

MARION COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE SWMAC MEETING

January 28, 2020
5:30-7:30 PM

Commissioners' Board Room
555 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

PRESENT: **Members:** Judy Skinner, Tim Rice, Keith Bondaug-Winn, Will Posegate, Kaileigh Westermann-Lewis, Bonnie Sullivan, Matt Marler, Joe Fowler
Staff: Brian May, Stephanie Rosentrater, Jolene Kelley, Tim Sing, Brian Nicholas
Public: Carroll Johnston, Ryan Zink, Pamela Vasquez, Carina Perez Europa

ABSENT: Brian Sund, Kurt Tackman, Julie Jackson, Kevin Hines

CONSENT

MOTION: Matt moved to approve the December 12, 2019 minutes.

DISCUSSION: None.

RESULTS: Will seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous. Minutes approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE (Information/Action):

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

AGENDA REVIEW: None.

Sustainability Luncheon Green Award Nominees

The Council voted for their top picks for the EarthWISE Sustainability Luncheon Green Awards. Votes will be tallied at a later date in time so as to be able to surprise the winners at the award ceremony.

Materials Management Plan/GBB Report Update

Brian reported that staff would be meeting with GBB and the Board of Commissioners on Thursday for a work session regarding the GBB report. The Board of Commissioners will provide feedback and any suggestions they might have before the report is finalized. Brian expects the report to be finalized sometime in February. There have not been any significant changes made to it since it was sent to the Council in December. Brian will be looking for direction from the Board of Commissioners regarding the master planning effort.

Brian informed the Council that we did not receive the Materials Management grant from the DEQ. Marion County will move forward with the master plan even without the grant, as long as the Board of Commissioners is in support.

Brian congratulated Kaileigh, who did win a DEQ Materials Management grant for her personal project, Salem Cloth Project. Kaileigh explained that she teamed up with Salem Environmental Education, Salem Leadership Foundation, and Family Building Blocks to pilot a program that will provide free cloth diaper kits to families in need, with the goals of reducing waste and reducing financial burdens for families in the community.

Legislative Update

Brian let the Council know that the County is supporting HB 4049 because Covanta is an integral piece of our solid waste system and does a great job of recovering metal and energy from our garbage. Our

contract with Covanta also funds part of our waste reduction outreach efforts. The main goal for the County regarding solid waste is to push waste prevention and the reduce/reuse message.

Julie is on the Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association's (ORRA) Legislative Committee. Brian had hoped that she would have some legislative updates for the Council, but was unfortunately not able to attend the meeting. The County is not supporting or taking a position on any other solid waste legislation currently. Because there are no updates, Keith asked that this topic be moved until the following month.

Strategic Planning Discussion

Kaileigh reminded the Council of the brainstorming activity they did in July, where they talked about goals to meet regarding legislation, education, and processing/manufacturing. Kaileigh wanted to bring the conversation back to that, since it had kind of been pushed aside in recent months. To do so, she passed out a questionnaire for the members and guests to fill out.

The Council took turns sharing their answers to the questions. There was a general consensus that the Council is unsure of what their limitations/boundaries are in terms of how much change they can actually make or encourage. Brian responded to this by saying that there aren't many limitations put on SWMAC. With the help of appropriate staff, the Council should be able to make recommendations for changes that they want to see made. Jolene added that it's really up to the specific Advisory Board and how much work they want to put in. There are some very active Advisory Boards out there that do all kinds of activities and outreach.

The Council members went over some things that they would each like to see SWMAC accomplish, what they see the role of SWMAC being in Waste Reduction in Marion County, and how they'd like to spend their time in meetings. Kaileigh summarized the activity from July, as it was the foundation for this exercise. The goals that were established in that meeting were:

Processing and Manufacturing - Evaluate the waste composition study, determine top 5 priority materials, and develop a subcommittee to look at life cycle analysis, create an action plan, and come up with solutions to move to the Board of Commissioners

Education and Outreach - Find out how much emphasis/resources are placed on reduce/reuse. Conduct an "environmental scan" that takes inventory of all programs. We kind of did this with Jessica in September, but Kaileigh is wondering if we want to do a deeper dive into it.

Legislation - Create a subcommittee that focuses on legislation. The objective for the subcommittee would be to present regulatory issues/updates to the SWMAC. Present to the cities of Marion County on solid waste matters that might affect them annually. The objective is to create collaboration between all of the parties involved.

Kaileigh would like to discuss this at a later meeting and use it to move forward with a plan.

FUTURE TOPICS/EMERGING ISSUES/OTHER BUSINESS (Information/Discussion):

Announcements and Upcoming Events:

Judy wanted to know if the Earth Walk at SKRTS is closed. Brian informed her that we're not leading tours or advertising it, but that it is not technically closed. Environmental Services is looking for a new location for it.

Judy also wanted to know if a new waste characterization study was in the works. Currently, it is not. Kaileigh wanted to know if the County has ever considered an internship program for waste composition studies and waste audits. Brian said that EarthWISE is starting to do this with some of its business partners. It is something that we've talked about and would like to explore more.

Judy asked about the lawsuit regarding yard debris at SKRTS between Marion County and Republic. Brian said that legally, he could not say much about it. It'll probably three or more months before a decision is made in court.

Kaileigh and Keith expressed their interest in the Budget Subcommittee. It will now consist of Bonnie, Tim, Kevin, Keith, and Kaileigh.

Staff Updates:

EarthWISE had an event yesterday at the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). They recertified 27 organizations within DAS.

DEQ is hosting a half day event on Friday regarding recycling in Oregon. It is only available by call-in at this point. Stephanie will send the information out.

State of the County is on February 5 at 11:30 am.

Marion County is speaking at the City Club in Salem about the solid waste system on February 21.

Membership/Attendance:

There are two citizen-at-large positions, a Chamber of Commerce representative, and a Community Organization position open.

Meeting Review:

None.

Motion to close the meeting:

Will motioned to adjourn the meeting. Matt seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.