

Tri-County Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program

Steering Committee Meeting

Wednesday December 13th, 2023

Public Works Conference Room

Meeting ID: <https://meet.google.com/jow-yzyo-xpz>

Phone Number: 1 (413) 685-2354

PIN: 125 059 512#

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Steve Kramer (Commissioner, Chair) Kelly Howsley Glover (Director), Brittney Sanders (Tri-County HHW Administrative Assistant), Merle Keys (City of Dufur), Jim Winterbottom (Waste Connections), Mike Matthews (Hood River County), Bruce Lumper, Michael Foreaker (City of Maupin), Jayme Bennett (City of Mosier), Kevin Liburdy (City of Hood River), Julie Tucker (Executive Director of the Gorge Rebuild it Center), Laurie Gordon (DEQ), Scott Randall (The Dalles City Council), Jordon Bennett (Cascade Locks City Administration), Jacob Powell (OSU AG-Extension), Kari Meyer (Meyer Technical Solutions, Resident of Hood River)

Absent: Matthew Klebes (City of The Dalles), Morgaine Riggins (Solid Waste Coordinator Tri-County HHW)

9:00 am Welcome

Chair Kramer welcomes everyone and starts off the meeting with a brief round of introductions of everyone's association. Moves forward with making sure future meeting dates for March 13th and June 12th will work for everyone and states those are the second Wednesdays of those months, no comments made and will put those dates on the calendar. States that we have quarterly meeting minutes from the September meeting that was shared and asked for corrections or additions. Hearing none, Keys entertains a motion and Randall seconds the motion. Calls for a nay vote, none heard, motion carries.

Financial report

Howsley Glover shared she tried to go with a streamlined format as steering committee members were aware that we changed financial systems a few years ago with Wasco County so reports look different than they did a few years ago and summarized where we are financially. Also attached it to the meeting

and sent around an email of CleanEarth price increases which will be a topic of discussion for the budget committee later on in the agenda. We are on track with appropriate funding for the year and will be happy to answer any questions the steering committee may have at this time.

Questions/Comments:

Q: Lumper asks Howsley Glover if there are any callouts for herself.

A: Howsley Glover stated no as everything has stayed consistent with expectations and there are a couple of things that are not reflected in the budget yet and it has been updated. We do have a \$10,000 grant coming in from the Oregon Department of Agriculture in support of our two Ag producer events this year and it hasn't hit the bank yet. We did send out our fall newsletter and the postage related to that expenditure has not hit the expenditure line yet and does expect those advertising in promotion and postage should go up pretty rapidly in the New Year.

Q: Lumper asks if the grant coming in is for the container part of the collection.

A: Howsley Glover states it was just to support our Ag producer events and we are using it to help support that triple washed container collection event.

Chair Kramer states hearing none and to not hesitate to reach out if something pops up or if anyone has any questions on it.

Work Plan/Work Plan Group Summary

Howsley Glover does a quick summary consistent with our annual process the work plan subcommittee met and discussed the work plan for the next year. Stated the following: one of the recommendations was streamlining the format particularly removing some of the bulk categories that have been used in the past and really paired down what is being looked at to make it easier to read. The vast majority of what we have on there is consistent with the status quo with running the program and highlighting what we do annually are the things that are required by the management plan, state law like Hazwoper or bylaws so we do have those quarterly meetings. There are a couple of items on there that are new, specifically the rebranding analysis and the management plan revision and those can be discussed at the subcommittee next agenda item. States per our discussions with the management plan revision subcommittee there is a recommendation that we put the grant programs on hold which will be reflected in the status key and is happy to answer any questions at this time.

Questions/Comments:

Q: Lumper asks if the year needs to be 2024-2025 on the work plan.

A: Howsley Glover answers yes.

Chair Kramer states on the work plan the composting with The Dalles has been removed and will be moving forward offline with that and Winterbottom has sent over information that mirrors the Hood River program and has been sent to council members Randal and Richardson for review. We haven't lost sight of that plan but the internal staff for the hazardous waste committee felt this should be a city thing and not a project of ours. Shared he is staying in the loop with these folks and hopes in 2024 we can see that get implemented and is moving forward with that. Gives thanks to Hood River for pushing that for us and giving us the model to follow on and help The Dalles out and thanks Winterbottom for his partnership in all of that. Asks for any comments or questions on the work plan.

Q: Liburdy makes mention near the bottom of the page the addition of the management plan revision, one of the things they talked about in the subcommittee was that the project might be a little broader in scope to include an IGA update as well.

A: Chair Kramer states they will get that added in.

Management Plan Revision/Subcommittee Report

Howsley Glover shared that we had two meetings with the management plan revisions subcommittee who felt strongly about hiring a professional consultant team to update our management plan and that it might be most beneficial to the program to do that in conjunction with the roll out of the RMA. States that give us a few years to start working towards an RFQ before proceeding with an RFP. One of the discussion topics of today is RFQ next steps and in conjunction with that staff did an investigation as there was some talk on making a small amendment to the existing management plan and the IGA to allow us to continue with the grant program. Stated after review from herself and Wasco County legal counsel they felt very strongly that the IGA actually prohibits us from making any amendments to the management plan without revising the IGA and the IGA is pretty specific with respect to expenditures of the program. So on the advice of counsel and staff we really recommended to the subcommittee we suspend the grant program until we are able to do that management plan and IGA revision. The management plan committee requested that staff prepare messaging related to the grant program hiatus which everyone should have in their packet and hoped everyone had a chance to review. The request is that this is approved this for use by all steering committee members and staff to message the grant program hiatus to cover all of the basis and talk about what the thinking is by suspending that program for a couple of years and extend our continued support of these types of projects and that it is really going to be part of a broader program update. States she is happy to answer any questions anyone has at this time.

Chair Kramer states the memorandum that we do have in our packet was a recommendation from the steering committee at the request of Powell so we were all on the same page with our messaging. Asked if we can have consensus on this and if so then we will have what we need to message this to all of our counsel and board members as we move forward with the modernization act roll out. Asks for any comments or questions from our subcommittee meeting.

Questions/Comments:

Q: Foreaker asks for clarification on the IGA and the management plan and if they do not authorize the grant program that we have been using for years now.

A: Chair Kramer states the conclusion to all of this is that the program allows for education and outreach in recycling but it does not allow for physical recycling. States what it does at counsels review puts all 9 of us personally at risk for those dollars and that was the flag that was raised to protect all of us from being financially responsible if anything were to be run amuck.

Chair Kramer asks for any nays to move forward with the memorandum for messaging. States we have consensus and will move forward.

RFQ

Howley Glover asks if the steering committee would like to direct staff to proceed with and we could certainly add it to the work plan for the next fiscal year.

Chair Kramer asks for thoughts from the subcommittee on that.

Lumper states the answer should be yes to moving forward and putting something in the budget to support that effort in moving forward with that for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Powell states that he agrees with that.

Liburdy points to the final paragraph in the memo and reads the 1st sentence, states that as we understand things today that roll out is to occur in 2025 so it makes sense to get started on this process to look at revisions. States how do we go about finding the right kind of consultant for a project like this and sometimes putting out an RFP request for proposals can require a consultant to put in quite a bit of effort into a specific proposal. We have the RFQ a statement of qualifications would be a good place to start to see who is out there and who can take on a project like this to help us move forward with ultimately revisions as we talked about in the management plan and IGA as needed and makes sense to him to budget it for this next fiscal year to get started once we have the RMA implemented.

Questions/Comments:

Q: Lumper asks if we should have something about the IGA in that memorandum at all in terms of just like in the work plan as we will need to revise its management plan. States we are also anticipating at this point that it is going to require an IGA update.

A: Liburdy shares he has no concerns and if they wanted to add mention of IGA into the same sentence with revision to the management plan it makes sense.

Matthews shares that he also agrees with that.

Liburdy was hoping to hear from other steering committee members if there is urgency to get the grants program restarted sooner than later as that would push us on that project as well. Shared he wasn't hearing from anybody that there was much push back on taking a pause on the grant program.

Howsley Glover states that Dufur, Maupin and Sherman County were really the concerning parties.

Foreaker states no thoughts however, money is always nice and is not talking about such large sums that they can't carry on without grant assistance and they will have to do what they have to do and when the grant money is available again then they will talk. States they just have to get the work done and sooner is always better but doesn't think that it is critical.

Keys states it does not look like they will be in a position to renew their recycling system for a while since construction is going to be going on right where their building was and it has been reincorporated for storage. Does not foresee people in Dufur lining up at the door but at some point when it comes back that will be great.

Powell states he has not approached some of the Sherman County stakeholders yet as he wanted to make sure that he had consistent messaging first but does not think it will be a deal breaker. States that Chair Kramer brought up some great points that a lot of those people who want to recycle are already coming to The Dalles anyways so they can take care of their recycling there and so many of them do that anyways regardless of the fact there are posted areas available in the county.

Chair Kramer states the opportunity to recycle is available to all of us thanks to Winterbottom's company and we will keep plugging away at this IGA and management plan. He will give an update when it's time on his end for the modernization, and asked for any other comments on this topic.

Liburdy and the steering committee thanked staff for their work on this.

Budget Committee

Chair Kramer states we need to put together a budget committee starting in February and noted that Liburdy will join.

Howsley Glover stated if it makes anyone feel better they have asked the Wasco County Financial Director Middleton to participate in that process.

Chair Kramer states that many of us might know that Middleton has been doing a dual role with Center for Living and as of yesterday it was his final day at Center for Living and Wasco County has him back full time. States it should make everyone's life a lot easier within all of our departments inside the county and everyone's input is very important with all of this as we roll through and that you don't have to volunteer today but can reach out to them on the side. States that Liburdy and him will volunteer and others can follow as they move forward.

Howesley Glover shares a teaser that it is likely to be more exciting and states as you would have seen from the attachments we do have some pretty significant rate hikes with CleanEarth. Staff is going to work with finance staff on some projections for what that could mean with our contracted services line item and it will be an exciting subcommittee to be a part of.

Bennett stated he would volunteer.

Policy, Regulation and Legislation

Chair Kramer states in his world the Association of Oregon Counties is firing up an environmental subcommittee to bring all of his county colleges into the mix to get them thinking about recycling, solid waste, water and air quality and all of the things they hold dear. They should have their first meeting in January and asked the committee if anyone would like to be a participant or listen in to let him know as he will add them into the mailing list to get meeting announcements and information. Will take them some time to get up to speed and is looking for more participation from our counties as we move forward with all of our waste management issues that will be confronting us. States on SB582 the ORSAC met last Friday the 7th and had a really good meeting and things are poking along as the subcommittee members heard from him the other day as they are getting ready to have conversations with the PROS and there are potentially two that will potentially buy into this. Winterbottom and he have a meeting this afternoon to go after some information requested by the RLG group and will be meeting with them on Friday to go over a list of concerns that they have from their original needs assessment that each and every county completed. The ORSAC is putting together 7 subcommittees to review the PRO plans which will be due in March and it will be a big lift so the team at DEQ and ORSAC will be working together to get those happening.

Gordon states it sounds like Chair Kramer was one of the local governments that respective PROS were reaching out to get additional information. She is sitting in the first of two meetings with one of the prospective PROS and the town of Lakeview tomorrow, might have some more information as to the crux of the meeting and what they are actually looking for. Is on the work group for the multi-family housing needs assessment which will be done in 2024.

Questions/Comments:

Q: Chair Kramer states it sounds like it was slated for summer time and asks Gordon if she knows which group will be meeting down there.

A: Gordon states she will give him the name of the individual.

Q: Chair Kramer asks Winterbottom what the name of the Canadian group was.

A: Winterbottom stated he met with either CCA or CAA.

A: Gordon states the invitation came from Naomi Manahan.

Chair Kramer states that is from the RLG group and who they are meeting with on Friday.

Gordon states she had thrown it out to all of her local governments and especially to her small rural communities that if they wanted her to sit in on it to make sure that they were trying to articulate things in the right way that she would be there to support them and that is why she is sitting in on their meetings.

Q: Chair Kramer thanks Gordon and asks if that is for tomorrow.

A: Gordon states yes, the first one is tomorrow and the second one is next week if it needs to take place.

Chair Kramer states he is hoping they can get through with one meeting as there are 95 potential questions that they sent over.

Q: Gordon asked Chair Kramer if they sent him a list of questions and if they did if he would feel comfortable sharing them with her.

A: Chair Kramer states that he will forward her the packet that Naomi has sent over.

Chair Kramer states with the modernization there is still a little bit of conversation in the group and the team with DEQ that they may need to extend about 3 meetings ago they briefly touched that with ORSAC that 2026 might be a better date as they are meeting 12 times a year instead of 4 and they are amping up their game. Asked the committee if they had any questions or comments he can take them now or gave the option to reach out individually.

Q: Keys asks what RLG stands for.

A: Winterbottom states they are some sort of recycling logistics group.

A: Chair Kramer states he is not sure but they are based on the East Coast.

A: Liburdy states it may be Reverse Logistics Group

Chair Kramer states it is an expanded needs assessment and he will probably be checking every box in order to make sure our PROS have enough money to fund all of us. As we move forward the PROS are going to do more funding than what our program may need to and that is why they talked about holding off.

Miscellaneous

Contracts and Agreement Updates

Howsley Glover states we are in the home stretch with our updated contract with Waste Connections and as she has reported it has been a very friendly negotiation with lots of back and forth between the

lawyers and technical language and is looking forward to getting that wrapped up here shortly. As she mentioned our contract with our main service provider CleanEarth, we have started to have some conversations with CleanEarth about updating those contracts and part of that is the rate hikes which have been attached to the meeting and highlighted in yellow the specific hazardous waste items that we will be seeing pretty substantial rate hikes on. She anticipates that contract negotiations with CleanEarth based on conversations had with their staff will take some time and to look for ongoing updates over the next year.

Questions/Comments

Q: Lumper asked Winterbottom about the Waste Connections contracts and what the significant elements are in that contract and states he does think he knows some of them but asks if there have been things added in over the years and if we just make it one contract.

A: Winterbottom states there are two contracts and #1 it is outdated and has not been kept current one of them is for the sublease agreement and one of them is for the maintenance agreement.

Q: Lumper asks for clarity that the sublease is for the two facilities and the maintenance is how that is all taken care of.

A: Howsley Glover states to Lumper there was some language related to the maintenance fee that was really outdated and Waste Connections wasn't particularly concerned and some of the items pertained to CleanEarth. Stated they were really careful to evaluate all of that language to make sure they are not obligating Waste Connections to do things that we pay CleanEarth to do and making sure we have some bright white lines about that contractual relationship between the program and Waste Connections.

Q: Lumper asks Winterbottom if maintenance includes the periodic inspection and isn't sure if it is required.

A: Winterbottom states he does the weekly inspections with a current Hazwoper and what they did was just paired it down to what Glover was saying on what they actually do. States they do not schedule appointments, do manifests or report on volumes so that was all taken out of the agreement.

Lumper thanks everyone for the clarification.

Chair Kramer asks if anyone has any comments or questions.

Capital Improvement Projects

Howsley Glover states this is one item given some of the slow down with the boom cycle with construction which is understood to have been problematic in getting the eyewash installation at The Hood River Facility. Winterbottom has communicated that the temporary shelter at the Hood River facility has really seemed to suffice and one recommendation that staff has made to her ensures that we are budgeting to help annually or every couple of years to replace those temporary covers for that space but we can take that off of our capital improvement project. Stated that Winterbottom and herself had plans but they were not able to do that but does have plans to go walk the facility at Hood River with Winterbottom and Sanders to suss out where we want the eye wash station and will send it out to bid to

at least 3 companies in the region to see what we can accomplish in the next year. Shares that when things get warm and when our events kick off we will be able to have an eyewash station at Hood River.

Questions/Comments:

Q: Lumper asks if this is for 2024.

A: Howsley Glover states that is the hope and we do have that money in reserve in our budget \$100,000.00 for capital improvement projects and does not anticipate exceeding that amount just based off of past staff projections even with inflation and some of the cost, labor and materials going up. Still does not think it would exceed that amount and whatever we are able to do staff would like to have that completed so have that available for staff and vendors.

Chair Kramer states this is a project we all want to see happen and budgeted for it but were not able to find a contractor to do the work for us. He did stop at building codes this morning and they did say inspections are slowing down so maybe our contractors are also slowing down a bit and there might be some takers on this one this time around and is looking forward to getting this one off the list.

Q: Keys asks if this system will have an overhead shower with the little silver bar you pull down with a common drain.

A: Winterbottom states that yes that is ultimately what we would have, an eye wash and decontamination.

Chair Kramer asks for any questions from anyone attending virtually, hearing none.

Year End Marketing Report

Howsley Glover stated that staff has pulled together a quick summary of all of the activities that we have done this last calendar year in respect to advertising and promotion for the program. It is just a summary of some of the highlights and we have been producing those quarterly reports that dive a little more into the analytics and hope everyone received our newsletter as they would see designs that we have elected to go with this year in hopes to draw more attention to folks. You will see a lot of the hard work that staff did with tabling, promoting at county fairs and various events. We are trying out the cinemas for movie advertising as an alternative promotion and are happy to answer any questions anyone may have at this time about that report.

Chair Kramer states he does meet with staff on a regular basis and has an outstanding team. Shares that unfortunately one of our team members will be leaving in the spring and will be taking a look at that as we move forward. Thanks Howsley Glover, Sanders and Riggins for all of the work that they have done to get us where we are today and appreciates all of the work that is going on.

Questions/Comments:

Q: Liburdy asks what traditional media consists of.

A: Howsley Glover answered the newspaper and radio.

Annual Report

Howesley Glover stated as the steering committee is aware we do surveys affiliated with our collection events and we also keep track via the manifests of all those events and amounts that we get out of the waste shed so we have some really great longitudinal data. Staff has created an annual report based on our hazardous waste events talking about the collection events and materials we were able to collect. One of the things by request we wanted to analyze was the frequency of attendees to see how many people we have that are repeat customers and we are trying to understand if we are preaching to the choir at this point and time and what percentage of the population we are still missing. States that data is in here as you can see we had a pretty significant downturn in attendance specifically with the city of The Dalles and Hood River has maintained pretty steady attendance numbers and The Dalles has had really significant drops in the last several years. The good news is we are still collecting a pretty consistent amount of materials and we do have a breakdown of materials as over the quarterly meetings there has been lots of discussion about paintcare in particular so you can see that paintcare is still a leading material that we see at these events and of course are seeing a fair amount of other materials. There is a summary of that survey data and how people are finding out about the events. We have included a summary of the freon program that we have been doing for the last 2 years subsidizing appliances with freon disposal at a \$10.00 cost. Does think it is important to draw attention to the fact that there are rate differences between Hood River Garbage and The Dalles Disposal and that's just based on regional information that is set by Waste Connections. The sharps disposal program in which we have done for many years has collected data on that. States she does have an ask attached with this report and thought it was necessary to include some of the prior year data with respect to people we survey at events and how they are finding out about events and this is something that staff scrutinizes when we are developing the annual marketing plan. We are really trying to figure out where we need to maintain growth with respect to advertising and promotions but also other possible avenues to reach that portion of the population that we seem not able to reach and we do have a summary of that data in there. Shared that her ask is that we have a lot of survey data for people who actually attend our events as it is something that we have done consistently since the start of the program as it is in the management plan. We do know a lot about the people who come to our events and where they have learned about the events which predominantly is the direct mailed newsletters along with jurisdictional websites, Waste Connections and bits and pieces elsewhere. The steering committee is aware when she came on board she did extensive analysis also to see beyond the people we survey on how we are getting traffic to the website as that is one of our main portals of information for the program and that also helped dictate some of our marketing efforts. Her concern is and after two years of data and we didn't know if last year's attendance was an anomaly or based on registration and kind of some pain points so we wanted to play it out another year and see how it goes but thinks where we are at now as a staff is we are aware we are missing portions of the population based on the numbers and analysis of demographics and comparing different cities in our service district. Would like to ask for permission to do so and thinks we have enough funding in our advertising and promotions budget to even launch it this year to actually launch a much more aggressive survey of our service district specifically to understand those folks that aren't coming to our events and what those barriers may be. We do have some inklings that registration and transportation might be a barrier or it might be that folks just don't know the difference between our program and Waste Connections. States that whatever it is we would really like to understand that as that would help us rejuvenate the program, reach a new audience and does not have any estimates for cost as she just wanted to throw this out there. She did make it part of the grant summary and really thinks it is going to be beneficial for the hazardous waste portion of our program to really understand where folk are

in our service district right here and now.

Chair Kramer asks for any comments or questions.

Comments/Questions:

Q: Lumper asks Howsley Glover if she is envisioning a consultant to do this work.

A: Howsley Glover states that is something we could do but is not sure if we have enough in the budget to cover that as consultants tend to cost \$100-200K. She thinks that staff already knows what the questions are that we want to ask and it is very similar in what we ask folks that come to our events and we might expand it a little bit. Particularly to learn about some of the demographic information but also barriers like registration and transportation. The cost associated with it is really promoting it and a couple of strategies that we would like to pursue are putting it in the spring newsletter and offering incentives to get people to take the survey which is a very common tactic with surveys and most government agencies do that. States to Lumper that our initial recommendation was to do that in house.

Q: Lumper asks Howsley Glover if she thinks there is enough funds in this budget and that will be taken into consideration in the next fiscal year and get finished up in the spring.

A: Howsley Glover states to Lumper yes and that it would be ideal.

Powell states he is curious about the demographics and if we are reaching the Latino population for example in The Dalles and that could be a reason people that already know about the program and don't have as much waste as we have enough events so it's the other people that may not know about the program.

Lumper states that is a really great point as he knows there was some tribal work before David left. He thinks there are tremendous challenges with language barriers, trust issues or noise is to the grindstone and people don't have time. He appreciates that it is coming out and has been for a while and having our newsletter in Spanish as well.

Howsley Glover states that Riggins has been working behind the scenes to get the registration all translated in Spanish as well so we are really working as much as possible. We did start this last year to advertise on radio Tiara which is a main spanish language radio station. We are really making a lot of efforts behind the scenes to reach our latinx population throughout the service district but again we don't know until we ask.

Powell thanks Howsley Glover for everything that is being done.

Howsley Glover states to Lumper that she has had some opportunities to have discussions with the Warm Springs tribal council and has tried to bring them in especially the Semnasha residents and make them feel welcome at the Maupin events or any of the Tygh Valley events and has really been encouraging the Semnasha folks to participate. She does think that there are some distrust issues there that we will just have to continue with relationship building.

Lumper states a thought that pops up is doing a special event from time to time right in Semnasha and believes that David was doing some of that.

Howsley Glover states to Lumper that is a great thought and David was doing some of that with some of the in lieu sights and her hope is that this survey might be a springboard to some of the conversations we have with the management plan revision and maybe help us incorporate diversity, equity and inclusion information into that management plan.

Q: Keys mentions that he noticed that Hood River and The Dalles were mentioned and asked if Dufur was doing okay on coming to the events.

A: Howsley Glover states that we have had pretty consistent numbers with our rural events however Ag producers have taken a big dive but the rural events have been pretty consistent.

Keys states as far as the information that is out there he hears about the events from the mailers, radio and our signs that get placed out.

Howsley Glover states the signs are the most popular for people who attend the rural events and there was a small window where we weren't putting up the signs and that didn't work well for attendance so we went to doing that again. Shared that social media is really important for our rural communities as that is how they find out and that is why we have invested so much time into social media but Dufur is doing great.

Gordon states the she helped a couple of years ago with an event in Reedsport and one of the things that came up was there were a lot of seniors that couldn't drive anymore so the fire chief went around and picked materials up from people who didn't have transportation or could no longer drive and would bring it to the event. Said he brought a pick up load full of stuff and didn't know if that might work for dealing with the Warm Springs folks but it is a thought.

Howsley Glover stated that was a wonderful suggestion as she thinks one of our suspicions is transportation access might be a pretty significant barrier and staff hasn't yet been able to figure out how to address that and thinks that is a wonderful model.

Lumper asks if CleanEarth could do that.

Howsley Glover states she can investigate that and it is a great thought.

Chair Kramer states one thing that we didn't talk about and we need to include other organizations as our spokesperson and one thing they brought up in their staff meeting was to use the extension in order to translate properly in order to get our teams involved. Back when they started their program in Dufur the 1st and 2nd graders were the champions because they went home and spread the word to their parents. Is all in favor of moving forward with another survey and possibly upping our game with a 3rd flier for the year and trying to get that outreach. States to the committee that he doesn't know about them but he does not like the numbers on the year end report for the participants as it is pretty low for our population. We service 3 counties and we've got 50,000 people and we are only getting 1,300 people to show up so we have a lot of work to do in order to go out and collect that hazardous waste that is out there and message our recycling outreach so that we are doing a better job of 6 days a week instead of waiting quarterly to get rid of a gallon bag of alkaline batteries. Makes a comment to the committee that he challenges them all to spend a couple of hours at the events to talk to the folks that are coming and

get to know our staff as we move forward as he finds when he does these events he learns a lot and it would all help us understand this program a little bit better. He still has paintcare on his mind and they charge us for recovery but they do not reimburse our staff to take care of this at the collection events and is going to continue the work on that effort and try to see where we might be able to go as we do collect a lot of paint. Asks if anyone has anything else.

Q: Liburdy states he had a couple of questions on the report and starting on the first page and 3rd paragraph and gave a brief overview of what it stated and shared his question is if it was followed by specific weight regarding a specific variety of materials that were collected and those total about 20k more than what was presented and if anything was factored out of what we collected as technically it wasn't hazardous material.

A. Howsley Glover answered that is correct.

II. Liburdy states to Gordon on the attendance if she has time to look through the report and let us know if she sees similar trends elsewhere in the state in terms of attendance if things slowed down elsewhere in the wake of the pandemic or if it is unique to Hood River, Wasco and Sherman counties then we have some work to do or if these are trends we are seeing elsewhere in the state then maybe we are not too far off from where we should be.

III. Liburdy reviewed a section on page 5 about pounds collected per year and stated it would be interesting to have a similar graph based on per capita to see how we are doing in our region versus elsewhere in the state.

IV. Liburdy reviewed page 8 regarding freon and is wondering when the appliances are collected, if the freon is actually collected from those appliances and if it would be considered recycling, hazardous waste collection or both.

A. Chair Kramer states he would claim that as hazardous waste because it is hazardous waste and that Winterbottom could probably speak to that but does believe that he does have a company that comes and discharges for transportation so that there are no issues heading into the scrapper.

V. Liburdy continues on with the freon section. There is about 52k in expenses in our freon collection in subsidies and just wants to make sure from staff's perspective we can continue to afford that over the next year.

A. Howsley Glover states she thinks that is pretty consistent with what David projected and does think we budgeted appropriately but definitely something we should scrutinize moving forward.

VI. Liburdy states on page 9 there is a graph on prior year data and thinks that graph is associated with information on page 7 on how the community finds out about events.

VII. Liburdy asks for signage for rural events if program staff is still responsible for setting out event signs or if CleanEarth is doing that.

A. Howsley Glover states that program staff are doing that.

B. Chair Kramer shares that we bought new sandwich boards to keep upping our game.

VIII. Liburdy thanks the HHW team. States that the report ends with “steepest decline in attendance since 2018” and thinks that maybe it should be ended with a note that we are going to do a survey in 2024 and see if we can better understand why that is and how we can improve. States that other than that it looks great.

Gordon in response to Liburdy’s request is happy to take a look at the report but it will probably be a week or two until she can get to it. Is also happy to check with Crook County as they hold 3 events per year and Deschutes County holds regular events but other than that everybody else besides Tri-County relies on DEQ events and their events have been on pause since 2021 as they do not have a contractor. Is happy to check in with Deschutes and Crook County and share how theirs were and can tell us the events that she ran in Burns and Madras in 2020-2021 respectively numbers were way up but they also get an event maybe every 5-6 years. States they did a better job advertising as she knows the right people to get the word out and thinks that might have helped quite a bit as well.

Chair Kramer states to Gordon that he forwarded that information from Naomi to her.

Gordon states she does see something in her inbox so she will take a look.

Chair Kramer asks if there are any other questions on the report. Hearing none.

Rebranding

Chair Kramer states they have touched a little on rebranding and asks Foreaker if they can get together after the holidays and talk a little bit more about that and put together a packet for their next meeting and if that would sound okay.

Foreaker states that sounds great.

Chair Kramer closes out the meeting by letting everyone know it has been a great meeting and was glad that we had a full house today and wished everyone a happy holiday.

Meeting Adjourned.