

ISLAND COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY (SWAC) COMMITTEE

April 15, 2024

Members Present:

George Place, Dar Christopherson, Sarah Bergquist, Liz Kennedy Ketcheson, Scott Sebelsky, Andrew Riggs, and Kimberly "Niles" McCann

Staff Present:

Matt Farr, Jeff Hegedus, James Sylvester, and Gynon Nash

Others Present:

Audrey Taber (Dept of Ecology)

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Island County SWAC was called to order on Monday, April 15, 2024, at 10:04 a.m. via Microsoft Teams meeting, by Sarah Bergquist, Chairperson.

Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, and Approval of Minutes:

Roll call determined the correct amount of a quorum. The minutes for the January 22, 2024, SWAC meeting were approved as written. The motion for approval was made by Scott Sebelsky and 2nd by Dar Christopherson. Motion approved - all in favor.

Public Comment Period:

None

Operations Update:

Jeff Hegedus updated the committee on operations:

- Coupeville compactor shut down starting April 22nd
- Coupeville transfer station continues to take abandoned/junk recreational vehicles as part of homeless cleanup
- RFP for long haul transportation and disposal services is out for bid
- Bayview site expansion continues with new fencing, an unstable slope has also been removed.
- North Whidbey site is half through site expansion
- Camano site assessment is being finalized
- Coming up, the five-year Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan
- Camano fall incident on April 14th
- We are purchasing a new yard goat for Coupeville
- We can no longer accept cooking oil, due to new EPA regulations
- A new mural is coming to Coupeville

Sarah Bergquist asked about the timeline for the new transfer station. Jeff responded with design, permitting, and building, a 5-year window would be fast.

Coupeville Transfer Station Compactor Purchase Update:

Jeff Hegedus updated the committee that the new compactor is capable of loading an additional 5 tons per container, which is estimated to save \$250K per year in transportation costs, this savings will be used to pay down the loan. Next Monday (April 22nd) the existing compactor will be shut

down as the area is prepared for the new compactor, which includes PSE moving a transformer, cutting and pouring concrete, and curing the concrete for 28 days. The old compactor will be recycled.

Island Disposal, Inc. Proposed Curbside Recycling Program:

Andrew Riggs presented to the committee and answered questions regarding Island Disposal's proposed curbside recycle program. The new service would be bundled with current curbside pick-up services; as is currently the case, the bundled services would not become mandatory. The new service is expected to increase customers bill by approximately \$6.50 per month, however customers may be able to reduce garbage container size by recycling which would lower their current garbage cost.

Dar Christopherson motioned that SWAC support the proposed curbside recycling ordinance, 2nd by Scott Sebelsky. Motion approved - all in favor.

Next step is to bring the proposal to the BOCC at a work session.

Landfill Monitoring and Maintenance:

On April 2, 2024, SCS Engineers was awarded the contact for continued landfill monitoring and maintenance at the Coupeville landfill. Jeff Hegedus spoke to the committee about the post closure \$2M financial assurance requirement, and the County will begin to assess the degree to which the landfill may be stabilizing and the potential for reduction of requirements. Jeff will suggest this topic for discussion at the statewide Solid Waste Manager's meeting in June.

Dar Christopherson expressed concern about releasing money with the unknowns of what is in the landfill and what could happen 30-50 years from now.

Compost Procurement Ordinance:

Jeff Hegedus shared with the committee that as required by the RCW and as recommend by SWAC the BOCC has approved an amendment to Chapter 13.02A, Solid Waste Disposal, by adding a new section Chapter 13.02A.085,. Compost Procurement and Use.

Open Session, Announcements, Agenda Items:

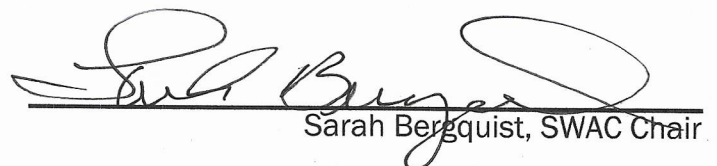
Dar Christopherson asked about the possibility of DTG accepting alkaline batteries for recycling from County collection facilities for no charge.

Audrey Taber let the committee know that she would email them information on the Polystyrene ban, a Glass Summit hosted by Ecology's Recycling Market Development Center, and funding opportunities from the Dept of Commerce for solid waste, recycling, and organics.

Adjournment:

George Place motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:43 a.m., 2nd by Andrew Riggs. Motion approved - all in favor.

Approved this 22nd day of July 2024


Sarah Bergquist, SWAC Chair