

Lewis County Solid Waste Advisory Committee – Minutes

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

*Location: Lewis County Public Services, Large Conference room, 2025 N.E. Kresky Ave, Chehalis
In-Person Meeting with ZOOM option.*

1. **ROLL CALL:** Call to order by Bob Taylor at 1:00 p.m. *Members in attendance.*

Member Name	Representation	Attendance
Terry Harris	SWAC Chairman	E A
Bob Taylor	SWAC Co- Chairman	P
Jason Adams	WSU Extension/ Agriculture	P
Don Bradshaw	Citizen/Winlock	P
Peppy Elizaga	Business/Hampton Lumber	P
Samantha Winkle	Waste Management Industry	P
Eddie Lewis	Waste Management Industry	P
Jerry Lord	Chehalis Councilperson	U A
Tom Rupert	Waste Management Industry	P
Max Vogt	Centralia Mayor	P
Attendance is recorded for members P=Present; EA=Excused Absence; UA=Unexcused Absence		
Non- Member Name	Representation	
Olivia Carros	Department of Ecology	
Jeff Miller	E-Tech Mobility	
Kathy McPherson	UTC	
Josh Metcalf	Lewis County Public Works, Director	
Rocky Lyon	LCSW Utility, Manager	
Kristen Buckman	LCSW Utility, Office Manager	
Melanie Case	LCSW Utility, Recycle Coordinator	
Teri Lopez	LCSW Utility, Admin Assistant	
Karen Hirte	LCSW Utility, Office Assistant	

A quorum was present with eight (8) of ten members in attendance.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

3. **PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** June 9, 2021, meeting minutes were approved by motion.
Motion made by Peppy Elizaga and seconded by Tom Rupert to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

4. **BUSINESS AGENDA:**

4.1. **Review Action Items:** (Note: completed action items will be shown on the table for the next meeting's minutes then be "dropped." Date in "Comments/Resolution" section indicates when last update occurred.

Action Item Number	Task Description	Responsible Person	Comments/Resolution
060921-A	Incorporate SWAC comments on CROP and complete second draft, SWAC review second draft of CROP	Utility/SWAC	Review 6/9/2021 Completed 06/30/2021
071421-A	Review Proposed Revisions to the Solid Waste Code	Code Enforcement	Review 07/14/2021 – Packet to be emailed by end of week with the exception of Bob Taylor and Don Bradshaw who requested paper copies be mailed to them

4.2. **Recycle Reset:** Update – Melanie Case, LCSW Utility Recycle Coordinator, presented a slide show which highlighted the success of Recycle Reset from January thru June of 2021 as compared to January thru June of 2020

- 74% reduction in the amount of Recyclables discarded
- 73% reduction in the cost to dispose of contaminated Recycling
- Revenue from Recycling up 320%

4.3. **Contamination Reduction & Outreach Plan (CROP):** Melanie explained that all comments and suggestions received were reviewed and a final version was submitted to the DOE before the June 30th deadline.

4.4. **Alternatives to the Residential Free Disposal Voucher Program:**

Rocky shared a presentation on Alternatives to the Voucher Program. The Utility is encouraging a change from garbage vouchers to community clean-up events. Some examples could include sensitive document shredding, scrap metal/appliance collections, organics, tire recycling, HHW and E-Cycle events. This would promote the community to recycle rather than throw away their items. Grant money would cover most of the costs of these clean-up events as opposed to the Utility taking on the cost of the garbage vouchers. Letters to the Cities asking what events would best suit their needs are being mailed. This will assist the utility in planning out a set of events.

4.5. **Reports/Updates:**

4.5.1. SWAC – Bob Taylor – No new information.

4.5.2. LeMay/Waste Connections – Tom Rupert, District Manager – No new information.

4.5.3. Department of Ecology – Olivia Carros – Announced that she will be representing the DOE from now on in place of Peter Lyon. She then thanked Melanie for submitting the CROP report on time. She also stated that she hopes to have the grant agreement drafted by the end of the month.

4.5.4. Code Enforcement – Bill Teitzel – Bill was unable to attend but wishes for the board to review a draft of the proposed changes to the Solid Waste Code. The draft will be emailed to all board members with the exception of Bob Taylor and Don Bradshaw who requested paper copies.

4.5.5. Lewis County Solid Waste – Rocky Lyon

- Record breaking number of customers/tonnage. Ex. yesterday which was a Tuesday and 560 customers were serviced. Lines have been out past the tracks and as far back as to Gold Street on some days. The group speculated on reasons for continued uptake, construction demolition was mentioned. No slow-down in site. Josh provided that Community Development indicated a record number of building permits are being issued. Max provided a comment about a news report indicating that lumber prices will be plummeting. Peppy confirmed.
- It was asked if the Reuse Center is restarting. Rocky stated that there just isn't room logistically. Josh explained that it was originally closed for safety reasons and with the increase in traffic to the Transfer Station, safety is still a big concern. Melanie stated that all the local Second hand stores are overrun right now. People during the Covid Stay-at-home orders just started cleaning out and haven't seemed to stop. Her concern would be

that if they were turned away from the Second hand stores that the Reuse enter here would just become a dumping place.

Melanie Case

- Morton and Pe Ell both had successful Tire Events.
- New signs have been installed at CTS and will be soon at ELCTS.

Josh Metcalf

- Bob asked about the Paint Recycling Contract. Josh reported that the attorney is reviewing the contract regarding the indemnification language. He also stated that research is being done to see what other counties are doing.
- 2 new FTE's have been hired for succession planning and to meet the growing needs. Also in the process of hiring 1 additional FTE for the office.
- Josh stated that the Feasibility Study should be completed by the end of the year.

5. **NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:**

- 5.1. Bob would like to see some specific dates/costs for the Disposal Voucher Alternatives.
- 5.2. Bob requested that the current month's tonnage report be provided at the meetings. Kristen to provide unofficial numbers.
- 5.3. Bob asked that we add the Solid Waste Management plan to the action items section of the Agenda for the next meeting.

6. **NEXT MEETING:** August 11, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Teri Lopez was introduced to the group as the new Admin Assistant for Solid Waste.

8. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri Lopez,
Administrative Assistant
Lewis County Solid Waste