

**ADA COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 15, 2017
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

LOCATION:

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

SWAC Subcommittee Members Present:

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

SWAC Subcommittee Members Absent:

Steve Sedlacek

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Agenda Approval

SWAC subcommittee members approved today's (November 15, 2017) agenda.

IV. Approval of Minutes

The SWAC subcommittee approved the October 23, 2017 minutes.

V. Recyclable Material Marketing Update – *Dave Dean*

Dave provided the SWAC subcommittee an excellent updated overview in regards to China's upcoming restrictive policy regarding the importation of recyclables.

China has revised the level of "prohibitives" to be allowed in mixed waste from 0.3% to 1.0%. Dave indicated that material recycling facilities (MRFs), including those with optic scanners cannot, without running recyclables through the sorting process numerous times, remove enough "prohibitives" from mixed waste to meet recently revised, less restrictive Chinese standards. Considerable expenses are incurred each time that MRFs are required to re-run the recyclables through the sorting process.

Currently, other markets (Indonesia & Vietnam) are accepting mixed recyclables containing historic percentages (10 %+) of “prohibitives”. Dave is not convinced that these markets will accept this material on a long term basis.

VI. Republic Services Request to Local Communities – Dave Fisher

Dave indicated that Republic Services will be communicating with its clients (cities and counties) in this area requesting that these entities ban the placement of plastics in curbside recycling carts. This ban would insure that no “prohibitives” end up in the recyclable material stream. Dave stated that removing all plastic would reduce the amount of material being recycled by 8% (weight).

******* The SWAC subcommittee determined that it would not recommend that the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) ban the placement of all plastics in curbside recycling carts. Instead, the SWAC subcommittee directed staff to draft a statement that the BOCC could use as submitted or in edited form to inform residential trash customers living in unincorporated Ada County that the only plastics that could be placed in curbside recycling carts are those that are not considered “prohibitives” (i.e. milk jugs, pop/soda bottles, fruit juice bottles and jugs, and detergent jugs).***

VII. Other Business

Catherine Chertudi and Rachele Klein visited a company in Utah (Renewology, formerly PK Clean) that is involved in the processing of plastic into synthetic diesel fuel. If this process proves to be viable, it may provide a market for the “prohibitives” that are causing issues with the recyclable material being shipped to China.

VIII. Next Meeting Date

December 11, 2017

IX. Adjournment