

**King County Solid Waste Advisory Committee  
November 16, 2018 - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.  
King Street Center 8th Floor Conference Center**

Meeting Minutes

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>King County Staff</b>	<b>Others</b>
April Atwood – Vice Chair	Andrea Clinkscales	
Elly Bunzendahl	Jeff Gaisford	Cynthia Foley, Sound Cities Association
Gib Dammann	Morgan John	Phillip Schmidt Pathmann, NEOMER
Karen Dawson	Kathy Lambert	
Phillippa Kassover	Pat McLaughlin	
Kevin Kelly - Chair	Belinda Morrison-Brantley	
Keith Livingston	Dorian Waller	
Ken Marshall	John Walsh	
Stephen Strader		
Penny Sweet		

**Discussion of Public Comments**

Chair Kevin Kelly opened a discussion on when public comments should be heard during SWAC meetings, suggesting that public comments be heard at the beginning and member comments at the end. Stephen Strader said that public comments are sometimes in response to the meeting’s discussion. If the public comment period is at the beginning, public won’t have that opportunity to respond. Pat D. McLaughlin suggested that taking public comments prior to the meeting allows those comments to shape the day’s discussions. Kelly offered that public comments could also be taken at the end as needed. It was moved to make this change to SWAC agendas, seconded, and approved.

**Public Comments**

Kelley called for public comments and there were none.

**Minutes**

September SWAC minutes were approved unanimously.

**Updates**

**Solid Waste Division (SWD)**

Dorian Waller provided SWD updates:

**Comp Plan Update**

The King County council is holding off on Comp Plan approval for now owing to staff shortages. The Regional Policy Committee’s approval has been extended through March 2019. SWD staff provided a Comp Plan briefing to City of Enumclaw and City of Issaquah staff. The Hunts Point

mayor, the Issaquah mayor, and Issaquah staff toured Cedar Hills Landfill (CHLF). SWD hosted the semi-annual CHLF meeting in Issaquah on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **2019-2020 SWD Budget**

COW approved SWD's 2019-2020 budget. It includes installing solar panels at the Enumclaw and Vashon stations and other energy conservation measures. While the Comp Plan is still not approved, the 2019-2020 budget does allow SWD to continue planning for programs called for in the proposed Comp Plan. Planning-only efforts for the following programs are authorized: Disposal Area 9 at CHLF; Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station (NERTS); and SWD maintenance facility relocation from CHLF.

### **South County Recycling and Transfer Station**

Waller presented updates on the South County Recycling and Transfer Station (SCRTS). SWD held 2 meetings with the City of Algona. One included staff from 4Culture and focused on how to shape public art at the station to reflect the City of Algona. The second meeting was with Algona's mayor and covered Moderate Risk Waste collection options for SCRTS.

### **Awards**

Waller described 2 King County Executive's Performance Excellence Awards that SWD received: one regarding environmental excellence by reducing nitrogen from SWD operations and another for SWD's work to engage employees in Equity & Social Justice programs.

Regarding the 2019-2020 budget update above, April Atwood asked for more information on the planning work being done at CHLF. McLaughlin explained that while SWD waits for a final council decision on the Comp Plan, we need to keep disposal options open and keep planning for the future. With that in mind, Council authorized funds for studying options for moving some maintenance and administration facilities away from CHLF to open up more space for active landfilling. Council also authorized funds for studying the NERTS.

### **MSWMAC**

Penny Sweet, MSWMAC Chair, reported that MSWMAC was considering a name change to remove the second "M" from MSWMAC. MSWMAC was also proposing to remove shredded paper from the list of recyclable materials.

### **SWAC Attendance**

Waller presented information on SWAC member attendance. SWAC by-laws require that members sign a code of conduct and attend at least 75% of meetings. Waller shared members' attendance record, as follows:

[Attendance chart](#)

It was noted that Kim Kaminski no longer lives in the area so should be replaced.

Waller clarified that SWD is only presenting information here: it is up to the committee to respond. McLaughlin noted the committee asked for attendance records.

SWAC currently has openings for representatives from the agricultural sector, labor, recycling industry, and an interested resident. Waller is currently looking at potential members from labor and from the recycling industry. Waller is also seeking to add an additional seat – one

representing CHLF neighbors. Bunzendahl asked who Kaminski was representing – it was Waste Management. Atwood asked if the CHLF neighbor member will fill the “interested resident” seat. Waller responded no, that will be an additional position. Dawson asked about the process for recruiting a CHLF neighbor. Waller responded that it’s undetermined but will include social media and advertisements.

Bunzendahl noted that there are a total of 4 “interested resident” positions. What are the parameters for filling that? Who’s already on it? Could ESJ considerations be included? Waller responded that he is seeking to diversity membership and be intentional in seeking environmentally-interested citizens. No one is biting yet. McLaughlin asked if SWAC members could help by thinking about their networks. Karen Dawson suggested that Henry Yates would add value. Dawson also suggested reaching out to Waste Connections. Some at Waste Connections were unaware that they serve King County (Vashon Island). Kelly asked what to do about attendance, and if consequences should be enforced. Ken Marshall reminded the group that some of the current members are nearing the end of their allowed terms. Waller said that he’s aware of that. Kelly asked for a summary of members’ terms. Sweet asked how to handle consistent no-shows. Kelly noted that 3 consecutive absences is often the limit on other committees. However many committees are short-handed so don’t want to be overly strict. Ken Livingston noted that only once has SWAC not had enough present for a quorum – that’s the most relevant indicator to judge overall attendance. SWAC isn’t suffering, guidelines are not requirements. Marshall said that during certain times of the year, all members are extra busy. The Comp Plan is mostly done now, and it’s time to focus on the Task Force recommendations.

Atwood asked if attendance records should distinguish between excused and un-excused absences. Waller explained that members currently alert him when they will not attend. He will share that information with the chair and vice-chair from now on. McLaughlin stated that it is SWD’s job to administer the committee and present information. He recommends a quarterly report that shows attendance records and recruiting efforts. Kelly supports this quarterly report so there are no surprises. Stephen Strader asked if combined SWAC/MSWMAC meetings will count on attendance records. They’re a different day and time. Are they required? Kelly called for discretion in attendance guidelines. Is the committee getting its work done? Are members aware of other member’s changes? We should look at excused vs un-excused absences for the full picture. If a member is missing meetings, there should be a 1-on-1 meeting and talk of whether membership still a good fit.

Dawson requested having a spreadsheet of current openings to help with members’ recruitment efforts. Marshall said it’s a good idea to pass out by-laws. They spell out expectations of membership. Phillipa Kassover asked if King County councilmembers can nominate candidates. They can but only have once. Waller stated that one of the current recruits was nominated by a councilmember. Kelly suggested wrapping up this topic for this meeting. For the January meeting, he requested a table with current membership terms and open seats. He asks current members to actively recruit for the open positions. And he asked for SWD to send out a reminder of member expectations and to share excused absences with the chair and vice-chair. Marshall asked if an email excuses an absence? It could become an abused situation but some absences can’t be avoided. Kelly stated that it has to be

discretionary, we must consider the circumstances. McLaughlin said that we don't have a standard practice for this. In January, we'll present a draft and move forward.

### **2019 Agenda Items**

Waller asked that the committee share agenda item ideas for 2019. He will work up a plan for 2019. Sweet suggested that members send in ideas. Waller presented the 2019 proposed meeting calendar too. It was agreed to remove the December meeting from the 2019 calendar. Atwood asked if the joint meeting in January was set, was it needed, and is it too late to properly organize it. Sweet suggested maintaining separate January MSWMAC and SWAC meetings rather than the joint meeting. Bunzendahl asked if there is concurrent work planning being done with the two committees? Are there chances to collaborate and benefits?

Waller listed the highlights of 2019 work planning as of now:

- State legislation
- Task Force activities
- C&D Ordinance
- Cart-tagging
- Chair and Vice-chair elections.

### **State Legislative Strategies for 2019**

SWD is monitoring the following potential bills:

**Paint Stewardship:** authorizes paint manufacturers to fund a program and develop a convenient statewide collection program. It's supported by the coatings association. There have been paint stewardship bills for several years, including 2018, but they haven't passed.

**Plastics Packaging Stewardship:** establishes a stewardship program financed by plastics producers, incentivizes sustainable packaging design, calls for packaging that works with current curbside recycling collection systems, promotes cleaner recycling streams, and funds litter cleanups. All plastic packaging sold in Washington would be subject to this program.

Livingston suggested that regarding this bill, see what comes out of the Task Force meeting. Gaisford said there was much Task Force discussion of this topic. Livingston asked how committee members can facilitate getting information and supporting the process? Gaisford said that SWD agreed at MSWMAC to send legislative information to members. Would SWAC members want that too? Marshall stated that bill numbers would help. Kassover noted that there's much information coming out of Seattle and British Columbia – looking at that would help. Gaisford responded that there's information about Recycle BC on SWD's Responsible Recycling Task Force (RRTF) website <https://kingcounty.gov/~media/depts/dnrp/solid-waste/about/planning/documents/task-force-presentation-2018-08-24.ashx?la=en> (August 24, 2018 RRTF meeting).

**Washington's Economic Development Potential as a World Leader in the Responsible Management of Postconsumer Materials:** directs the Department of Commerce and Department of Ecology to work toward improved recycling and solid waste markets and best practices.

**Reusable Bag Bill:** imposes statewide prohibition on single-use plastic bags, charges a fee for paper bags, and includes other bag-related regulations. Kelly suggests that Cedar Grove Composting be included in compostable bag efforts.

**Concerning Sustainable Recycling:** improves recycling in Washington by reducing contamination and improving markets for recyclables.

**Recyclables Collection List:** there may be a bill limiting what local governments can have on their recyclables collection list so there's one list state-wide.

**Responsible Recycling Task Force Short-term Recommendations – Curbside Recycling Bin:**

Gaisford stated that the Task Force recommends removing plastic bags and film from recyclables lists, and MSWMAC agrees. SWD is drafting advisory letters. But since this is the first Task Force recommendation, SWD proposes holding off on the letter until there are more specific short-term actions and the Task Force report is done. Strader asked what's the value of a letter signed by committee chairs compared to other actions? Atwood looks forward to a plan for getting contaminants out but also a plan for positive actions to get more recycled.

Livingston asked how can committees and individuals support SWD, who are the key people, how to increase efficiency and collaboration? Sweet suggested that MSWMAC draft an advisory letter and SWAC members can sign on.

Gaisford continued, stating that the Task Force meeting produced solid items to bring forward for SWAC and MSWMAC review including how to improve content in recycling carts and in green waste carts. There are obvious parallels. Regarding organics, SWD is directed to study increasing the market for compost and to host an "organics summit" possibly as early as February 2019. SWD will share the date of the summit as soon as it's known. Marshall shared how messaging is critical to help the public do the right thing.

**South County Recycling & Transfer Station:**

SWD project manager Andrea Clinkscales presented an [update](#) on South County Recycling & Transfer Station (SCRSTS). The Design Advisory Group (DAG) comprises a variety of interests and backgrounds and is tasked with influencing the design process throughout 2019. A SCRSTS open house is set for December 12<sup>th</sup> in Algona to update the community on design status. Six different "stations" will present different aspects of the project including the three current design alternatives. The open house is meant for staff to present information and listen to community voices and wants.

Marshall asked if the commercial haulers' drivers were part of any advisory groups or processes. Clinkscales answered that SWD drivers participated as did representatives from the haulers. McLaughlin noted that SWD invites the haulers but it's the haulers' responsibility to represent the needs of all levels of their business.

Bunzendahl asked if there is compensation for those participating in DAG, including child care? ESJ-related efforts? Mentorship or coaching for participants, or gift cards? Clinkscales responded that SWD has invited community-based organizations, has arranged for compensation, is working on child-care, and is reaching out individually to those unlikely to attend workshops but may be interested in 1-on-1 meetings. Please pass on other suggestions to Clinkscales. Marshall suggested reaching out to Pacific city councilmember David Storesley. He's a Waste Management employee.

Kassover noted that she's unfamiliar with SWD's prior outreach processes, but finds this one to be robust. Is this standard for SWD? What level of opposition is expected? Clinkscales explained

it's a 5-year siting process, SWD is working on a FAQ sheet for essential public facilities. Opposition is on-going from a community on the bluff above the site. SWD's intent is to be transparent and responsive to opponents and supporters. The DAG may have a representative from the bluff community. Kassover noted that LFP built robust outreach strategies for projects in Lake Forest Park, kept elected informed, developed FAQ sheets in collaboration with elected, and distributed them widely. Clinkscales encouraged feedback and guidance from SWAC members.

**Public Comment**

Kelly reminded the group that public comment will from here on out be at the beginning of the meeting but asked if there was any at this time. There was none.

**Member Comment**

Gib Dammann asked for an update on the Recycling & Resource Recovery Request for Information. John Walsh explained that SWD staff are reviewing submittals and considering whether to issue RFPs. There will be more information next meeting.

Respectfully submitted by: Morgan John