

**Benton County  
Solid Waste Advisory Committee  
(SWAC)**

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**Meeting Minutes  
January 11, 2023, 11:00 AM**

In attendance:

<u>SWAC Members:</u>		<u>remote or in-person</u>
Benton County:	Will McKay	absent
City of Benton City:	Jessica Wadsworth	absent
City of Kennewick:	Chuck Torelli (Secretary)	in-person
City of Kennewick	Jim Millbauer (alternate)	remote
City of Prosser:	Don Aubrey	absent
City of Richland:	Theresa Richardson	remote
City of West Richland:	Richard Bloom (Vice Chair)	in-person
Basin Disposal:	Darrick Dietrich	absent
Basin Disposal:	Rebecca Francik (Chair)	in-person
Public Citizen:	Khris Olsen	absent
Waste Management	Tami Yager (alternate)	remote

Additional Attendees:

Cristina Woods, Benton County	in-person
Brian Malley, Benton County	remote
Roscoe Slade, City of West Richland	in-person
Mark Nielson, Benton Conservation District	remote
Michelle Mulrony, Dept of Ecology	remote
Wendy Mifflin, HDR	remote
Jim Coleman, Benton Franklin Health District	in-person
Kevin Fuerst, Waste Management	remote
Martin Nelson, Kennewick	in-person

Meeting start time: 11:02 a.m.

**Discussion items**

**1) Introductions**

Everyone attending virtually and in-person introduced themselves and stated what agency they were from.

**2) Approval of December 14, 2022, Meeting Minutes**

(Corrected to reflect Richard Bloom as in attendance)

Richard Bloom motion to approve, second by Roscoe Slade – MCU

Discussion ensued regarding level of detail within minutes, and to whom/when minutes are distributed. Cristina Woods explained that meetings are being recorded, to allow for accurate documentation of meeting activities. Meeting minutes are available, after SWAC approval.

**3) Public Comment -**

Rebecca inquired of Dept of Ecology about updates to regulations/timelines. Michelle Mulrony explained that new regulations have not yet been made available and are anticipated to be set by 2027. New information should be rolling out, in the interim – but no estimate of date is available.

**4) Large animal disposal –**

(Bloom) Invited Benton Conservation District (BCD) to discuss large animal disposal and potentially as Agricultural representative for SWAC. Mark Nielson explained that BCD works with many small landowners, that BCD coordinates with regarding disposal of large animals. Nielson explained that most rendering facilities have largely gone away in the region – and assistance options are declining. Nielson does not feel a good solution is in place. Composing is not a reasonable approach to most small operators. BCD is looking to SWAC for discussion on the topic.

(Francik) inquired if cost is primary hurdle, or transport. To which, Nielson explained he believes it to be a factor of “all of above”. Jim Coleman confirmed that large animals can be taken to transfer stations and even to a landfill – but that advance notice, is sometimes required. Burial is an option – but sometimes not feasible for small operators and with specifications about where and depth. Rendering is not an option. Tami mentioned Baker Commodities (Spokane area) may do some collection of animals.

Jim Coleman indicated he would provide animal options to SWAC.

**5) 5-Year Solid Waste Plan – Discuss DRAFT Chapter 3 and Chapter 4**

**DRAFT Chapter 3 –**

Wendy Mifflin detailed the Chapter 3 elements, by section, and solicited input from SWAC.

Tami Yager –

(3.2) Mentions sole-source negotiations within WA state (RCW to be provided).

(3.3.1) Has updated information for this section, she can provide to HDR.

(3.6) Some other plans encourage cart service, which may be worth considering.

Rebecca Francik –

(#?) Basin Disposal desires a “relief valve” verbiage that allows for thoughtful consideration of disposal when market conditions change. Wendy explained that this would be addressed in recycling section of plan, which SWAC will need to discuss.

Martin Nelson –

Believes that education is a critical piece that should be an outcome of SWAC messaging to the public. Martin feels that SWAC should attempt to inform the public on one topic each year and be consistent across the entire county.

**DRAFT Chapter 4 –**

Wendy Mifflin detailed the Chapter 4 elements, by section, and solicited input from SWAC. Transfer station and drop-off sites were discussed.

Tami Yager –

Would prefer “No charge” terminology, rather than “free” within fee sections (all agreed)

Jim Coleman –

Mentioned lack of Benton City drop-off station. BDI Facility - Rebecca will provide information to HDR.

Rebecca Francik –

Future planning periods should be identified. Add mention of closure of lower Yakima valley facility – which may result in increase to Prosser waste(s) received. Mentioned that reference to city/county assurance of cooperation for waste disposal is desired by BDI. (Wendy indicated she has note to include – working to determine appropriate location).

Chuck Torelli –

Inquiry to Hanford Site inclusion. HDR clarified that SWAC plan does not cover Hanford Site.

6) **Wendy** – Next Chapters are Recycling and Moderate Waste. Wendy expects an extra 30 minutes will likely be required for Recycling Chapter (Ch 5).

Rebecca inquired of Mark Nielson, and Ag Sector representation on SWAC. Rebecca questioned if an earlier start-time, would be helpful to gain his service as Ag Sector. Consensus of group to begin future meetings at 10 a.m.

Discussion about distribution of materials for those involved with SWAC. Tami explained that Health District is their “regulatory arm”. Rebecca requested that DOE and BFHD be included with packet distribution, going forward. Staff clarified how meeting information is posted and available for public attendance.

Next meeting will be February 8, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

**Meeting end time: 12:08 p.m.**