

**Tri-County Hazardous Waste and Recycling Program
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, June 20, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.
Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue Conference Room

Committee Members Present: Kristy Beachamp (Dufur), Sandy Macnab (Sherman County), Mike Matthews (Hood River County EH), Tracie Hornung (Mosier), Glenn Pierce (Chair, Wasco County/NCPHD), Karen Skiles (City of The Dalles), Kevin Liburdy (Vice Chair, City of Hood River), and Paul Koch (Cascade Locks)

Staff Members Present: Heather Alexander (NCPHD/Tri-County HWR), Kathi Hall (NCPHD), David Skakel (NCPHD/Tri-County HWR), Cynthia Villalobos (NCPHD), and Laurie Jupe (NCPHD)

Guests Present: Lawrence Brown (ODEQ), Jim Winterbottom (The Dalles Disposal), Andrea Krol (MCMC)

Minutes Taken By: Laurie Jupe

Welcome and Introductions

Glenn welcomed everyone and introductions were made around the room. Glenn welcomed Paul Koch the new representative from Cascade Locks.

Schedule September Quarterly Meeting

The next Tri-County Steering Committee meeting will be held on September 12, 2012.

Members reviewed the March 21, 2012 meeting minutes. David Skakel requested that the following statement be added/changed in the March 21, 2012 meeting minutes under Facilities. "The Dalles facilities have been essentially working well but Larry Brown of DEQ suggested that the end caps of the lighting should be fixed."

Tracie Hornung made a motion that the minutes be accepted with David's requested change. Paul Koch seconded the minutes be accepted (with change) 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 page one of the first sheet. On page two Kathi reviewed the HHW surcharge entry which showed at 81% and this does not include May and June. Total revenue for the year stands at 93%. Kathi then reviewed the Expenditure Report and personal services were at 83% for the year. Kathi asked for any comments on the materials and services.

Kristy Beachamp made a motion to accept the Revenue and Expenditure reports as presented. Paul Koch seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed by the group.

2012/2013 Budget Approval

David Skakel briefly reviewed the budget discussion which had taken place at the March 21, 2012 meeting. At that time the committee needed to make a decision between Budget Scenario #1 and Budget Scenario #2. The committee approved Budget Scenario #2 at that time. Budget Scenario #2 then went forward and was approved by the Wasco County Commissioners.

Program Funding

David Skakel mentioned that the plan is to put together a funding sub-committee that will review the various avenues available for finding future revenue streams. Even with the passing of Budget Scenario #2 expenditure outlay will be greater than revenue input. The projected over spending per year may be sitting at \$35,000.00 to \$50,000.00 per year. This funding sub-committee should include representation from the various groups sitting around the table. The hope for the group will be to brainstorm ideas to find creative solutions to solve the funding shortfall. Hopefully the funding sub-committee can come up with some recommendations that can be brought back to the Steering Committee.

Glenn Pierce recommended that a sub-committee be formed to explore future revenue sources, and alternative structure options. Glenn called for volunteers.

Volunteers for this funding sub-committee were: Paul Koch, Karen Skiles, Sandy Macnab, Kevin Liburdy, Jim Winterbottom, Glenn Pierce, David Skakel and Kristy Beachamp.

Discussion included the future direction that the State is taking in Solid Waste Management. The State will be releasing their "2050 Materials Management Plan" soon. Once this plan is released the State is hoping for feedback and comments from all interested parties on where we are supposed to be headed for the future. David stated that he would send the whole group a link to the 2050 Materials Management Plan.

Sandy Macnab made a motion to form the funding sub-committee representing new ideas for handling the hazardous waste in the area. Karen Skiles seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously. It was discussed to hold the meeting in Hood River.

Strategic Plan Review

David Skakel reviewed the updated Strategic Plan and summary. It had been agreed that the Strategic Plan would be reviewed on a yearly basis. The summary puts forth several basic areas to look at as the program heads into this next year including: The foremost focus is on program stability, we also need to look at a variety of funding fixes, and we need to determine how we can internally do the same or better with fewer resources.

Some changes that have been implemented include: the update and changes to the Tri-County website; a comprehensive newsletter and the addition of monthly columns in the local newspaper; commitment to keeping the Master Recyclers involved and supported; and connecting with the schools in our local areas through the updated website. Heather Alexander gave a brief demonstration of the new website that although was currently live has not been presented to the public as yet until all the bugs have been worked out of the program.

David Skakel asked for a motion to accept the updated Strategic Plan as prioritized for the next fiscal year with the additions of the items presented.

Karen Skiles made a motion to accept the updated Strategic Plan for the fiscal year of 2012 – 2013 as prioritized. Sandy Macnab seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Progress Reports

Facilities Update:

Jim Winterbottom commented on the AOR conference that David and Heather presented at. Jim stated that they did a great presentation and represented Tri-County well.

David addressed the issue of the lighting in The Dalles facility. There were no protective covers over the lighting so protective tubes have been added to the lighting. The tubes did not have end caps on them and so the end caps were installed.

Jim Winterbottom reported on a request from the City of The Dalles in regard to the city looking for alternatives for the public for the disposal of yard waste. The recent burn barrel ban in The City of The Dalles has prompted closer scrutiny of alternatives for the public to dispose of their yard waste. The City requested pricing for a cart system in The Dalles which would include curbside recycling, yard waste and/or possibly organics and possibly more options for solid waste. The city is looking at various options and pricing with this in mind.

Legislative Update:

David Skakel mentioned that from the conference they just attended a possible DEQ funding request at the State level monitoring a possible mercury lighting bill for product stewardship. Legislation that may add products in the future.

Master Recycler Program:

Heather spoke to “Recycling 101” stating that it apparently will be going ahead. This is a web-based OHSU education online system. It will be available state wide and online 24-7. The service does not replace “Master Recycler” but it supplements that service. It will be provided in English and Spanish. The fee for registration will be anywhere from \$60 – \$75.00 in lieu of volunteer hours. Once Recycling 101 is live it will be included in the Tri-County website links so people can connect to it. Tri – County pledged to cover the registration fees up to \$2,000.00 for anyone who registered in our service area.

Discussion centered on ways of including some payback hours to the communities if part or all of their registration fees are covered by the Tri-County program. David recommended that in lieu of the Master Recycling program Tri-County would offer to pay the registration fee if the applicant would commit to entering the Master Recycler program and commit to doing the payback hours. This also encourages serious applicants only. Resources to manage the payback hours are now available online for all Master Recyclers.

Kristy asked if the Tri-County staff had ever looked into the VISTA program to get a VISTA volunteer. With the addition of managing food waste through donation and reaching out to vulnerable populations and people in poverty that would be an opening for Tri-County to be able to get a VISTA volunteer. Kristy stated the cash cost for a volunteer is \$1,000.00 and that volunteer works full time for one year. Kristy stated that she would look into this for Tri-County and report her findings.

David again spoke to the great work and commitment that Karen Murray had put in to her work with the Master Recycler program.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.