

**Tri-County Hazardous Waste and Recycling Program
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**
Wednesday, March 21, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.
Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue Conference Room

Present: Heather Alexander (NCPHD/Tri-County HWR), Kristy Beachamp (Dufur), Lawrence Brown (ODEQ), Kathi Hall (NCPHD), Tracie Hornung (Mosier), Sandy Macnab (Sherman County), Mike Matthews (Hood River County EH), Mike Miles (City of Maupin), Karen Murray (NCPHD/Tri-County HWR), Glenn Pierce (Chair, Wasco County/NCPHD), David Skakel (NCPHD/Tri-County HWR), Karen Skiles (City of The Dalles), Teri Thalhofer (NCPHD), and Jim Winterbottom (The Dalles Disposal), Laurie Jupe (NCPHD)

Absent: Kevin Liburdy (Vice Chair, City of Hood River)

Minutes taken by: Laurie Jupe

David Skakel welcomed Larry Brown of ODEQ who is taking the place of Bruce Lumper today and introductions were made all around. David informed the group that the 2012/2013 budget review discussion would be moved forward on the agenda.

Glenn welcomed everyone. Members reviewed the December 2011 meeting minutes. Sandy Macnab made a motion that the minutes be accepted as corrected. Corrections were discussed for Page 3 paragraph 4 and should read "Map Your Neighborhood" not Map You Neighborhood". Also Mike Matthews attended the last meeting and was missed off the attendee list. Mike Matthews seconded the minutes be accepted as corrected and the motion was unanimously passed by the group.

Fiscal Report

Kathi Hall passed around two handouts. The first reviewed was the Revenue Status report. The beginning fund balance was reflected on the first sheet and was \$248,054.12 year to date with a balance showing of \$-19,610.12. Kathi reviewed the surcharge entry, equipment sold, and postage reimbursements for the newsletters. Total revenue for the year stands at 79 - 80%. Kathi then reviewed the Expenditure Report and personal services were at 58% for the year. The materials and services line items will be covered in the next budget review. The total for the year is at 48%.

Kristy Beachamp made a motion to accept the fiscal report as presented. Sandy Macnab seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed by the group.

Glenn passed around to the members a handout from the Oregon Public Health Association (OPHA) on "Pollution and People". The presentation centered on the results of a study that was done that looked at the amount of toxic chemicals found in a diverse group of people.

David and Heather passed around some pictures on a Hazardous Waste event recently done in The Dalles. The picture shows two very old crystal whiskey bottles which were full of liquid

mercury that the persons father had had in his basement and since the father had passed away the family was trying to find a way of getting rid of the mercury. There are many such anecdotes on items that are brought in at the various events.

2012/2013 Budget Review

Heather Alexander reviewed a Power Point presentation on the Budget Trend Comparison covering the fiscal years of 2004 - 2011 for the Tri-County Hazardous Waste and Recycling program. The presentation went through what the history trends have been for the program, where the money has been spent, where the income has come from and then some projections looking at the longevity of the program. A complete copy of the Power Point presentation is included with the meeting minutes.

Discussion centered around the two possible budget scenarios on the table. Both Budget Scenario #1 and Budget Scenario #2 were reviewed in depth. Budget Scenario #1 would suspend 1 Ag event, and 5 HHW events. Budget Scenario #2 would cut 1 Ag event and 17 HHW events and there would be more carry over at the end of the year than with Budget Scenario #1. Copies of each scenario will be included with the minutes. David mentioned that in looking at the Grants program the remainder of the funds in the Grants program has been frozen and the Grants program has been curtailed. Karen reviewed the options for the Steering Committee to consider at the end of the presentation.

Glenn and David reiterated that the goal of the discussion today was to approve one of the discussed scenarios so that the approved budget scenario would then be taken to the Wasco County budget hearings for approval. Once Wasco County approves the budget scenario it will again come back to the Steering Committee in June for final approval though, the budget discussion process for future budgeting will continue over time and will remain active and ongoing in order to solve problems and find solutions.

At this time in the discussion Teri Thalhofer, Director of the North Central Public Health District, spoke to the Steering Committee on the proposed changes of North Central Public Health becoming a standalone entity and no longer a department of Wasco County. Currently Wasco County is designated as the lead agency for the Tri-County Hazardous Waste Program. It is the recommendation of the Health Department staff that the new entity become the lead agency. According to Teri this will allow continuity of staffing and program management moreover; HWR is an environmental public health program and belongs in a public health agency.

Following the presentation by Heather the Steering Committee then reviewed and discussed each scenario in depth in order to finalize a decision on which scenario to choose. At this time Mike Miles made the motion to accept Scenario #2. Sandy Macnab seconded the motion. Further discussion ensued centering on personal services and cell phone usage and possible cell phone allowances. Discussion also included having a dialogue with the Sherman County Commissioners about bringing Sherman County up to being on par per capita with costs that Hood River and Wasco County citizens pay now.

It was agreed that at this time next year there should be a clearer picture as to what the results are from the measures taken this year that may aid in formulating a strong plan on how to continue to move the program forward for the future.

Mike Miles again made the motion to accept Scenario #2 with the addition of one extra event above what was currently listed on the scenario. In addition, to include making a change to Scenario #2 in the sum of \$30,000.00 to be added to the revenue side in anticipated surcharge revenue and adding the sum of \$30,000.00 to the expenditure side in contracted services in order to balance the budget. Also to be included in the motion is a discussion to be held with Sherman County in anticipation of raising Sherman Counties fees. Sandy Macnab seconded the amended motion to accept Scenario #2 with the additions. The motion was passed unanimously.

When the new budget additions are finalized and the changes have been made copies will be obtained and included with the minutes.

Glenn mentioned that this would be Mike Miles last meeting. Glenn thanked Mike for all of his excellent support and contributions to this program over the years. Mike will be moving on to new and exciting pursuits and will be missed greatly by the committee. All of our best wishes go with Mike for his new ventures. With this the committee will be getting a new representative for the City of Maupin.

Progress Report

Master Recycler Program:

Karen Murray gave an update on the Master Recycler Program. Officially there are 48 Master Recyclers who have logged in 1,032 hours. Karen showed some pictures from various events that the Master Recyclers have attended this year. Karen also announced that there will be two shred events coming in April. One event will be held in Hood River at Hood River Garbage on April 20th and the second event will be held on April 21st at The Dalles Disposal. The times for the events are 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Gorge Security Shred will be on site with their van. These events will be held in conjunction with the hazardous waste events. There will be no charge for the first three boxes of household shred. There will also be another seasonal gathering of the Master Recyclers on March 22nd at the Mosier Grange. Supporting the Master Recyclers and keeping the Master Recycler newsletter going will be a focus during this time of budget and staff cuts. Master Recycler courses will need to be put on hold for the time being. Glenn thanked Karen for the excellent work she has done and for all of the passion and energy that she has put into the job.

Facilities Update:

There have been some minor improvements to the facilities over time. The lighting issues in The Dalles facilities have been essentially working well but Larry Brown of DEQ suggested that the end caps of the lighting should be fixed.

Legislative Update:

Through the Association of Oregon Counties we are represented on a Solid Waste Subcommittee. Two main issues came up this year. One issue was a Product Stewardship Bill to do with mercury lighting which has been attempted twice in the past but failed. A very weakened version of the bill passed, with no added requirements for collection or end-of-life

management. Staff predicts that there will be more legislative attention to this issue in the future. Also, there was legislation proposed by the Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association calling for tighter regulatory standards for electronic waste sites and funding assurances. The Solid Waste Committee recommended this proposal and House Bill 48 was passed.

Glenn thanked all of the staff, Heather, David and Karen for all of their dedicated hard work.

David mentioned that the program has been approached by a student intern who would like to bring her services to the program. One area David would like the intern to work on would be looking at structures and funding of similar programs for counties in Oregon to help us better understand how our program might move forward during these challenging times.

Drug Take Back:

Heather let the committee know that there is going to be a multi-site drug take back event that covers four counties the weekend of May 4th and May 5th. One event will be held in The Dalles at the Senior Center on May 5th and another event will take place in Hood River at the Court House on May 4th. Moro's event will be on May 4th and Cascade Locks will be having their event on May 5th. The Commission on Children & Families in each county is actually going to be the lead on these events but if there are any questions please contact Tri-County Hazardous Waste.

New Website:

The new website is in process and once it is reformatted the website will be able to be edited by the program staff without having to have an outside entity involved to update and make any necessary changes. The new website will allow for better communication with the community and partners.

The new business flyer and the new recycling brochure are now ready for distribution. Heather showed the committee examples of both.

The next Tri-County Steering Committee meeting will be due in June 2012. David will send out a Survey Monkey to set the date for the June meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.