



**Tillamook County**  
**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
*Department of Solid Waste*  
*Waste Prevention and Recycling*

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*Land of Cheese, Trees and Ocean Breeze*

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**Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

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**DATE:** February 8, 2022

**PLACE:** Port of Tillamook Bay (POTB) Conference Room, 4000 Blimp Blvd., Tillamook *and*  
Virtually: Phone # (971)254-3149 ID: 276 708 706#

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ken Henson, Tom Jayred, Tim Hall, Dave Larmouth, Julian Macassey, Robert Poppe, John Longfellow, and David Helmricks.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Justin Kanoff

**STAFF PRESENT:** David McCall, SW Program Manager; Rebekah Hopkins, recorder; Chris Laity, Director; and Shawn Blanchard, Treasurer

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Aaron Averill, TTS; Randy Thorpe, Tillamook County Emergency Management; Miel Macassey; Cathie Rhoades, DEQ; and Gretchen Sandau, DEQ

**AGENDA ITEM 1 - CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:**

**Chair Henson** called the meeting to order at 3:00pm with a quorum present.

**AGENDA ITEM 2 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES for November 8, 2021:**

The minutes of November 8, 2021 were presented. On approval of a motion made by Tom Jayred and seconded by Tim Hall, the minutes of November 8, 2021 were approved as submitted. (8/0)

**AGENDA ITEM 3 – Year in Review**

**David McCall** presented a Review and Progress report accompanied by a slideshow:

In 2020 SWAC reoriented its goals and priorities. Since then, the Solid Waste department has faced many challenges, including:

- Staffing: there are several positions budgeted which have not been filled, including outreach specialist and code enforcement.
- Theft and vandalism: the Manzanita Transfer Station has been broken into ten times in the past few months.
- People disposing of dangerous items such as live ammunition in the drop boxes, resulting in work stoppage.
- Master Recycler program was on hold in 2020-2021 due to safety concerns.

David McCall noted that the Household Hazardous Waste program (HHW) continues to grow. There is not likely to be a yard debris voucher program this year, the county created a new, more user-friendly website, lighting at the Tillamook and Manzanita transfer stations was converted to LED, and after long delays the Solid Waste department now has a new truck and a new plastic shredder which is still being tested. A question was asked about what the shredded plastic will be used for. David McCall replied that it could replace plywood road sign boards

**Tom Jayred** asked if new types of plastic will be able to be recycled

**David McCall** replied that types 1, 2, 4, 5, and some 6's will be, but never #3 (PVC). He emphasized that the extruder is not yet ready for daily use.

**John Longfellow** asked if the shredder reduces plastic volume

**David McCall** replied that it reduces it to approximately 30% of its prior volume

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4 – 6-month Budget Review**

**David McCall** presented the 6-month budget review, noting that the 410 fund contained \$800,000 at the end of December, which exceeds expectations. Revenues are on target, but expenses are down, partially due to the staffing shortage.

**Tim Hall** asked about the cost of the recent break-ins, and whether many electronics were stolen.

**David McCall** confirmed that electronics were stolen and were replaced by laptops which are more portable and thus not stored overnight at the transfer stations.

**Dave Larmouth** asked about coffin boxes.

**David McCall** replied that the Manzanita station has a very large safe which the thieves have so far been unable to break into or remove. Solid Waste also invested in an upgraded security system.

Continuing his budget summary, he noted that the department has experienced more than average spending on repair and maintenance of equipment, and less than average spending on the compost, household hazardous waste, and recycling programs.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5 – E-waste PRO Discussion**

**David McCall** summarized the Producer Responsibility (PRO) format, which is overseen by DEQ: Manufacturers of electronics must join and pay one of two companies – MRM or State Contractor Program – for each unit of electronic equipment they sell. These companies reimburse collection sites for the electronic waste they collect. These companies are mandated to have a minimum of one drop-off location in each county; MRM has one, located at Goodwill, while State Contractor Program has three, located at each transfer station.

State Contractor Program has announced that it is reducing the number of collection locations it will reimburse, and it will no longer reimburse the Tillamook Transfer Station. David emphasized that Don G. Averill did nothing wrong; State Contractor Program chose that location because it has been the most successful at collecting E-waste.

**Tom Jayred** asked doesn't that decision go against public interest?

**David McCall** replied that private interest sometimes doesn't align with public interest, and that 2023 may lead to new goals.

**Dave Larmouth** clarified that State Contractor Program is not a public entity, run by the state. It is a private enterprise.

**David McCall** stated that the plan is to change messaging to direct the public to Goodwill for e-waste, and to work with Averill Recycling to transport electronics disposed of at the station outside the E-Cycle program, and to reimburse at the usual rate for the remainder of the year out of the recycling promotion funds, which should only cost approximately \$4,000-\$6,000 per year.

**Ken Henson** asked if Averill could sign with MRM.

**David McCall** said they tried, but were turned down.

## **AGENDA ITEM 6 – Tarping Discussion**

**David McCall** stated that roadside trash is becoming a problem and that a significant portion of the trash falls out of vehicles transporting waste to the transfer stations. He suggested that a fee for untarped loads is a possible solution. Each fee would pay for a tarp and bungee cords to be given to the fined individual.

**Dave Larmouth** said Yamhill is charging \$5-15, and that price may come from state language. He was concerned that bungee cords may be a liability concern due to potential injuries, and suggested straps. He asked if the penalty should increase for continued non-compliance, suggesting that the fine might go up to \$25

**Aaron Averill** said it would be left up to the scale operator's discretion whether a load would be considered unsecured.

**David McCall** asked for guidance on how excess funds raised by fees would be spent after tarps and straps were paid for

**Dave Larmouth** suggested the money be paid to road crews or volunteer organizations for cleaning up roadside trash

**Shawn Blanchard** said that the number of volunteer organizations requesting funds for service may become overwhelming

**Ken Henson** asked, after some discussion, if the committee was in agreement that all loads, regardless of vehicle size, would be required to tarp, that whether a load was in violation would be the judgement of scale operators, and that the excess funds would be made available to roadside cleanup crews

**Tim Hall** suggested a fee of \$20

**David McCall** said he can price check tarps and straps and come to the next meeting with the information.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7 – Sharps Discussion**

**David McCall** told the committee that Fred Meyer stopped accepting used sharps as of December 1, 2021. The household hazardous waste program does not currently accept sharps and he requested feedback on whether it should establish a sharps container exchange program for a fee.

There was discussion regarding the legalities and training which a sharps program would require, and that farms, medical offices, and veterinary clinics can legally only dispose of their own sharps.

**Dave Larmouth** suggested that if a container exchange program were established, the fee should be charged for new containers instead of for disposal of full containers to prevent full sharps containers showing up in loads of waste.

**Julian Macassey** suggested signs at transfer stations guiding customers to authorized sharps disposal locations.

There was consensus that the department does not need to take on this additional material at this time.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8 – SB582, Truth in Labeling, etc. updates**

**Cathie Rhoades** advised the committee that SB582 has gone from bill to statute and is now statute 459.860. The Oregon Solid Waste Advisory Council (OSAC) is putting together task forces including a tech advisory committee and a rules committee. Applicants for these committees are welcome. A needs assessment of all communities in Oregon should take place late summer or early fall this year.

**Dave Larmouth** recommended an internet search for Recycling Modernization Act (RMA) for all reading materials and opportunities to participate. New website: [RecyclingAct.Oregon.gov](http://RecyclingAct.Oregon.gov)

**Cathie Rhoades** commended David McCall on being invited to participate in one of the work groups and remarked that they may start referring to RMA by statute number

## **AGENDA ITEM 9 – Franchised Hauler Updates**

There was discussion about the potential need for a rate increase and difficulties that staffing issues, increasing costs, and new CDL license training requirements may cause.

**David McCall** explained that rates will be discussed at the March meeting, so that the haulers know what to incorporate into their reviews.

## **AGENDA ITEM 10 – Transfer Station Reports**

**Aaron Averill** reported that the Tillamook Transfer station remains busy, due to staffing issues many staff work five to six days per week, and they are preparing for Tillamook High School's charity drive

**David McCall** reported that the Manzanita and Pacific City transfer stations remain busy and are also experiencing staffing issues. Prices are going up, so he purchased four drop boxes instead of two in expectation of rising prices.

**Ken Henson** noted that the next household hazardous waste event will take place on March 4.

## **AGENDA ITEM 11 – Staff Report**

**David McCall** reported that the county evicted squatters who were living on county property on Sandlake Road. Those people are now parking on the shoulders of Sandlake Road and creating a mess, which is upsetting the public.

The county is paying for cleanup of the illegal campsite. An asbestos inspector was called in to evaluate the RVs which were abandoned on the property and gave a discount due to the quantity of them. It should take about a month for the test results.

He introduced **Randy Thorpe**, Tillamook County's new Director of Emergency Management. Randy is new to Tillamook County from Utah and is learning about the coast's unique challenges by talking to locals. One of his priorities is to help complete our plan for storage of debris in North and South counties in the event of disaster. A separate mitigation plan is due by end of year.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 12 – Public Comment**

**Miel Macassey** shared that CARTM's appliance repair workshops will reopen soon following a broken plumbing repair.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 13 – Adjourn**

**Chair Henson** adjourned the meeting at 4:42 pm.

*Minutes submitted by Rebekah Hopkins*