two thirds majority vote of the quorum and approval by the BoCC. Prior notice of thirty days shall be given to the SWAC before undertaking amendatory action”*

seemed to conflict with each other and were inconsistent with Roberts Rules of Order.

#### Reconsideration of mandatory recyclable materials required by County Ordinance 13696; input also requested from City of Olympia and Waste Connections (requested by staff)

Amanda presented County Ordinance 13696 relating to the minimum levels of service for residential recycling collection, calling attention to Section 3.D, which included a list of mandatory recyclable materials to be collected. Amanda stated that although there has not been a proposal to update the ordinance, input was being sought as the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) requested, in an October 18, 2018 letter, that counties work with the Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) and local solid waste collection companies to reconsider county-mandated collection of certain recyclable materials. The materials listed included: glass, plastic bags, aseptic packaging, shredded paper, and plastics #3 through #7, which have little to no economic value.

The SWAC members discussed gathering data to perform a cost-benefit analysis on the recyclables in question to inform the Committee's input.

Jim felt the input on the ordinance should be made after reviewing the most current Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). Amanda explained that a current draft of the SWMP will be made available for the committee at the May meeting.

Peter Guttchen from DOE explained that the UTC reviews every SWMP and does a cost assessment. The UTC is now requiring information on the end markets of materials and their costs. Peter also offered to share some resources from DOE regarding best management practices.

Renee suggested allowing time to gather information and compare the list to the SWMP at the May meeting before giving input.

## **5. OLD BUSINESS**

### Talking Trash (requested by SWAC; committee-led discussion)

Joan Cathey commented that Solid Waste abruptly stopped publishing Talking Trash after the Fall 2016 edition and that it was a good communication tool for community education. The committee discussed future options such as: a new format, modernizing, developing a partnership with production and mailing, offering an opt-in option with consideration to budgetary and environmental costs.

Burt Guttman made a motion to request that the SWAC receive an educational briefing from Solid Waste staff at each meeting. E.J. seconded the motion for discussion. Jim stated that although he thought it was a good idea, he was voting no. Amanda referred to the SWAC workplan pointing out that the Solid Waste Education and Outreach informational briefing is scheduled for September. She further explained that there were some vacant positions and that the Solid Waste Manager Monica Gorman was hoping to have those vacancies filled by then. The committee communicated the need to have that information earlier as they discuss recommendations and suggested the briefing be a high-level overview on Solid Waste work.

After some discussion by the committee, Chad Sutter amended Burt's motion, making the following motion:

*"to add to the agenda, every month, a director's report that summarizes the activities of Solid Waste that's happened over the course of the last month."*

Joan seconded the motion, the SWAC voted and unanimously agreed. Jim mentioned that the SWAC By-laws, Section 3.E, Conduct of Meetings would need to be amended to include the director's report.

## **6. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

Chad brought up that the current Thurston County contract with the hauler will be expiring and that a Request For Proposals (RFP) will be going out this month. He expressed disappointment the SWAC had not been briefed. Renee informed the committee that a letter had gone to the BoCC from the Chair Michael Steadman regarding the RFP process.

Peter announced that the DOE's Local Solid Waste Financial Assistance grant program application period would be opening in mid-April or May after the State Budget has been adopted.

March 6, 2019 SWAC meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

The next SWAC meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. located at 9605 Tilley Rd. S., Building B, Chehalis Room, Olympia, WA 98512.

*Audio files of these meeting minutes are available upon request.*