

**ADA COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 16, 2018**

LOCATION:

1ST Floor, East Wing (Room 2 – DL Conference Room), Ada County Courthouse
200 West Front Street
Boise, Idaho 83702

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

SWAC Members Present: Steve Cory, Kevin Wallis, Lynn Moser, Catherine Chertudi, Dave Dean, Dave Fisher, Karen Danley

SWAC Members Absent: Steve Sedlacek

III. Agenda Approval

The SWAC approved today's (January 16, 2018) Agenda.

IV. Approval of Minutes

The SWAC approved the September 26, 2017, Regular Meeting Minutes.

V. Approval of Minutes

The SWAC approved the December 11, 2017, Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

VI. Old Business

None

VII. Update – Boise's Compost Program – *Catherine Chertudi*

Boise's Compost Program highlights:

- Compost facility opened June 22, 2017.
- Households participating – 71,670 (96% of Boise households).
- Amount of "green waste" collected – 136 tons per day (anticipated – 90 tons per day).
- Average amount of "green waste" collected per household – 81.48 lbs. per month.
- Compost facility: 1.9 acre entrance with scale and office; 4.8 acre receiving area; 4.6 acre windrow area; 5.4 acre future expansion.
- Boise's trash hauling contractor, Republic Services, is being paid approximately \$5.50 per household per month to collect, transport, and process "green waste".

VIII. Update – Boise’s Consideration of the Orange Bag Plastic Recycling Program – Catherine Chertudi

For many years, China accepted just about unlimited quantities and types of recyclable material for reprocessing purposes. In an effort to clean up the stream of recyclables that it was receiving, China banned, effective 31, 2017, the acceptance of some material types that are expensive, difficult, or impossible to reprocess into useful products. 3 – 7 plastics were included in this ban.

In order to find another outlet for this material, Boise identified a firm, Renewlogy, located near Salt Lake City, Utah, that demonstrated it has the ability to process 3-7 plastics into off-highway diesel fuel. Renewlogy indicated that if Boise could find a way to ship this material (clean with minimal contamination) to it, it would process this material into off-highway diesel fuel.

Boise elected to go forward with this program, quickly secured a grant that will help advertise and initiate the program, and decided to purchase (\$500,000+) the first round of “orange bags” that residents will use to store the 3-7 plastics. These bags, once filled, will be placed in recycling carts and delivered to Western Recycling. Western Recycling will then bale and ship these bags to Renewlogy.

IX. Update – Recycling Markets – Dave Dean

Dave indicated that the markets for recyclables are still very depressed. He has been able to find markets, other than China, for mixed paper but, is unsure how long these markets will continue to take this material. Dave also indicated that some material recovery facilities are having difficulty finding markets for their baled recyclables. Some of these facilities are storing incredibly large numbers of bales that may ultimately be shipped to landfills.

X. Commissioner Dave Case

Commissioner Case commented that some of the decisions that have been made by political entities regarding reuse/recycling issues have created public confusion. Some entities banned the placement of 3-7 plastic in curbside recycling carts while others announced that they had found viable outlets for this material. Commissioner Case suggested that better communication and coordination among local political entities in regards to recycling issues should minimize public concerns/confusion.

Commissioner Case also recommended that firms asserting their ability to convert solid waste/recyclables to energy or fuel be comprehensively vetted before arrangements are made to supply these firms with this material. Additionally, Commissioner Case discouraged the use of confidentiality agreements that are intended to limit the distribution of data collected during the vetting process.

XI. Other Business

None

XII. Next Meeting Date

The SWAC selected April 18, 2018 for the next meeting date.

XIII. Adjournment

The SWAC adjourned at 1:00 p.m.