

MARION COUNTY
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes



Date:
18 Mar. 2026



Time:
12:00 PM – 1:30 pm



Location:
Woodburn City Hall

Meeting Called to Order at 12:12 pm

Attendance	
Name	Present/Absent
Members	
Kevin Cameron (Chair)	Present
Daniel Kohler	Present
Jenny Ammon	Present
Linda Nishioka	Present -Via Teams
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	Present
Walter Perry	Not Present
Ken Hector	Present
Michele Tesdal	Present – Via Teams
Treva Gambs	Present
Duane West	Present
Shane Kuenzi	Present
Staff	
Brian May	Present
Cory Swartwout	Present
Toni Whitler	Not Present
Whitney Ned	Present
Guests	
Marcus Gerber (Lorens Sanitation)	Present – Via Teams
Julianah Douglas (City of Salem)	Present – Via Teams
Kennedy Jantzi (MVHA)	Present
Sarah Steen (Republic Services)	Present
Derek Neliton (D&O and MVHA)	Present
Cindy Rogers (Republic Services)	Present
Kathy Rogers	Present – Via Teams
Deanie Anderson	Present – Via Teams

Quorum: Yes

Welcome & Introductions – Kevin Cameron

Chair, Kevin Cameron called the meeting to order at 12:12 pm.

Administrative

- Agenda Changes:
 - None
- Approval of February 2026 Meeting Minutes – **Action:**
 - Motion: Duane moved to approve the February 2026 minutes.
 - Second: Dan 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:

- Majority of jurisdictions submitted authorization for funding.
- City of Salem opted to retain its funding due to procedural and timing constraints.
 - Able to contribute directly to contamination reduction projects.
- Current funding exceeds required amount (over \$500,000 available).
- Timeline:
 - Funding must be utilized by June 30, 2026.
 - Application submission and contract approval are in progress.

Salem's Potential Use of Funding

- Interactive recycling education kiosks.
- Portable outreach kiosks.
- Potential mobile education unit (van) – pending approval.

Future Planning

- Discussions to begin next meeting for FY 2026-27 funding allocation.

Goal: streamline process and reduce administrative delays.

Subcommittee Report – Subcommittee Chair

Cory shared details from the last Commingled Communications meeting on March 9, 2026. This meeting will be transitioning from the current work group to a formal MMAC OTR Subcommittee in April.

Key outcomes:

- Jenny to be Chair of subcommittee.
- Defined membership structure.
- Established shared communication platform (Teams).
- Create a purpose statement:
 - The OTR Subcommittee serves as a collaborative working group of Marion County, service providers, and participating city representatives to promote continuity across jurisdictions, share best practices, and coordinate efforts to meet Oregon Opportunity to Recycle (OTR) program goals and requirements.
- Formal meetings to begin next month with structured agendas.
- Ongoing monthly updates will be provided to MMAC.

Marion County Solid Waste Fund – Marion County Staff

Brian presented a detailed Solid Waste Fund, 5-Year Summary (from FY 21-22 to budgeted FY 25-26).

Key points include:

- Revenue Decline
 - Revenue decreased from ~\$25M to ~ \$11M.
 - Primary cause: closure of the Covanta facility.
- Operational Impacts
 - Loss of energy revenue, processing fees and supplemental waste revenue streams.
- Current Financial Strategy
 - Use of fund balance to subsidize operations (unsustainable long-term).
 - Staffing reductions:
 - Budgeted: 29.5 FTE
 - Actual: ~24 FTE
 - Hiring freeze in effect.
- Expenses
 - Increased operational costs including transportation, leachate disposal and personnel benefits.
 - Capital budget includes potential land purchase for future transfer station and software system upgrades.
- Leachate Management
 - ~7M gallons currently stored, ~34¢ per gallon for disposal.
 - Plan to reduce volume over 3-year period.
 - Disposal costs are increasing due to regulatory challenges (PFAS concerns).
- Reserves
 - ~\$14.4M reserved for landfill closure/post-closure DEQ requirements.

- Useable fund balance is projected to decline significantly, estimated ~\$5M remaining by 2027.
- Rate Adjustments
 - Transfer station minimum fee increased from \$25 to \$30.
 - Goal: achieve cost recovery for transportation services.

Updates/Announcements - All

- Council Discussion
 - Recognition of financial challenges and system transition.
 - Emphasis on long-term planning, cost impacts to residents, importance of waste reduction and recycling education.
- Legislative and Industry Updates
 - Battery recycling legislation passed.
 - Republic Services plans to appeal Benton County's denial of the Coffin Butte Landfill expansion to the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals.
 - Increased reliance on out-of-region disposal.
- Education and Outreach Updates
 - School engagement programs expanding.
 - Facility tours
 - Classroom presentations
 - Development of new education space at ReSource facility.
 - Scheduled field trip for ~250 students.

Correction to agenda: next scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, April 8th at City of Salem (1457 23rd St SE, Salem, OR 97302) downstairs at the new PW building.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:28 pm