



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

503 Marolf Loop Road  
Tillamook, Oregon 97141  
PH (503) 815-3975  
FAX (503) 842-6473

Email: [recycle@co.tillamook.or.us](mailto:recycle@co.tillamook.or.us)  
[www.co.tillamook.or.us/solid-waste](http://www.co.tillamook.or.us/solid-waste)

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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:** July 12, 2022

**PLACE:** Port of Tillamook Bay (POTB) Conference Room, 4000 Blimp Blvd., Tillamook *and*  
Virtually: Phone # (971)254-3149 ID: 892 233 618

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ken Henson, Public at Large, Chair; Dave Larmouth, Solid Waste Franchisee, Vice Chair; Tim Hall, Incorporated Cities (joined meeting at 4:00 pm); Justin Kanoff, Dairy/Farming industry; Robert Poppe, Solid Waste Franchisee; David Helmricks, Forestry Industry; and Tom Jayred, Public at Large (joined meeting at 3:10)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Julian Macassey, Recycling Industry; and John Longfellow, Construction Industry

**STAFF PRESENT:** David McCall, SW Program Manager; Justin Weiss, Transfer Station Supervisor; Shawn Blanchard, County Treasurer; and Rebekah Hopkins, Accounting Technician

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Jessi Just, Executive Director Heart of CARTM; and Gretchen Sandau, Materials Management Specialist DEQ

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

**Chair Henson** called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm with a quorum present.

**AGENDA ITEM 2 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES for May 10, 2022:**

The minutes of May 10, 2022 were presented. Following a motion made by **Robert Poppe** and seconded by **David Helmricks**, the minutes of May 10, 2022 were approved as submitted. (5/0)

**AGENDA ITEM 3 – Survey Result Summary**

**David McCall** presented results of a Recycling Center Survey conducted at all three transfer stations in cooperation with DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) from May 19<sup>th</sup> through May 23<sup>rd</sup>. He explained that due to staffing availability the surveys were only conducted between the hours of 10:00 am to 2:30 pm and only at the recycling centers. 165 surveys were returned, the majority of which were completed by county residents. Tillamook County's survey results compare favorably with Metro's report of the same survey conducted in 2018. He noted that the majority of responses indicating a lack of confidence in the strength of the county's recycling program were generated in Pacific City where Solid Waste's infrastructure is weakest. He hopes that the planned added infrastructure will improve public optimism about recycling efficiency.

**Chair Henson** asked how much compostable material is being turned into the recycling centers and whether the Department of Solid Waste plans to staff a booth at the Tillamook County Fair this year. **David McCall** replied that compostable material is not tracked but the amount is not significant, and that there are no plans for a fair booth this year.

**Robert Poppe** remarked that public confidence in commingled recycling seems to be impacted by the fact that the trucks which pick up trash look identical to the trucks which pick up recycling. He noted that customers have canceled recycling service expressing the belief that their recycling is just being thrown away. **David McCall** suggested the use of transferrable signs (such as magnetic ones) which would indicate what materials the truck is picking up.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4 – SWAC Vacancies**

**David McCall** reported that with two current committee members moving out of the area, SWAC will have two vacancies to fill. These positions are earmarked for a Forestry/Timber industry representative and a Recycling industry representative. He asked members to refer any potential candidates to apply.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5 – Franchised Hauler Updates**

**Dave Larmouth** reported that they are busy and that it is difficult to recruit drivers and mechanics.

**Robert Poppe** reported that he spoke with a representative for R. Sanitary who believes that they have turned in all paperwork and asked Mr. Poppe to pass along their apologies to the committee for the oversight. Mr. Poppe also reported that City Sanitary, Nestucca Valley Sanitary Service, and R. Sanitary are frustrated by an ongoing issue with yard debris dumpers blocking the franchised haulers bay, sometimes trapping drivers inside the bay. He provided photos documenting examples of such incidents. A discussion followed on the responsibility and possible logistics to operate the transfer station in a safe and functional manner.

**David McCall** read a letter to the committee from Sandy Dye requesting to clarify the minutes from the previous meeting which noted speculation about the lack of a rate increase request from Nestucca Valley Sanitary Service. The letter noted a frequency increase in customer usage and a corresponding reduction in available trucks but also indicated that rising fuel costs have contributed to a second-quarter drop in profits and that staffing and vehicle supply chain issues continue to be challenges.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6 – Transfer Station Reports**

Manzanita - **David McCall** reported that tonnage has increased over the past three years for trash and yard debris, so space has been identified for placement of one of the recently purchased extra bins whenever it becomes needed. For the West and East "Z" wall projects, the bids for the West wall came in slightly over the maximum engineer's estimate, but the bids for the East wall exceeded the engineer's estimate by a much larger margin. The West wall contract was awarded and Great West is looking for funding streams for that project, while the East wall bids were rejected.

Pacific City – **David McCall** reported that this transfer station is also pushing its capacity limits and has been much busier than it has been in the past. Engineering to add two "Z" walls and a recycling and equipment storage building is underway, with a 30% design due at the end of the week.

**David McCall** added that he had received an email from DEQ fining the Manzanita Transfer Station (MTS) for failing to apply for an NPDES1200Z Stormwater Permit when it began operation. Mr. McCall provided documentation that the transfer station changed management agencies but has existed on that location since the late 1970's or early 1980's. Mr. McCall is disputing the fine, but MTS may need to apply for the permit at

some point. The Tillamook Transfer Station (TTS) has a Stormwater Permit, and the Pacific City Transfer Station (PCTS) applied for and received an exemption from the permit requirement.

**Justin Kanoff** noted that there is an increasing level of DEQ scrutiny on water quality issues.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7 – SB582 Truth in Labeling, etc. Updates**

**Gretchen Sandau** reported that recommendations have been submitted to the legislature and sometime in the next several months there will be outreach efforts to inform about needs assessments and funding streams for recycling facilities expansion and/or improvements. The first rule-making session is coming up.

**Dave Larmouth** reported that the technical subcommittee on materials lists has been somewhat disorganized and that **David McCall** has helped focus the discussion. July 19<sup>th</sup> is the date of their next meeting. The first rulemaking session (RMA #1) of the Recycling Modernization Act (RMA)'s Oregon Recycling System Advisory Council (ORSAC) will be July 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Justin Weiss** asked about the grant programs that will be available for improvements, and **Gretchen Sandau** clarified that the RMA isn't a grant program, it will be a PRO (Producer Responsibility Organization) system. There would not be funding caps but there will be parameters for funding and reimbursements.

**David McCall** wanted to add that at the last meeting DEQ presented a life-cycle analysis for styrofoam, comparing mechanical compaction vs. chemical conversion which showed that mechanical compaction (the method Tillamook County implements) is less impactful on the environment.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8 – Staff Report**

**David McCall** reported that the ODF (Oregon Department of Forestry) yard debris program has been re-authorized beginning on July 15, 2022. Vouchers will be available at several locations throughout the county and the program will be promoted in local newspapers.

May's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) event resulted in the activation of a radioactive material response team from Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue. The materials were safely disposed of, but the process cost approximately \$3,600.

The Department of Solid Waste should soon be receiving approximately \$8,600 from DEQ due to its status as one of the nine most economically stressed counties in the state in the year 2020.

Mr. McCall advised the committee that he will be on vacation and unreachable and that Justin Weiss will be their point of contact in his absence.

**Justin Kanoff** addressed the letter from DEQ included in the agenda packet which summarized Tillamook's washed Material Recovery and Waste Generation. He is concerned that food waste disposal is not tracked in the material recovery rates which seems unfair because redirected food waste reduces landfill disposal.

**David McCall** responded that the paradox of redirected food waste is that if it is declared to be waste it can't be used for animal feed, and if it can be used to produce animal feed then it isn't considered a waste product.

**Chair Henson** expressed an interest in having a post-consumer waste (possibly composting) discussion with Mr. Kanoff and Tillamook County Creamery Association.

At **David McCall's** request, **Gretchen Sandau** agreed to research alternative calculations for unique waste stream reductions

**AGENDA ITEM 9 – Public Comment**

There was no public comment

**AGENDA ITEM 10 – Adjourn**

**Chair Henson** adjourned the meeting at 4:33 pm.

*Minutes submitted by Rebekah Hopkins*