

ISLAND COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY (SWAC) COMMITTEE

July 22, 2024

Members Present:

Commissioner Jill Johnson, George Place, Joe Grogan, Randi Perry, Dar Christopherson, Sarah Bergquist, Liz Kennedy Ketcheson, Scott Sebelsky, Andrew Riggs, and Erin Gagnon (DTG Recycle alternate)

Staff Present:

Matt Farr (Public Health), Jeff Hegedus (Public Works), James Sylvester (Public Works), John Lanier (Planning), and Gynon Nash (Public Works)

Others Present:

Katie Jerauld (Dept of Ecology)

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Island County SWAC was called to order on Monday, July 22, 2024, at 10:06 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 April 15, 2024, SWAC meeting were approved as written. The motion for approval was made by Scott Sebelsky and 2nd by Jill Johnson. Motion approved - all in favor.

Public Comment Period:

None

Operations Update:

Jeff Hegedus updated the committee on operations:

- Coupeville transfer station continues to take abandoned/junk recreational vehicles as part of homeless cleanup
- Landfill monitoring and maintenance proceeds routinely, as required
- Interviews will be held later this week for the long-haul transportation and disposal services contract, proposals were received by Republic Services and Waste Management
- North Whidbey site expansion continues, assisted by the Road Shop
- Recycling services for Camano expiring at the end of the year, RFP has been published
- Coming up, the five-year Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan
- On Friday, July 19th, we stopped accepting yard waste at the Camano site, due to safety concerns. Options for residents are Lenz Enterprises in Stanwood or curbside collection with Waste Management.

Coupeville Transfer Station Compactor Installation Update:

Jeff Hegedus informed the committee that the new compactor arrived last week and is expected to be fired up tomorrow. Solid Waste techs will then start training for operating the compactor.

Island County Comprehensive Plan Climate Element:

John Lanier, Island County Long Range Planner, gave a Power Point presentation regarding the climate element of the Island County Comprehensive Plan followed asking the committee for ideas

on how the Solid Waste division can support the County's goals to mitigate the impacts of climate change. Recommendations included:

- Composting organic waste
- Reducing the number of containers hauled off island
- Options for diverting materials
- Local organics facility
- Collaborations between government and private business
- Consumer education
- Styrene recycling
- Environmental off-set for methane gas (such as planting trees)
- Converting methane to hydrogen
- Waste audits for Coupeville and Camano County offices
- Repair clinics
- Recycling construction debris

WSU Waste Wise Program:

Sarah Bergquist, WSU Interim Island County Director, gave a Power Point presentation regarding the Waste Wise program which provides community education and outreach regarding waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting to youth, adult, and commercial populations.

SWAC Bylaws - Youth Membership:

The committee discussed a request to consider youth membership. It was agreed to have Jeff Hegedus draft language to amend the SWAC Bylaws to include two Youth Members, one residing on Whidbey Island, one residing on Camano Island, each for 2-year terms. Then present the proposed amendment to the Board of County Commissioners.

SWAC Meetings – Hybrid Format:

A request for SWAC to consider implantation of hybrid rather than virtual meetings was tabled until the October meeting.

Open Session, Announcements, Agenda Items:

Katie Jerauld, Dept of Ecology, let the committee know that she would email information regarding the Battery Stewardship Program Rulemaking Informal Comment Period, Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan Update, and Organics Management Funding Opportunities to Jeff for him to forward to committee members.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m., by Sarah Bergquist.

Approved this 21st day of October 2024

10/30/2024

X



Sarah Bergquist

SWAC Chair, WSU Extension Waste Wise Program ...

Signed by: 723da587-dcd2-4afd-8fa9-9dfd59e57349

Sarah Bergquist, SWAC Chair