

## TRI-COUNTY HWR STEERING COMMITTEE

**Meeting Date:** Wednesday June 10, 2020 8:30am-10:30am

Virtual Meeting [Meeting ID](https://meet.google.com/gqg-iwpw-aqm)meet.google.com/gqg-iwpw-aqm Phone Number 1 620-869-1677 PIN: 533 636 549#

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS ↓↓↓

Place ☒ next to  
your name & sign

**\*All Guests Participated Remotely  
in Response to COVID**

### GUESTS ↓↓↓

Please PRINT  
name below

X Steve Kramer Present

Laurie Gordon, DEQ

X Kevin Liburdy Present

Ron Doughton, DEQ

X Jacob Powell Present

13 Mike Foreaker  
14 Linda Miller  
49 Jim Winterbottom

X Mike Matthews Present

GUEST (please print name)

X Gordon Zimmerman Present

GUEST (please print name)

X Mike Foreaker Present

GUEST (please print name)

X Linda Miller Present

GUEST (please print name)

X Pat Bozanich Present

GUEST (please print name)

☐ Merle Keys Absent

GUEST (please print name)

### ↓STAFF ↓

### ↓NON-VOTING MEMBERS ↓

X David Skakel Present

☐ \_\_\_\_\_

X Angie Brewer Present

X Bruce Lumper Present

☐ \_\_\_\_\_

## Summary of Actions Taken

Kevin Liburdy moved to accept the Quarterly Meeting Minutes from 4.22.20. Linda Miller seconded. Voice vote. Unanimous approval	
Vote	<b>8-0-0</b>
Yes	<b>Steve Kramer, Kevin Liburdy, Jacob Powell, Linda Miller, Pat Bozanich, Mike Matthews , Mike Foreaker, Gordon Zimmerman</b>
No	<b>None</b>
Abstained	<b>None</b>

Kevin Liburdy moved to accept the Special Meeting Minutes from 5.27.20. Jacob Powell seconded. Voice vote. Unanimous approval	
Vote	<b>8-0-0</b>
Yes	<b>Steve Kramer, Kevin Liburdy, Jacob Powell, Linda Miller, Pat Bozanich, Mike Matthews , Mike Foreaker, Gordon Zimmerman</b>
No	<b>None</b>
Abstained	<b>None</b>

Mike Foreaker moved to establish a subcommittee to come up with recommendations regarding the future of the program with the specific task of making recommendations regarding the purpose and scope of the study. Linda Miller seconded. Voice vote. Unanimous approval.	
Vote	<b>8-0-0</b>
Yes	<b>Steve Kramer, Kevin Liburdy, Jacob Powell, Linda Miller, Gordon Zimmerman, Pat Bozanich, Mike Matthews , Mike Foreaker</b>
No	<b>None</b>
Abstained	<b>None</b>

<b>Action Item</b>	4/22/20 Quarterly meeting minutes approved.
--------------------	---

<b>Action Item</b>	5/27/20 Special Meeting minutes approved.
--------------------	---

<b>Action Item</b>	Approved Financial Report
--------------------	---------------------------

## **8:30 am Welcome**

### **Schedule future meetings**

- September 23<sup>rd</sup>
- December 9<sup>th</sup> confirmed

Commissioner Kramer suggested adding an agenda item for today's discussion: "*updating contracts and agreements*". Will be added under agenda item "other" and David will provide an update. Commissioner Kramer noted that he would need to leave early to accommodate a Board session and Vice Chair Liburdy would chair the remainder of the meeting. No other additions.

### **Minutes**

- (2-A) Quarterly Meeting Minutes 4.22.20  
Kevin moved to approve as presented, Miller second. Voice vote, unanimous approved.
- (2-B) Special Meeting Minutes 5.27.20
  - No discussion. Kevin moved to approve as presented, Powell second. Voice vote, unanimously approved.

### **(3) Financial Report**

David shared the attachment for the discussion is included in the meeting invitation. He notes on the revenue side, interest earned is almost double the projected amount. The reasons are not clear, but is worthy of note. Miscellaneous receipts category is up, generally due to a contribution from a SEP in Cascade Locks for \$1,600. Usually, this category would be limited to the sale of compost bins. Advertising and promotion is slightly underspent, but we are at about 75% execution and at 80% revenue. General grants line item is still unspent; mini grants have been spent down, with recent awards and is now at about 87% spent. Revenue is in line with projections, expenses are down due to the suspension of collection events and vacant positions. David has been monitoring landfill surcharge as the core revenue source is to see if covid has had an impact. David concluded that it is still too early to tell whether there have been any measurable impacts to the program's fiscal health. He shared that it is reasonable to expect a drop in tonnage as the economy slows down, however the program reserves are healthy and can carry the program forward. Chair Kramer confirmed the final budget has been adopted by the Board of Commissioners. There were no questions from the Steering Committee members.

### **Legislative Update**

David shared an update from the Product Stewardship Institute (PSI). Paint was the pilot project for this organization (Paintcare program). PSI has pursued Extended Producer Responsibility

(EPR) conversations at the state and local level around unwanted plastics and plastics packaging, and have been able to engage industry producers nationally.

Locally, Recycling Steering Committee (RSC) broad stakeholder group hosted by Oregon DEQ, has been meeting more frequently in the last few months (including two meetings this week and another next week). Seeking to improve Oregon's recycling system. David noted meeting attachments provide additional information on this topic and can be read by steering committee members on their own time if they are interested. David asked DEQ meeting participants for any additional discussion. Ron Doughton of DEQ shared he has not heard any definitive statements on how changes might proceed. Laurie Gordon of DEQ confirmed that it is her understanding as well. It was the legislative concept that was anticipated to move forward but the timeline may be changing. David suggested it may be 2022 before the changes are implemented. Laurie confirmed that is one possible outcome.

Chair Kramer introduced the next topic, and excused himself for the remainder of the meeting. Vice Chair Liburdy will chair the remainder of the meeting.

## **Recycling Updates**

- **Recycling Steering Committee**

David provided additional context around the RSC's work – including some tension between those who feel it should be solutions at the local level, and those who believe it should be a legislative, statewide fix. The discussion continues.

- **Future of HWR Recycling Program**

David sent a document to the group by email. He shared that it was September 2019 when the regional baling facility concept was shared with this Committee. And shortly thereafter, it was shared with the jurisdictions boards and councils. David then confirmed that the recently approved budget includes \$30,000 to conduct a study. In regards to a possible study, David suggested that we begin by identifying the problem and then seek solutions.

To move forward with clarity, we could confirm the purpose of this study today, or we could develop a subcommittee. Or, we could bring in a third party facilitator to assist in this conversation. Or, we could do nothing. David recommended a discussion today, followed by more focused work of a subcommittee. His reasons for the subcommittee include the multitude of external factors that impact the program and should be considered in the formulation.

Chair Liburdy shared that he was in favor of utilizing a subcommittee in order to discuss recommendations for whether and how to appropriate the funds that are budgeted for a study.

Pat Bozanich agreed that a subcommittee is a good idea to move it forward but would like to have the discussion today as well.

Mike Foreaker agreed with subcommittee, and shared concern that statewide legislation will not provide any solutions for a couple years, necessitating a local solution for the interim. No problems with budget figure or investigating options but wants to make sure the solution will work within the context of the states' larger solution/strategies.

Linda Miller shared that she is confused. She shared the SWAC meeting made progress on the recycling needs this last week. David clarified the different scopes of the SWAC and the Tri-County HWR Program and their overlap. David shared that irrespective of any progress by the Wasco County SWAC, he felt this Steering Committee or initially a subcommittee of the Steering Committee would need to address the budgeted funds that relate to this program's mission and scope.

- Wasco Wasteshed

To add clarity to the discussion, David deviated and provided an update on this topic. He shared the requirement to address DEQ's requirements by June 30. In response, the Wasco County Solid Waste Advisory Committee met last week and agreed upon recommendations to go before the Board of Commissioners and City of The Dalles City Council for approval prior to June 30. David summarized the agreed upon recommendations, including a 2.61% surcharge and reduced materials collection list to ensure comingled materials can be collected and recycled. Angie Brewer added that the Board will be hearing this at their June 17 meeting. Pat Bozanich asked whether this changes the need for a baling facility. David said he did not know.

Gordon Zimmerman confirmed the goal of the subcommittee would be to evaluate the HWR program as a whole. David agreed and confirmed the questions are "what is the problem" and "what do we want to do about the problem". Linda Miller, Pat Bozanich asked to be included in the subcommittee. Mike Matthews reminded everyone the original goal of this program was household hazardous waste, that recycling was added along the way – and that the loss of the private baling facility has resulted in new needs and impacts to the program. Mike Matthews asked if the group wanted to confirm that recycling outreach and education is still a mission critical element.

Pat Bozanich shared the reason for adding outreach and education was because that was her skill set when she was the staff for the program. Mike Matthews shared that he believes we should retain the goal, but wanted to make sure there was support from the Steering Committee. Bruce Lumper shared the need to clarify what the program is for and not for. He has been impressed by the subcommittee's work over the years and agrees there should be a subcommittee. Chair Liburdy confirmed there was Steering Committee consensus to form a subcommittee. The members include: Chair Steve Kramer, Kevin Liburdy, Pat Bozanich, Linda Miller, Angie Brewer and David Skakel.

David stated: "The purposed of the subcommittee is to consider what if any study should be done with appropriated funds to answer the question of the future of this program. And, what would be the purpose and scope of the study. And, to make a presentation and recommendation to the Steering Committee."

Pat Bozanich suggested these were different things. She suggested the Steering Committee should define the questions.

Motion: Foreaker: Moved to establish a subcommittee to come up with recommendations regarding the future of the program with the specific task of making recommendations regarding the purpose and scope of the study.” Second: Linda Miller. Discussion: None. Vote: voice vote, unanimous approval.

David Skakel confirmed that the members will include: Linda Miller, Pat Bozanich, Kevin Liburdy and Steve Kramer.

### **Capital Projects**

- **Hood River-Eyewash Shower Unit** (this fiscal year)

David reported this was a \$700 unit with a match from Hood River Garbage and Disposal that would increase safety at the site. The project has come in over budget and now necessitate a formal bid process. Two or three estimates are in, but he’s having a hard time getting a third quote to satisfy the County’s contracting rules. The trade industry appears to still be very busy and have been somewhat unresponsive to our inquiries.

- **Hood River- Shed Roof** (next fiscal year)

David described the project and the need. He noted the need to improve the safety of the workers handling hazardous materials. He has researched the Hood River County’s land use and zoning regulations, there is a need to pursue a “major variance” a Type 2 Administrative Decision that can be approved by the Planning Director to allow for up to a 25% reduction

Angie Brewer added that there is a very good chance we would need to appeal a denial and we want to be clear what level of support we have from the SC before pursuing. Mike Foreaker aske whether there were other ways to address the safety risk. David provide a summary of options considered and the limitations of the site. Mike Matthews suggested a retractable awning. Mike Foreaker confirmed he was not concerned about the money to pursue it. David suggested pursuing the retractable roof idea with Hood River County Planning Department and will provide an update accordingly.

### **Miscellaneous**

- Compost bins
- Hazardous Waste Collection?
- Other?
  - Contracts and Agreements (added 6/10/20)

David provided an overview of the agreements and how to view the excel spreadsheet. David shared that Angie has put in a legal request to have legal counsel confirm which agreements are formal in nature, and to pursue an update of those that need corrections or renewals. David noted on the marketing agreement and the maintenance fee agreement. Pat Bozanich asked how much the monthly maintenance fee was and what it pays for. David shared that it's \$250 per month per site (Hood River and The Dalles), which pays for the electrical costs, garbage fee, safety inspections, as well as a few other things that don't exist, like the upkeep and maintenance of a truck that was never purchased.

Changes would come before the Steering Committee for approval prior to being made. Mike asked whether or not there was a timeline and a cost for legal services, Angie agreed to confirm those numbers and respond back to the Steering Committee.

David shared an update on collection events. He shared that we have been discussing what options might exist to resume events. Stericycle has been operating events during the Covid crisis. At their request, David suggests increasing Stericycle staff at the events to resume the large collection events in The Dalles and Hood River. John Pitman suggested an additional employee to triage small businesses from the line. David said that he would not feel comfortable running the event without HWR staff onsite. Mike Matthews suggested a N-95 mask that has been fit tested to ensure employee safety. Angie asked David to clarify his ask to the Steering Committee. He confirmed that he is looking for ways to resume the large collection events for this year, with additional help from Stericycle. He noted he'd like to avoid a backing up of collected materials, and that he's been responsive to collection appointments although not advertised. He suggesting to move forward with other small events, but not to reschedule the events that have been missed because Stericycle simply cannot accommodate the volume of events that have been rescheduled across the region. He shared there was an opportunity to have an event in July in Maupin. Pat Bozanich shared that the risk should be low if staff wear masks and customers stay in cars. David agreed and added that there would be safety training and additional staffing. Chair Liburdy asked about the additional costs of the added staffing. David shared that the budgeted unspent funds from cancelled events would pay for the difference. David confirmed the next scheduled event would be in August and then resume the regular schedule. Mike Foreaker inquired about risks of Covid case spikes.

Chair Liburdy confirmed there is a consensus to pursue events as scheduled in August, preceded by an event in July. David added there is need to confirm with Wasco County as lead agency and Waste Connections before we can formally resume. He thanked the Steering Committee members for their support.

David will schedule the subcommittee meeting.

Motion to adjourn Pat, Linda second. All in favor.

**10:30 am Adjourn**