

Tri-County Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
 Wednesday, June 14, 2017
 Wasco County Planning Department
 2705 E. 2nd Street, The Dalles, OR

Voting Committee Members Present

Steve Kramer, Chair; Kevin Liburdy (Vice-Chair, City of Hood River); Mike Matthews (Hood River County); Pat Bozanich (Mosier); Linda Miller (City of The Dalles); Gordon Zimmerman (Cascade Locks)

Absent Members

Cindy Brown (Sherman County); Kathie Richey (City of Maupin)

Non-Voting Committee Members Present

Bruce Lumper

Staff Members Present

David Skakel, Coordinator
 Jensi Smith, Program Assistant

Guests Present

Jim Winterbottom

Summary of Actions Taken

Linda motioned to approve minutes with correction; Pat 2nd. All in favor.	
Vote	4-0-0
Yes	Pat Bozanich, Gordon Zimmerman, Mike Matthews, Linda Miller
No	None
Abstained	None

MOTION CARRIED

Gordon motioned to approve the work plan; Linda 2nd. All in favor.	
Vote	5-0-0
Yes	Kevin Liburdy, Pat Bozanich, Gordon Zimmerman, Mike Matthews, Linda Miller
No	None
Abstained	None

MOTION CARRIED

Gordon motioned to purchase 50 ClearStream containers, with fund to be taken from Program Supplies. The units will be lent to non-profits and a standard fee with be charged to for-profits; Linda 2nd. All in favor.	
Vote	5-0-0
Yes	Kevin Liburdy, Pat Bozanich, Gordon Zimmerman, Mike Matthews, Linda Miller
No	None
Abstained	None

MOTION CARRIED

Action item	David will send committee members the email from Steve regarding the fund balance discussion between Wasco County and NCPHD.
Action Item	David will get an updated bid from vendors for both facilities and send out to committee.
Action item	Jim Winterbottom will let the group know once he has the breakdown of expenses from Stericycle for the sharps disposal.
Action item	David will confirm that only an 8-hour HAZWOPER course is needed to re-certify staff to do facilities inspections.
Action item	Tri-County staff to compile a list of non-profit volunteers that would be willing to help with recycling to share with large event coordinators.
Action item	David will send committee a copy of operating plans.

Welcome and Introductions

Meeting began at 8:34. Chair Kramer welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Schedule Future Meetings

- September 13th – Confirmed date
- December 13th – Confirmed date

Minutes – 03/08/17 Meeting

Chair Kramer asked if anyone had comments or concerns about the meeting minutes.

Gordon noted a verb was missing on pg 4. David said “compiled” the bids. David made update to draft.

Linda motioned, Pat 2nd to approve the Minutes from 03-08-17 with corrections. All in favor, none opposed and zero abstentions.

Fiscal Report

David reviewed the report noting the beginning fund balance was included. The Finance Director is still working to resolve the discrepancy in the fund balance. Steve shared the county and the NCPHD are working to resolve this issue. He will update the committee with new information when available. He has forward the email he received to David who will send on to group.

David reviewed current total for surcharge revenue, noting that we will be above revenue forecast. Expense information was presented. David shared there were things (Chamber Memberships, etc.) that have us over a little. Gordon noted the Solid Waste Specialist was at 96% for the year. David will look into it. David said that benefit amounts were under, as noted before. No monies spent on grants this year. The vehicle repair and maintenance – new tires put us over, as well as windshield replacement. David shared that until recently, we had not been charged for fuel at the county pumps, which will make our budget numbers for gas and oil next year off. Meals, lodging, registration – this will have additional costs as staff just returned from a conference that doesn’t have all expenses included. David noted the laptop/tablet put us a couple hundred over on office supplies.

Committees

- IGA/Bylaws; Operating Plan(s):

David said in the fall we will do the work plan, which will inform the budget, stating that this is the time of year to do any big projects - for example the IGA/bylaws; operating plans. If we update the IGA, we will have to go back to all the partners, have attorneys look at it, etc. He said on thing to look at was to have non-voting members be allowed to vote if needed for a quorum. Gordon asked if the quorum has been an issue. David stated in the past it has been. Some discussion on whom and why members were or were not included. A history of the program and the committee structure were discussed. David noted that the Strategic Plan has info on the history of the program. David recommended putting this on hold for now.

There was a discussion on the operating plan. David shared that DEQ is shorthanded right now but there is some internal work to be done on this. The last inspection brought up issues that will need to be updated. It was noted it is a large document that identifies roles and responsibilities for Tri County and Waste Connections staff as well as Stericycle. It covers protocols for how to handles spills, etc. David shared the last inspection results, noting the school lab cleanout took place right before the inspection, leaving waste that had to be housed at our facility. The protocol for something like this needs to be established.

Appointments to collect hazardous waste will need to be addressed. Wasco County and Planning Department received a grant for truck and trailer that can be used for cleaning up properties and hazardous waste. Steve explained some of the partnerships involved with the grant, noting this is something that will need also need a protocol. There was more discussion on this shared service, identifying that the hazardous waste will have its own component. David noted the inspection called out some safety concerns about the Hood River site – whether or not we need to have an eye washing unit at the Hood River shop. He noted there normally would be an eye wash and shower at a Hazardous Waste facility. It was decided to wait on doing any additional committee work at the current time.

- Work Plan:

Another meeting of the work plan committee has taken place since the last Steering Committee meeting, it is still a work in progress, being tied to the Strategic Plan. The format has a lot of the details hidden in the comments, informing what we are doing and why. Pat would like to work on strategies to address the goals and evaluation to establish if we are successful. David noted the “new” tab – this is a snapshot of anything additional that we are taking on. The “future” tab is a parking lot for good ideas that are not commitments but something to consider. There was a discussion about what hazards are associated with nail salons. David noted it’s a human health issue. Gordon would like a measurement component so we know if we are being successful. Pat wants to know how we discuss the strategies to reach the goals. David said it will be hard to claim the effectiveness of a work activity on some of these. Gordon stated the measurement piece is the one thing missing from the work

plan. Some might be out of our control, but we still need to measure it. Steve noted we do need to look at the funding piece, as we will have budget issues as we move forward. David said there are two columns – hazardous waste and materials management, stating there are a lot of places where materials go now, not just a hole in the ground. There was discussion about what the program would work on as well as the need to change the funding mechanisms. Pat noted we can look at recycling rates from DEQ and also the amount of hazardous waste that is being collected. David said DEQ is moving forward with developing an alternate path for measuring the Opportunity to Recycle. There is a lot of research into the full carbon footprint and the cost of reaching these goals. Steve noted we will work on adding the measurement piece to the Work Plan. Bruce said he likes what has been put together with this work plan, adding if he was staff, he would like to have something like this in place. Steve thanked the committee that worked on the plan. Gordon noted we now have something to go out and say – this is what we do – our effort and our results. David said next year we will have the sequence to have the work plan to inform the budget.

Steve asked for a motion to approve the work plan. Gordon moved, Linda 2nd to approve the work plan. All in favor, none opposed and zero abstentions.

Facilities

- Lighting: David noted this isn't moving as quickly as there has been a lot going on with the new service in Hood River, etc. He will update the bid for the two facilities. He noted it was approved and is in next year's budget. He would like to get this work done in late summer to have it in place by our November event. David said we can move forward within the boundaries of the budgeted amount. The consensus of the group was to move forward with this.
- Sharps at transfer stations (Jim Winterbottom): David noted we are in partnership with Waste Connections on the collection of sharps, sharing that we do get invoices from Hood River for sharps, but not from the Dalles. The issue is – do we need to just serve households, as we have had a large increase in expenses with taking containers from businesses.
Jim Winterbottom update: The Hood River facility is paying approximately \$920.00 a month, with The Dalles is paying about half that for sharps disposal each month, totaling more than \$ 16K per year. He has not been able to get contract info from Stericycle to evaluate what the agreement states but they are the only option in the area. Each month expenses are increasing, receiving 3 or 4 containers at a time, with no accounting for the size of the container and other circumstances that may add additional fees. The contract only allows for 50 containers each year per district. There was discussion of what would be considered a business and the consensus was that we should stop taking from known businesses. More discussion about the need to restructure and make it more equitable, also noting that if the sharps are rejected, it would be a hazard for the Waste Connection folks when the sharps are put in the garbage. There is money budgeted for this. The Dalles is

collects more containers, but the cost seems to be more in Hood River. Jim said if Stericycle is charging by the pound, then he would also charge by the pound. Mike asked if we take them at our events. David said no, the cost was very high to do so, noting we do carry a sharps container with us to use if needed at our events. Mike looked up a different contractor that does this service, noting we could leverage that with Stericycle. More discussion about options to get this situation under control. More discussion about doing outreach to say we don't take sharps from businesses. It was noted that once the numbers were identified, we could re-convene to come up with a solution.

- Operating plan – (Steve added during meeting): David said the DEQ inspection went mostly well. However, looking over our documentation for our operating plans, we have issues with our training, based on state standards a minimum of 24 hour HAZWOPER training, with annual 8 hour refresher class to do our inspections, working inside the building and doing appointments. The Waste Connection staffers and David's certification have lapsed, so Jeni is the only one that is currently able to do the weekly inspections of the facilities. She will do them until David takes an online 8-hour course to update his certification next week. DEQ will be notified on what we are doing to get back in compliance. If there was a real bind, someone from Waste Connections in the Portland metro area might be able to come do the inspections, as the maintenance fee we pay monthly includes the weekly inspections. David will confirm that only the 8-hour course is needed to re-establish the certification.

Break

School Lab Clean-Outs

David shared a PowerPoint with the group on the clean-out at Dufur School. DEQ sponsored this last fall, but Dufur missed it. The new teacher there saw it in our newsletter and asked for assistance in his lab. David explained that Dave Waddell now lives in the area and agreed to do the full appraisal. The slides showed some safety issues that we may need to work with them on later. Some of the chemicals found were highly hazardous compounds, some as far back as the 1970s. David said that part of the process was identifying the safety issues, noting possible fixes, with some resources available in our grants program.

Miscellaneous

- Large Event Recycling > Clearstreams:

Large events are increasing, as well as the number of events and there are three county fairs, Wasco and Sherman County fairs happening at the same time. What is our role there? It would be good to have large number of containers for event recycling. David shared that he would like to get DEQ grant to help pay for the purchase of more containers as well as a container to store them. He also noted that we will have use of the Code Compliance truck to go to all service areas as needed. Mike noted it might be worth it to talk to some of those that we have provided funds to purchase containers to bring those containers to these events? David explained you need to have a Clearstream next to the garbage cans to be successful. David explained that we have not

been able to fully furnish when we have been asked by large event hosts. There was a discussion about cost, the role of HHW staff would primarily be on the administrative side, with occasional drop off/pick up, what role volunteers would play at the Wasco Co. Fair, the need to keep the recycling containers next to garbage cans. More discussion about the DEQ solid waste grants. David said we were thinking about writing a proposal for get funding for purchase of more containers. He said the question is does the committee want us to purchase more – between 25 – 50 now? Some discussion on what the rack for the containers would need to be. David's recommendation would be to purchase 30 more units, if possible. There was some discussion about lending verses renting to large promoted events and what the standards should be for doing these and where the money would come from if we purchased this year or next year. Gordon suggested that it would be fine to purchase them now.

Gordon motioned to purchase 50 – to be taken from Program Supplies and to make them available to non-profits for no charge, for profit to be charged a standard amount. Linda 2nd . All in favor, Linda, Kevin, Mike, Pat and Gordon.

Mike suggested we get a list of non-profits to have available to event organizers that might be willing to do the recycling. Kevin said he agreed that the producers would be different than the non-profits. If they are required to do recycling as part of their permitting process, that would capture everything. David said the large events could be a benefit for some non-profits.

- HHW Operating plan updates (sharps, meds, containers, appointments, etc.)

David will send the plan to all committee members. This category has mostly been covered previously.

- City of Hood River:

Jim reviewed the new program for curbside organics. There have been more materials collected than expected, noting it is the best Dirt Huggers has gotten. He talked about how they are identifying issues and sharing these with customers. David said he heard good feedback from Dirt Huggers as well, with the possibility of expanding their operation. Mike asked about the tipping fees with this change. Jim said it doesn't seem to have had a large drop in MSW, with a lot of demolition and construction really taking off. David said it is too early to get annual numbers yet. Even if we have a 50% drop, we would be looking at a \$4-5K decrease, noting we did make a budget adjustment. Pat asked about multi-family. Jim said if 4 or more, they are not eligible to participate.

- Roadshow:

David said we have visited 5 local governments. He said there are four more to do. He is working to schedule those now.

- Legislative update:

David reviewed the current bills in the legislature. We don't know much about the HHW bill at this point. David feels it will have a challenge because of the fiscal burden. Steve said the fiscal isn't the only problem, it is divided. Steve's co-chair is opposed, so they have taken a neutral stance on it. Steve is not real optimistic. He is more hopeful with the medicine take back bill. We have a senator that is willing to take it on, although a current chair isn't willing to let it go. Steve

said they are working hard to get it out of committee, with people all over the state working on it. (HB 2645) In August the AOC legislative retreat, the opportunity to figure out what we want to work on next year – such as sharps; to have some things ready to get the AOC on board with. There was discussion about whether sharps would be part of the legislation. The sharps would be separate legislation. Steve said he will keep it on the table, in subcommittee.

- Other? –

David said there have been changes to our HHW events, the indicators seem to be positive. The E-Waste has more effect at rural events. He reviewed the last four years data showing the increase in participants and the cost of the disposal, including the additional items that are now being collected. David explained how the partnership with state collection programs has helped to decrease the costs. He discussed the convenience issues for rural communities. Pat asked to clarify – we aren't collecting these ourselves? David said we have our contractor, who is also the state's contractor, so we get manifested for it, but don't pay for the cost of disposal. David said what is new is the electronics, which is structured the same way as PaintCare– this has helped with cost avoidance.

A&P Recycling – public requirement issues. David said he has been surmising what the local recycling would look like without A&P. Jim said it will be a detriment to the community without them. Linda said the issue isn't that he takes the items, but that it is staying on site.

Adjourned at 11:29

Minutes taken by: Jensi Smith