

**Spokane County  
Solid Waste Advisory Committee**

**Minutes  
November 17, 2021**

Members Present

Suzanne Tresko, CAL District #3  
Shaun Culler, City of Millwood  
Brian Burrow, Business  
Tonilee Hanson, Public Interest  
Philip Small, AG Interest  
Karen Stratton, City of Spokane  
Bruce Williams, Health District  
Joel Kohlstedt, Recycling Industry

Members Absent

Kevin Anderson, City of Airway Hts  
Rebecca Johnson, City of Spangle  
Matthew Pederson, Waste Industry  
Josh Kerns, Spokane County  
Andy Hoyer, CAL District #2  
Isaiah Paine, CAL District #1

**Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2021 - Chair Suzanne Tresko**

All members moved to approve minutes from the September meeting.

**Ecology Project and Legislative Updates – Steven Gimpel, Heather Church, Janine Bogar and Gretchen Newman**

Janine presented the Beyond Waste State Plan which is utilized to provide guidance for the state and local governments in handling solid waste. The plan is being updated for the third time and includes minor changes regarding new laws and industry changes. The plan contains an increase of focus on manufacturing, reducing toxic threats, maximize effectiveness of recycling and organic processing systems, and to mitigate climate change through waste reduction and recycling. Contact info: Janine Bogar (360) 407-6654 or [Janine.Bogar@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Janine.Bogar@ecy.wa.gov)

Gretchen presented the Waste Characterization Study for 2020-2021. The study was completed by Cascadia and began during the early part of the pandemic. Samples were taken from 11 counties and items were separated into 143 categories. A few things that stand out in the findings include: 14% of our waste is food, residential garbage increased 800,000 tons, more paper and cardboard were put into trash by less than 200,000 tons, and pet waste increased by 100,000 tons. Contact info: Gretchen Newman (360) 764-0588 or [Gretchen.Newman@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Gretchen.Newman@ecy.wa.gov) Waste Characterization Study: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/documents/2107026.pdf>

Heather presented Legislative updates. Beginning January 1, 2022, the law for single-use service ware will go into effect. Businesses will no longer automatically include service ware including: forks, knives, spoons, chopsticks, cocktail picks, splash sticks, stirrers, straws, cold cup lids (does not include drive through's) and condiment packets. These items will need to be requested by the consumer. Laws banning polystyrene are upcoming in June 2023 which will ban polystyrene packing peanuts. Businesses will be allowed to purchase packing peanuts made of cornstarch. Beginning June 2024, the ban will expand to polystyrene coolers, food containers (clam shell type), plates, cups and bowls. Exempt from this law are: raw meats/seafood,

vegetables, fruits, egg containers, and any containers used for medical devices, drugs, etc.  
Contact info: Expanded Polystyrene Ban [Heather.Church@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Heather.Church@ecy.wa.gov) Plastic Bag Ban and  
Single-Use Items on Request [Shannon.Jones@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Shannon.Jones@ecy.wa.gov)

**Litter Pickup Issue Near Waste to Energy – Lindsay Chapman and Chris Averyt**

Lindsay and Chris shared an update regarding a litter issue in the Palisades neighborhood. A resident has coordinated with her neighbors to organize another clean up day through the County’s “Team Up to Clean Up” program, which provides bags, safety equipment, and free disposal to be picked up by Geiger work crews.

**2022 Work Plan – Chair – Suzanne Tresko**

Topics for 2022 meetings will include: 2022 Chair and Vice Chair elections, revenue sharing plan update, solid waste management plan update, SWAC vacancies, a paint care presentation, recycling market/commodities update, and an update on the education and outreach campaign.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 4:14 pm.