

MARION COUNTY
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes



Date:
11 Feb. 2026



Time:
12:00 PM – 1:30 pm



Location:
Keizer Civic Center

Meeting Called to Order at 12:05 pm

Attendance	
Name	Present/Absent
Members	
Kevin Cameron (Chair)	Not Present
Daniel Kohler	Not Present
Jenny Ammon	Present
Linda Nishioka	Present
Ryan Zink	Present – Via Teams
Frank Lonergan (Vice-Chair)	Present
Jim Row	Present
Walter Wick	Present
Marie Traeger	Present
Jordan Ohrt	Not Present
Brian Asher	Not Present
Walter Perry	Present
Ken Hector	Not Present
Michele Tesdal	Present – Via Teams
Treva Gambs	Present
Duane West	Present
Shane Kuenzi	Present – Via Teams
Julie Jackson	Not Present
Staff	
Brian May	Present
Cory Swartwout	Present
Toni Whitler	Present – Via Teams
Whitney Ned	Present
Guests	
Cat Rhoades (DEQ)	Present
Julianah Douglas (City of Salem)	Present
Kennedy Jantzi (MVHA)	Present
Sarah Steen (Republic Services)	Present
Keare Blaylock (City of Keizer)	Present

Deanie Anderson
Kathy Rogers

Present – Via Teams
Present – Via Teams

Quorum: Yes

Welcome & Introductions – Kevin Cameron

Vice Chair, Frank Lonergan—filling in for Chair, Commissioner Kevin Cameron—opened the meeting at 12:04 PM.

Administrative

- Agenda Changes:
 - None
- Approval of January 2026 Meeting Minutes – **Action:**
 - Motion: Duane moved to approve the January 2026 minutes.
 - Second: Walt Wick seconded.
 - Vote: Motion passed unanimously.
- Public Comment:
 - None

Recycling Modernization Act – Cory Swartwout

Cory provided an update on funding allocations for the Contamination Reduction program. Key points include:

- Original estimated funding need: **\$900,000**.
- Full allocation is not expected to be spent this fiscal year, but additional funding commitments are still required to proceed.
- Jurisdictions currently pending authorization for funding:
 - City of Salem: Draft memorandum submitted; funding authorization expected to proceed soon.
 - City of Keizer: Agreement signed by city manager; council review scheduled February 17.
 - City of Silverton: Update anticipated soon.
 - City of Gervais: Funding authorization under city manager review.
- Additional jurisdictions are working through authorization processes.
- Clarification was provided that jurisdictions only need to submit authorization emails rather than full funding agreements.

Subcommittee Discussion/Options – Brian May/Cory Swartwout

Staff proposed formalizing an existing informal communications and waste reduction collaboration group into an official MMAC subcommittee.

Purpose:

- Improve coordination of outreach and education efforts.
- Reduce duplication of work among jurisdictions.
- Provide structured reporting back to MMAC.
- Support compliance and implementation of state recycling modernization requirements.

Discussion Highlights:

- The group has met informally for over two years.
- Members noted strong value in collaboration, particularly for smaller jurisdictions.
- Formalization would introduce agendas, meeting minutes, and reporting structure.
- Meetings would remain virtual and scheduled for the second Monday of each month at 10:00 AM.
- Membership will remain relatively small for efficiency, with optional alternates allowed.

Subcommittee Formation – Action:

- Motion: Duane moved to form the subcommittee.
- Second: Jenny seconded.
- Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Solid Waste News – Brian May

Brian presented an overview of cost-saving measures and operational adjustments within the county solid waste program after significant loss of funding after the Reworld closure. Key points include:

Waste Reduction Programming

- Currently no dedicated FTE staff assigned to waste reduction.
- Programs retained are battery and styrofoam recycling, and miscellaneous communications.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility

- Annual operating cost of \$450,000 - \$500,000.
- Service reductions implemented:
 - Hours of operation are now only on Thursdays, 8:00 am to 3:30 pm.
 - Complete facility closure in December and January.
 - Discussion included possible future Saturday events to improve accessibility.
- Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) Update with Polk County.

- Largest customer base outside of Marion County.
- Increased fees to help cover service costs.

Transfer Station Operations

- Operational changes implemented:
 - Removal of lift beds at North Marion Recycling & Transfer Station (NMRTS).
 - Increased material recovery efforts.
 - Staffing reductions achieved primarily through attrition.
 - Some operational concerns raised by commercial users due to longer unloading times.
- Rate Adjustments:
 - Minimum disposal fee increased from \$25 to \$30.
 - Per-ton rate increased from \$107.45 To \$130.
 - No major reduction in customer usage observed to date.
- Subsidy and Funding Adjustments:
 - Historic subsidies from the solid waste fund to other country programs are being reevaluated.
 - Future funding reallocations are under Board of Commissioners review.

Members discussed potential impacts on smaller jurisdictions and long-term service sustainability.

Legislative Updates

- Packaging – HB 4030:
 - Staff are monitoring statewide packaging and recycling legislation affecting program standards.
- Batteries – HB 4144:
 - Would establish extended producer responsibility for batteries.
 - Intended to offset county program costs.
 - Battery fires remain a growing safety and insurance concern for the haulers and facilities.
 - Marion County Commissioners submitted a letter of support.

Medical Waste Processing Franchise Request

- Brian reported on a proposed franchise agreement for medical waste processing following closure of Reworld.
 - Approximately 600 tons of medical waste is generated annually in Marion County.
 - Draft will be presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval

Updates/Announcements - All

- Brief discussion about next meeting held in Woodburn. City of Salem is also available to host in the future.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:06 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 18, 2026 – 12 pm – Woodburn City Hall