

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

SUMMARY

October 12th, 2022, 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)	absent
City of Kennewick	Jim Millbauer (alternate)	in-person
City of Prosser:	Don Aubrey	absent
City of Richland:	Theresa Richardson	absent
City of West Richland:	Richard Bloom (Vice Chair)	in-person
Basin Disposal:	Darrick Dietrich	absent
Basin Disposal:	Rebecca Francik (Chair)	in-person
Waste Management:	Jeff Barcenas	in-person
Public Citizen:	Khris Olsen	absent

Additional Attendees:

Matt Mahoney, Benton County	in-person
Cristina Woods, Benton County	in-person
Jackie Mayfield, Benton County	in-person
Brian Malley, Benton County	remote
Peter Rogalsky, City of Richland	in-person
Martin Nelson, City of Kennewick	in-person
Mark Chidester, City of Richland	in-person
Michelle Mulrony, Dept of Ecology	remote
Tami Yager, Waste Management	remote
Wendy Mifflin, HDR	remote

Meeting start time: 11:00 am

Discussion items

Introductions

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

Establishing a monthly SWAC meeting time and location

Rebecca Francik asked the group how often the group should have meetings and whether this was addressed in the bylaws. Pete Rogalsky read the bylaws that were projected on the screen where it states

the Chair makes the decision on how often the committee meets. Rebecca asked for input from the group on any date or time preference. Richard Bloom let the group know that Roscoe desires more advanced notice for group meetings. He also stated that historically the meetings have been on the 3rd or 4th Wednesday of the month as they were needed. Rebecca reached out to Wendy from HDR to see if she had suggestions on this. It was suggested that the group meet monthly while the group is reviewing the chapters on the solid waste plan. Matt Mahoney mentioned that once the entire plan has been reviewed by the group the meetings could go back to being held quarterly to follow the grant reporting. Rebecca asked the group if the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11:00 would work for everyone. It was decided the meetings will be held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 11:00 at the PSB located at 102206 Wiser Parkway Kennewick, WA.

Richard Bloom advised they had reviewed the plan in 2019 and the current efforts need to include any future legislative requirements.

Rebecca also brought up the requirement that the committee requires certain participants such as an individual from agriculture. Richard Bloom advised it has always been a challenge to have an agricultural and public citizen on the committee. It was suggested someone in the group could reach out to the WSU extension or the Benton County Conservation District. Richard Bloom stated he would reach out to the Conservation District. Matt Mahoney did remind everyone that to add an individual to the committee it must go before the Benton County Board of Commissioners.

Budget

SWMLSWFA-2021-BECoSW-0092

Matt Mahoney shared with the group that all the grant funds have been expended for the retrofit of the MRWF site. All additional expenses associated with the site are being funded by the tipping fees collected by Benton County. The goal is to not pass along any additional expenses to the participating agencies.

The upcoming Household Waste event will also be funded by the tipping fees.

Peter Rogalsky mentioned that their city (Richland) recently received their invoice which they budget for. They function on a one-year budget whereas the county operates on a biennium. He asked if there was a projection for the coming year. Matt Mahoney explained a break down was sent in December from the department's CFO and it was based on grant participation. He stated the email could be resent if needed. Matt Mahoney explained the local share was approximately \$176k, which was likely billed within a single year. Matt Mahoney stated Benton County would work towards providing invoices quarterly.

The group asked Michelle from the Dept. of Ecology if she knew what to expect in the following year as far as grant amounts. She stated she expected they should be expected to be about the same as the prior year, possibly a little more.

MRWF Retrofit update

Matt Mahoney stated he recently did a walkthrough of the facility. The facility is substantially complete but there are some punch list items that still need addressed along with some clean up. There are some electrical and technological issues that need addressed, such as the fire suppression system. There have been delays due to the supply chain. The goal is to have the facility operational by the start of the year.

The county looked at how other facilities operate to figure out how many days/hours a week the facility should be open. It was discovered that it would cost less money to be open 3-4 days a week vs only 2 days. The goal is to have Saturday as one of the days the facility is open. Richard Bloom suggested the facility be open to the public 4 days a week and the 5th day be used for activities such as sorting and clean up. In looking at other counties, it was found that there was a county with a smaller population than Benton County and they are open 5 days a week and currently looking to add more employees. Richard also suggested establishing an appointment system for small quantity generators.

After reviewing the operational desires of the facility, it was determined the county could staff the facility at a lower cost than if the staff was contracted. It was determined 3 employees will be needed to operate the facility. These employees would need to be trained by a company and required to obtain their certifications. Pete Rogalsky mentioned that the City of Richland operated the moderate waste facility for quite a while and stated he supported this idea. He stated they had 2 employees and there was a need for additional help.

Matt Mahoney stated he sees other improvements that can be made to the facility once it is complete and, in the future, will come back to the committee with future projects.

Cristina Woods showed a couple photos of the facility.

HHW Event

The next event will be October 28th, 2022, at 11:00 am at the Benton County fairgrounds, located at 1500 S Oak Street Kennewick. The event will be held in the parking lot located off E 10th Avenue.

Waste oil at Prosser and Benton City Drop Boxes clean up

Cristina provided some photos of the issues the county has been facing. Matt Mahoney explained the oil has been cleaned up at this time. Notices will be placed next week at both locations stating the collection site is closed and to not place used oil, as well as instructions on where to find disposal locations. Clean up of the locations is currently happening, it is unknown how much material will need to be removed to rid of the contaminated soil. Rebecca suggested that once everything is cleaned up and the invoices have been received for the cleanup that a news article be published with the costs associated with this continual clean up to educate the citizens of Benton County. Rebecca suggested that information about locations for disposal should be provided at each site. Richard Bloom suggested an education/information push by the participating agencies when the MRWF is opening.

Once the MRWF is open the employees working there should be available to go visit these sites more often to ensure they are kept clean.

City of Richland oil collection fees

Pete Rogalsky mentioned the city uses a vendor that processes the oil and provides cleanup for their facility, this vendor then bills the city. He asked if this is a cost that should be paid by the county. Matt Mahoney requested they provide any invoices they have to Benton County, as he was under the understanding the county had paid for the oil clean up at the 3 facilities. There were some totes left at a few of the facilities including the facility in Richland. Matt will follow up with Clean Harbors regarding these totes.

It was discussed that Benton County may be looking into other vendors to provide the cleanup services. Rebecca Francik asked if staffing issues are present with other vendors other than Clean Harbors. Michelle Mulrony stated that other companies are also having similar issues.

Discussion of current legislation and emerging legislation regarding recycling and solid waste

HB 1799 was brought up by Rebecca Francik which involves organic materials being out of landfills by the year 2030. Composting facilities are very expensive, and the compost is not easy to disperse. Regional plans are very important because of the large financial and legal implications this will bring to the waste industry. Rebecca Francik stressed the importance of this committee and their plans moving forward with these new items. The committee discussed some of the concerns that may come up with this change and some ways to overcome the possible issues.

Michelle Mulrony clarified that the ordinance requirements are that local agencies will seek to use compost as an option. An infrastructure study will be needed to ensure the goals of this plan can be met.

Wendy stated they will be addressing HB 1799 in the solid waste plan.

Per Michelle Mulrony the focus sheets are almost ready and should be available next week.

5-Year Solid Waste Plan Update

HDR is reviewing the completed solid waste plan from 2013 along with the 2019 plan updates to provide the new 5-year plan. The new plan will address the new regulations that have been put into effect. The new plan will include a chapter on organics, including HB 1799. Drafts of chapters 1 & 2 have been completed and turned over to Benton County for their review. Once the county has reviewed them, they will be sent to the SWAC committee for review.

Wendy believes it'll take about 6-7 months to complete the updating process and 1 year to complete and adopt the plan across all the participating agencies.

Other

Next meeting will be November 9th, 2022, at 11:00 am.

Richard Bloom will reach out to the Benton County Conservation District.

Meeting end time: 12:24 pm