

Spokane County
Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Minutes of
May 16, 2018

Members Present

Josh Kerns, Spokane County
Andy Hoye, CAL District #2
Philip Small, Agricultural Interest
Mike LaScuola, Health District
Tonilee Hanson, Public Interest
Erik Makinson, Recycling Industry
Kevin Anderson, City of Airway Heights

Members Absent

Rebecca Johnson, City of Spangle
Suzanne Tresko, CAL #3
Don Stevens, City of Deer Park
Mike Fagan, City of Spokane
Matthew Pederson, Waste Industry
Shaun Culler, City of Millwood
Kim Kreber, CAL District #1

Vacant Positions

Business

Approval of Minutes – March 21, 2018 – Josh Kerns

March 21, 2018 minutes were approved by all members present.

Overview of LSWFA Budget – Deb Geiger

Deb stated the county is waiting to hear how much grant money will be awarded from Department of Ecology. The grant money will help fund Recycling Education & Outreach and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Drop Sites at the North County and Valley Transfer Stations.

The Spokane County Sheriff's Department was awarded a CLCP grant and we are partnering with them to provide Education Outreach. The grant helps support the Load Warrior – Secure Your Load campaign and the Team Up To Clean Up program that provides supplies, transportation and covers disposal fees for residents that organize community litter clean ups.

The Spokane County Eco-Team has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from Keep America Beautiful, to reduce cigarette litter. With the grant money, the Eco-Team has launched a pilot cigarette litter prevention program targeting pedestrians to raise public awareness of cigarette litter and how it contributes to water pollution. Ash cans will be installed around the county campus and near City Hall, along with signage, messaging and outreach.

Update on North County Transfer Station HHW Spill – Bill Stansberry

Bill updated the SWAC on the April 30th incident at the North County Transfer Station. A dormant pesticide spray mixed with a base household chemical created a toxic gas cloud that affected three employees. The employees were sent to the hospital for evaluation/treatment and released that evening. Clean Harbor helped clean up the hazardous spill. County staff is reviewing camera footage to determine who disposed of the chemicals with their household garbage.

Legislative/Product Stewardship Update – Lindsay Chapman

Lindsay announced a pharmaceutical take back program led by the Department of Health and paid by drug manufacturers that is set to launch in May 2020. This program is a first in our nation requiring a collection site in population centers.

Organics Update – Erik Makinson

Erik reported Whitworth University was named Recycler of the Year by Washington State Recycling Association. He helped Whitworth University reduce their waste by 80%. Lean Path software was used to measure, analyze and optimize food services reducing waste and food costs by \$40,000 a year. Whitworth also received a \$9,000 grant from Pepsi to implement a vermicomposting (worm composting) program for their organic waste.

Other Business/Staff Updates

Tonilee Hanson mentioned the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board published a Hazardous Waste Flip Book resource to educate businesses on proper disposal of potential contaminants. They are currently working on a residential Household Hazardous Waste Flip Book that will be available in September.

Andy Hoyer requested an update at the next SWAC meeting from a representative of the SMaRT Center regarding the impact of China's legislation and a status of recycling commodities and projections for the recycling industry.

David Paine from the Waste to Energy Facility reported the City of Spokane has hired a consultant to develop an emergency plan for the Waste to Energy facility. David also mentioned the city is conducting a feasibility study to determine if bio-solids from the city's wastewater treatment facility can be incinerated at the Waste to Energy Facility as an alternative to spraying it as fertilizer on local farm lands.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Bill Stansberry invited everyone on a walking tour of the North County Transfer Station.