

**Spokane County  
SWAC Subcommittee Meeting**

**Minutes  
June 24, 2020**

Attendees

Suzanne Tresko, SWAC Member  
Andy Hoye, SWAC Member  
Tonilee Hanson, SWAC Member  
Eric Cultum, SWAC Member  
Bruce Williams, SWAC Member  
Deb Geiger, Spokane County  
Steve Wulf, Sunshine Disposal  
Chris Averyt, City of Spokane

Marcus Cooksey, Sunshine Disposal  
Hailie Gillette, Spokane County  
Steven Gimpel, Dept. of Ecology  
Kris Major, City of Spokane  
Kelly Vigeland, City of Spokane  
Diane Wulf, Fairchild AFB  
Lindsay Chapman, Spokane County  
Austin Stewart, Spokane County

**Lindsay Chapman-Update on SWMP progress**

Lindsay shared she is hoping to have a few sections and appendices of the draft Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) completed about a week prior to the next SWAC meeting. This would give SWAC members about one week to review the documents so meaningful discussion can happen during the July 15<sup>th</sup> SWAC meeting.

Some changes specific to the goals and recommended actions section include adding additional goals and recommended actions that are focused on providing access to underprivileged populations in the County for solid waste services. Examples of possibilities include options to overcome language barriers on informational documents, website accessibility, low-income disposal rates, and others.

Tonilee expressed interest in doing the same for the Waste Directory to give everyone convenient access to information. Deb shared that ideally, the plan will extend the area or options for HHW collection. Many elderly do not have a way to transport their toxics to the regional system facilities. Tonilee mentioned that this indeed was a service provided by Spokane Joint Aquifer Board in the past.

**Deb Geiger- Excel based rate model for the Transfer Stations**

Deb presented a new rate model that is being developed for transfer station business management at County facilities. The new model included an updated dashboard that presents the information graphically so it's easier to quickly interpret. The model will mainly be used as a tool for forecasting for County solid waste staff.

Andy asked when the SWAC might see real numbers as Deb had presented the model using ballpark figures during the demonstration. Deb replied that she will be working with the model over the next few months to give SWAC a budget preview that will include actual numbers.

**Q&A**

- Andy asked if the SWMP Update was still on track. Lindsay replied that delays attributed to COVID had set the project back by about a month. Originally the project had

an aggressive 19-month long project timeline, but a more realistic timeline may be 20-21 months.

- Andy asked about national or regional impacts of COVID-19 on the solid waste industry. Deb shared that the Transfer Stations have seen a large increase of self-haul customers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Commercial volumes went down everywhere, but residential volumes increased. Steve Wolf shared that haulers have seen a large increase in curbside tonnage which can have a negative effect on haulers with contracts because they budgeted for a lower average tonnage per customer. Haulers have also seen a decrease in commercial tonnage and service frequency which has meant lower revenue on both residential and commercial markets during the pandemic.
- Suzanne asked if anybody knew if organic tonnages heading to Barr-Tech have increased. Deb commented that the County transfer stations have seen an increase in clean green, year to date.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.