

# ISLAND COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY (SWAC) COMMITTEE

## October 21, 2024

### **Members Present:**

George Place, Dar Christopherson, Sarah Bergquist, Scott Sebelsky and Andrew Riggs

### **Staff Present:**

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

### **Others Present:**

Katie Jerauld (Dept of Ecology)  
Joan Green (rePurpose)  
Derek Hoshiko (rePurpose)

### **Call to Order:**

The regular meeting of the Island County SWAC was called to order on Monday, October 21, 2024, at 10:02a.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 July 22, 2024, SWAC meeting were approved as written. The motion for approval was made by Scott Sebelsky and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dar Christopherson. Motion approved - all in favor.

### **Public Comment Period:**

Joan Green and Derek Hoshiko introduced themselves, voiced support for Island Disposal's curbside recycling proposal, and informed the committee about their organization, rePurpose. Katie Jerauld informed the committee on an EPA/Dept of Ecology grant and a completed Ecology study, she will email Jeff Hegedus the links.

### **Operations Update:**

Jeff Hegedus updated the committee on operations:

- For the first 9 months of 2024 solid waste tonnage has decreased 2%, septage tonnage has increased 63%
- Updated the committee about regional glass recycling issues
- The North Whidbey facility has been expanded for safer and more efficient operation, an office is being installed
- Coupeville transfer station continues to take abandoned/junk recreational vehicles as part of homeless cleanup
- Landfill monitoring and maintenance proceeds routinely, as required and the landfill financial assurance plan is being reviewed and updated
- The NASWI agreement for household hazardous waste collection is being extended
- The five-year update to the Comprehensive Solid Waste and Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan will begin in 2025
- Plans to have an amendment for the next SWAC meeting regarding youth membership

**Coupeville Transfer Station Compactor Installation Update:**

Jeff Hegedus informed the committee that the new compactor has been installed and in full operation. Engineering specs are complete for a metal roof to house the hydraulic power unit and cylinder, and permitting is in process. The operator control shack will be replaced.

Sarah Bergquist asked why we were not currently accepting cooking oil, Jeff explained new EPA rules.

**Island Disposal Curbside Recycling:**

Andrew Riggs gave a Power Point presentation for Island Disposal's curbside recycling proposal. The committee and others present discussed the issues and challenges, such as machinery, technology, equipment, cost, and human power needed for glass recycling.

**Solid Waste Transportations and Disposal Contract:**

Jeff Hegedus informed the committee that Public Works will be recommending Republic Services for the long-haul contract to the BOICC.

**Solid Waste Rate Structure:**

Jeff Hegedus informed the committee that the current estimated adjustment to the tipping fee for 2025 is a 15.9% increase to cover the 36% increase in transportation disposal services.

**WSU Waste Wise Program:**

Sarah Bergquist updated the committee on the WSU Waste Wise program

- Waste Wise is currently training new volunteers. Heather Trim from Zero Waste will present at 6:00 at the Wednesday night training, SWAC members are welcome to attend
- Working with local composting groups, a green cleaning workshop, and rePurpose recycling collection event

**Open Session, Announcements, Agenda Items:**

None

**Adjournment:**

Sarah Bergquist adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m., due Martin Luther King Jr Day the next regular scheduled SWAC meeting will be January 27, 2025, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Approved this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January 2025



Sarah Bergquist, SWAC Chair