

**ADA COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 26, 2017**

LOCATION:

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

SWAC Members Present:

Steve Cory, Steve Sedlacek, Lynn Moser, Kevin Wallis, Catherine Chertudi, Karen Danley, Dave Dean, Dave Fisher

SWAC Members Absent:

None

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Agenda Approval

The SWAC approved today's (September 26, 2017) agenda.

IV. Approval of Minutes

The SWAC approved the June 22, 2017, minutes.

V. Old Business

• **Landfill Financial Forecast**

Ted Hutchinson produced the subject forecast but, was unavailable to make the presentation. Dave Neal gave the presentation based on the financial information that Ted had provided.

Basically, the Landfill's long term financial outlook is reasonably good. Currently, the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund balance exceeds \$25,000,000.00. Using projections to indicate periodic high cost capital expenditures (landfill expansion stages) along with anticipated "regular" expenditures, Ted's data indicates that the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund balance will slowly diminish over the next several years. At some future date, landfill rates will have to increase in order to assure that the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund balance is sufficient to cover all future anticipated expenditures.

VI. Update – Recycling Mixed Wastes

Dave Dean presented information regarding China’s mixed waste limitations policy. Currently, China limits the amount of “prohibitives” that can be present in mixed waste to 1% of the total (1 lb. in 100 lbs.). Dave indicates that Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) that do not have optical scanners/sorters have difficulties reducing “prohibitives” contained in mixed wastes to less than 10% of the total. Dave is not sure that it is possible, at a MRF, to reduce the quantity of “prohibitives” to China’s stringent requirement level.

Plastics make up 8% (by weight) of the total recyclables delivered to Western Recycling’s MRF. Films, plastic wraps, grocery bags, and plastics 3 – 7 make up approximately 10% of the total plastics delivered to the MRF. Removal of these plastics from the recyclables being delivered to the MRF would reduce the amount of material being recycled by 1% +/-.

Dave indicates that there is apparently no easy and publically popular solution that can be applied to reduce the amount of “prohibitives” that are present in mixed materials being shipped to China. Prohibiting the deposit of films, plastic wraps, grocery bags and plastics 3 - 7 in recycling carts should reduce the percentage of “prohibitives” to acceptable levels. Total prohibition of plastics allowed to be placed in recycling carts would definitely reduce the amount of “prohibitives” being shipped to China to acceptable levels. Both of these suggestions, if implemented, would probably be resisted by some members of the recycling public.

VII. Landfill Disposal Fees for Transfer Stations

Due to a number of operational and financial issues, Republic Services has asked that Ada County make a change to its landfill tipping fee schedule regarding waste being delivered to the landfill from the two waste transfer stations located in this area. Republic Services has requested that Ada County change these charges from a volume basis (\$11.00 per cubic yard) to a weight basis (\$22.00 per ton). Ada County is considering this request.

VIII. Other Business

IX. Next Meeting Date

The SWAC selected January 16, 2018, for the next meeting date.

X. Adjournment

The SWAC adjourned at 1:00 p.m.