

**King County Solid Waste Advisory Committee
February 20, 2015 - 9:30 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.
King Street Center 8th Floor Conference Center**

Meeting Minutes

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>King County Staff</u>	<u>Others</u>
April Atwood	Jamey Barker	Doreen Booth, SCA
Jerry Bartlett	Laura Belt	Chris Eggen, Deputy Mayor, City of Shoreline and SWAC applicant
Elly Bunzendahl	Alejandra Calderon	Evan Hill, King County Council Staff
Joe Casalini	Anna Fleming	
Jean Garber	Beth Humphreys	
Steve Gerritson	Laila McClinton	
Stacia Jenkins	Pat McLaughlin	
Kim Kaminski	Bill Reed	
Kevin Kelly	Thea Severn	
Jose Lugo	Diane Yates	
Barbara Ristau		
Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann		
Thomas Wray		

Approve Meeting Minutes; Review Agenda

The Open Forum item about the New York Times article was revised as follows: “Member Schmidt-Pathmann presented a [New York Times article](#) about waste incinerators in the United States and the perceived higher cost of recycling. He underlined the relative importance of recycling and waste prevention over waste-to-energy. Waste-to-energy is also an integral part of an integrated solid waste management system.”

The January SWAC minutes were approved as amended.

Updates

SWD

About 55 people attended the Feb. 12 Transfer Plan Workshop. The agenda, presentation and handouts are posted on the [division website](#). Division staff is available to answer questions and to discuss concepts, strategies, and data in more depth. The draft report must be submitted to Council by March 31. For approximately the next 60 days, the division is seeking comments from advisory committee members. Another two-week comment period will begin on March 31, and then the division will submit a final report to Council by June 30.

SWD-funded cleanup crews did extensive trash removal at King County's Tolt-MacDonald Park in January. Crews removed more than 20 tires, nearly 20 gallons of oil and hydraulic fluid, and a garbage can brimming with rotten meat, vegetables, and fruit. All of this was within 50 yards of the Tolt River, within reach of minor floodwaters.

SWD's Instagram account received positive media coverage when it posted a picture of a SWD employee rescuing a fawn from a leachate pond at the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill. Though the photo was more than a year old, news outlets and the public were thrilled to see just how much SWD employees care about the environment and their four-legged neighbors at the landfill. KING 5 Seattle "regrammed" the post, which received 618 likes and 20 positive comments, and KIRO 7 featured [the story](#) on the air and on its website.

A SWD customer experienced the division's commitment to customer service first-hand last week after he accidentally threw away a pair of diamond earrings. The customer explained the earrings had mistakenly been put into a bag that was dropped at a transfer station and on its way to the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill. The Special Waste crew acted fast, had the hauler empty his load at the landfill, and recovered the earrings.

MSWMAC

MSWMAC liaison Stacia Jenkins provided a brief report from the February MSWMAC meeting:

- Auburn Councilmember Bill Peloza was elected as Chair and Shoreline Deputy Mayor Chris Eggen was elected as Vice Chair.
- As part of the Roadmap to 70 Percent Recycling, cities may begin to consider making changes to their hauler contracts. It is important for SWAC to give feedback to MSWMAC as these discussions begin.
- In May, solid waste related policy language will likely be presented before the Sound Cities Association (SCA) Public Issues Committee (PIC). MSWMAC Vice Chair Eggen added that data will be collected in an effort to demonstrate to cities that some policy changes could also allow cities to save money.

State legislation

In Gaisford's absence, Yates distributed a [state legislation update handout](#), with a focus on paint stewardship legislation and the Governor's Toxics Reduction Act Bill.

SWAC Attendance: Discussion

The SWAC bylaws state: "Each SWAC member is expected to participate in regular meetings of the SWAC. A member who has attended at least one (1) of the last three (3) regular SWAC meetings shall be considered active. A member who has missed three (3) consecutive regular SWAC meetings in the preceding three months shall be considered inactive and may be removed from office by recommendation of the SWAC, if approved by the King County Executive, or at the discretion of the King County Executive."

A review of attendance records of SWAC members indicates that the attendance of four members makes them “inactive” according to the SWAC bylaws. To encourage inactive members to recommit to regular attendance, Chair Garber prepared [a letter](#) and presented it to the committee. After receipt of the letter, if members choose not to recommit, the other measures listed in the bylaws may be considered. Garber recognized that there may be personal or health reasons that members are not able to attend on occasion; in such circumstances, members must communicate with Yates. The committee agreed to have the letter sent to the four inactive members.

The following sentence will be added to the letter: “Please let us know within two weeks if you are able to attend SWAC meetings on a regular basis or if other commitments require you to withdraw from the committee.”

Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan

Severn presented [updates anticipated for Chapter 4](#): Collection and Processing. Comments included:

- One of the state’s requirements for the Comp Plan is documenting that SWAC has been involved in developing the plan. As such, links to SWAC meeting minutes will be included in the Comp Plan.
- At the request of MSWMAC, a decision matrix will be distributed to MSWMAC in advance of the next meeting. The matrix will include a list of topics with policy implications that need to be discussed. Cities will use this matrix as a guide for determining what actions they want to collectively take.
- Consider standardizing use of the term “solid waste.” In some instances, it refers to garbage; in other instances, it includes all solid waste streams. Consider using it solely to refer to all solid waste streams.
- Thomas Wray noted that customers routinely call and complain to their city about a missed pick-up even if the hauler skipped the pick-up because of contamination. Haulers are left with no choice but to pick up contaminated bins. This has been an ongoing issue.
- Vice Chair Joe Casalini noted that transfer station bans are not ideal because truck drivers are not always able to see the contents of the bags they are picking up. In some cases, requiring them to verify contents could compromise their safety.
- Members briefly discussed the risks and benefits of a dirty MRF and the importance of providing context if such an idea is introduced in the Comp Plan.
- Director McLaughlin introduced five core principles to consider as the Roadmap to 70 percent is drafted:
 - Consistent policies must be adopted across the region.
 - Separation and collection need to be mandatory across the region.
 - Private partners must have the capacity and incentives to participate in programs.
 - A robust enforcement program is necessary to minimize contamination.
 - The division needs to have the capability and capacity to recover resources that end up in division facilities.
- Jenkins noted that cities also need capacity and strong financial incentives.
- Kim Kaminski suggested adding “adequate space for the safe operation of vehicles” to Recommendation 11.

- Consider adding a table listing processors.
- Jerry Bartlett noted that the two listed problems that come as a result of layering shredded paper in yard waste carts are not accurate. The reason compost facilities do not want shredded paper is because the paper is often contaminated with plastic.
- To encourage the public to follow curbside collection guidelines, Jenkins suggested highlighting the environmental and public health reasoning behind the guidelines.
- Members discussed the benefits and drawbacks of source-separated recycling as compared to commingled recycling.
- McLaughlin requested input from haulers and any other interested parties regarding the best way to approach curbside separation and collection. Members who expressed an interest in attending a meeting with McLaughlin included Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann, Jerry Bartlett, Steve Gerritson, Thomas Wray, Kevin Kelly, and Joe Casalini.

The comments provided will be considered for inclusion in the Draft Comp Plan, which is anticipated to be complete in September 2015.

Product Families: Update

Product Family Champion Alejandra Calderon introduced the scope of work of the division's three Product Family Champions. Alejandra Calderon will lead Waste Prevention, Laura Belt will lead Resource Recovery, and Jamey Barker will lead Waste Disposal. Over the course of the next year, they will research, collect, and analyze data, opportunities, and risks associated with the division's three product families and produce a 10-year business plan. A product family is "a group of products, activities, or processes in a line of business that share a common goal or objective." The goal is to have a ten-year business plan that customers, cities, and other partners will want to invest in and that will deliver the desired outcomes for the region.

Schmidt-Pathmann recommended that gasification, pyrolysis, plasma arc and all derivatives should be in the same category as waste-to-energy. Staff confirmed that the actual classification of technologies is still in review and such recommendation will be considered.

Open Forum

- Chair Garber was pleased to find out that Dell has an extensive program for recycling and reusing its computers. More information at <http://www.dell.com/learn/us/en/uscorp1/dell-environment-recycling>.
- April Atwood is still looking for projects for her [Sustainability Consulting](#) class at Seattle U.
- Elly Bunzendahl encouraged members to check out the division's recently remodeled [Eco-Cool Remodel Tool](#).