

**SOLID WASTE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
Public Service Building, Colfax
September 10, 2019**

MEMBERS:

Devon Felsted, Pullman Disposal, Chair
Bob Curry, Endicott
Rick Finch, WSU Waste Management
Eileen Macoll, Pullman
David Hansel, Albion
Aaron Lawhead, Empire Disposal/ Waste Connections
Michele Beckman, Colfax, (Excused)
Matt Pederson, Republic Services (Unexcused)
Dot Sharp, Colton, (Unexcused)
Chris Skidmore, WC Environmental Health

Staff: David Nails, WC Transfer Station; Mark Storey, WC Director/Engineer; Steven Gimpel, Ecology; Ginny Rumiser, Clerk.

Audience: Deborah Olson, Pullman; Patrick Siler, Pullman.

3:04 p.m. – Devon Felsted opened the meeting. Introductions were held around the room.

MOTION by Bob Curry and seconded by Chris Skidmore to approve the minutes of June 11, 2019. Motion passed.

David Nails reported on the Palouse Empire Fair. There were numerous questions regarding recycling on where it was going and how long we would be able to continue. I reassured them that we were still receiving the commodities as usual but we didn't know how long we would be able to continue.

The House Bill on paint stewardship passed and was enacted yesterday. It is RCW 70.375. It has to be implemented by November of 2020. This program will be a huge benefit to Whitman County and it will simplify the way we recycle our paint. They will drop off a bin, collect it and recycle it into new paint. Even the hard paint is included. Nothing goes in the garbage.

The electronic stewardship has passed 400 million pounds of electronics in Washington State. The stewardships are working.

The Transfer Station has several free programs. The Household Hazardous Waste, yard waste and the recycling are a great cost to the County. Our last invoice from Cannon Hill was \$38,334 for grinding 1,474 tons of wood waste.

Our CPG grant used to pay for the grinding but with the reduced amount that we receive, it doesn't cover the cost. We are picking up the slack for yard waste and also the paint. The cardboard offsets the costs but the recycling bills were \$13,000 in April and \$9,000 in July.

In the future, I'd like to revamp our recycling area and separate anything of positive monetary value, like aluminum cans, tin cans and cardboard. I'm not saying we would discontinue comingled but since we have the area to separate, I'd like to do that.

Mark Storey reported on the Moderate Risk Waste Facility. Each member received a copy of the preliminary design for the new MRW facility also known as HHW, Household Hazard Waste. The existing facility is not fulfilling the requirements for our employee safety issues and the new regulations. We have a cost estimate for \$850,000 for remodeling the facility and we are in a financial position to do that now.

Steven Gimpel from Ecology stated that the CPG grant name has been changed to LSWFAG, Local Solid Waste Financial Assistant Grant. We are finalizing the paperwork and we have recycling verification forms that need to be signed stating that you aren't purposefully collecting items knowing they are going to end up in the landfill.

Aaron Lawhead stated that Empire Disposal has discontinued commodity recycling at their facility. We pick up comingled recycling within the City of Colfax and we collect cardboard for recycling.

Devon Felsted stated that Pullman Disposal has put a small fee on their recycling commodities, including cardboard but consumers can take it directly to the landfill for free.

The Fall clean-up is October 4-12 with a reduced rate for \$35 a ton instead of \$110 a ton.

The next meeting will be December 10, 2019, at 3:00 p.m.

4:02 p.m. – Adjourned.