

Meeting Minutes

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

12:30 PM

6th Floor Boardroom
625 Fisgard St.
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

PRESENT:

T. Daliran, B. Isitt (Chair), D. Laing, A. Lawson, A. Meisen, D. Monsour, J. Shaw, R. Tooke, C. Tuggle, S. Wiebe, J. Walker, Melissa Nielsen (Tetra Tech), Wilbert Yang (Tetra Tech)

STAFF: A. Bergner, Planner, ERM; A. Chambers, Senior Administrative Secretary, ERM (Recorder); W. Dunn, Program Coordinator, ERM; L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services, M. Tromp-Hoover, Supervisor, Communication & Education Development;

REGRETS:

N. Ariff, J. Hillis, K. King, M. Kurschner, E. Latta, T. Maler, R. Speller, J. Squier, G. Tulloch, S. Young Jr. (Vice Chair), R. Smith, Senior Manager, Environmental Resource Management (ERM); T. Watkins, Manager, Policy & Planning (ERM)

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda

Agenda for the April 9, 2019 Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes from the March 12, 2019 Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting.

3. Chair's Remarks

Don Elliot has replaced Sue Hallatt as the Manager of First Nations Relations, we welcome him to the Capital Regional District (CRD) and look forward to his involvement with this committee.

Rachel Speller was appointed by the CRD Board as the new representative for the Department of National Defense.

Jim Walker will be attending today on behalf of Kelly King for Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

In March, we advertised for a representative from the District of Highlands, to date no applications have been received and that position remains vacant.

We are currently advertising for the vacant position of a public representative. The deadline for submissions is April 15. We have received several applications to date. The position will be appointed by the CRD Board and the new member will join the committee once appointed.

4. Solid Waste Management Planning Process –Status Update

A. Bergner provided an update on the solid waste management planning process. We are in stage three and are working on the development of going from the long list to the short list of options. The options and strategies that we have been discussing and developing have been focussed on the first 3R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle). There are two other initiatives happening concurrently that relate to landfill gas utilization and organics processing, we are awaiting direction from the CRD Board on the next steps, L. Hutcheson will provide an update. Our next steps will be to discuss the fill plan as part of residuals management, as well as the financial model. We issued a Request for Proposals for communications and consultation services. The appointed consultant will be preparing consultation materials and will work toward a public consultation date in the fall of 2019.

5. Strategy Evaluation for the Solid Waste Management Plan

Staff Report: Strategy Evaluation for the Solid Waste Management Plan: A. Bergner introduced the staff report and the technical memorandum.

A member requested to clarify whether the strategies on page 4, section 3.1 included the 5 Rs of Reduction/Reuse, Recycling and Recovery/Residuals Management

A. Bergner advised that the strategies are viewed through the 5R lens as required by the Provincial Guide. The consultant will revise the graphic accordingly.

A member suggested to look at what waste generation in future years looks like – as it stands, the memo does not capture it. The document seems quite generic and could apply to any city of a larger size. It may be beneficial to look at other countries, like Sweden. There are also opportunities to consider collaboration with local municipalities/regional districts.

A. Bergner acknowledged the importance of future waste generation trends which will be considered during the residual management discussion. There are similar solid waste challenges and opportunities faced by other communities of a similar scale. One way that regional districts are currently collaborating on waste management approaches is through the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities.

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee received the staff report and memorandum for information.

Presentation – Preliminary Strategies: Tetra Tech staff presented the proposed strategies and planning process and how we have refined the strategies. There will be a group breakout session after the presentation and we will finish with a dot-mocracy exercise.

This meeting is to make sure that we talk about the strategies and that these are the ones we will be moving forward with to be included in the Solid Waste Management Plan

and to gain an understanding of priorities. This is our fourth meeting to discuss and present strategies. There is one more session to follow after today.

The following points were raised by SWAC members:

- Environmental sustainability should be captured as a goal.
- Is the funding applied to education enough?
- Research and collaboration should be included throughout the process.
- Add that reusable materials should be used (i.e. crushed glass for backfilling)
- Advocate to the Province to expand Extended Producer Responsibility programs
- Illegal dumping is already an issue, if tipping fees increase, this would become a concern.

Group Exercise: The committee split into three groups to discuss Reduction and Reuse, and Recycling and to comment on the scoring done by Tetra Tech. Flip chart notes from the group discussion are provided in Appendix A.

6. Update on Status of Organics Processing and Landfill Gas Utilization Staff Reports

L. Hutcheson introduced herself to the group. The Board has asked CRD staff to forward the two initiatives to SWAC for comment once staff have had conversations with Fortis to get a sense of what the business case would be for renewable natural gas. This will also allow BC Hydro to complete a comprehensive review, and will then allow a definitive decision to be made. With regards to composting versus anaerobic digestion and which way to move forward, the Board has asked staff to go back to committee with more information on the nutrient value of anaerobic digestate versus compost, the markets on compost, more information on the facilities in the Cowichan Valley Regional District and Surrey. Once a referral is made, the reports will be brought to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for input.

7. Next Meetings

The next meeting will be May 14, 2019 and will take place at CRD Headquarters, 625 Fisgard Street in the Boardroom from 12:30pm to 3:00pm.

8. Closing Comments

B. Isitt thanked everyone for their engagement. There were no further closing comments

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05pm.

10. Dot-mocracy

Several members stayed after the meeting was adjourned to complete the dot-mocracy exercise.

APPENDIX A

Melanie Tromp-Hoover

Reduction and Reuse

Support Reuse Activities in the Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find alternative location for Freestore (vs. Hartland)
Support Local Governments in Working Towards Zero Waste and a Circular Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barcode garbage totes/track bins (pay what you throw)

Recycling

Increase Multi-Family Diversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differentiate between owners (that cover their own costs) and renters (better target for education)
Increase ICI Diversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many are choosing to throw away reusable items • Munis to demand waste management plan as part of business licensing
Support Existing and New EPR Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost issue: significant investment to educate/enforce at the source vs. the hauler • Bylaw enforcement/compliance with waste management plan • Resource intensive
Increase Organics Diversion and Processing Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICI major contributor • May be moot depending on RFEOI?
Increase CR&D Material Diversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste management plan to get demolition permit • Education needed – what banned and why? • Analysis required to determine actual demand for diverted material (and what picture yet Re: Sooke) • Unintended consequences Re: green builders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase ICI Diversion • Increase Organics Diversion and Processing Capacity • Increase CR&D Material Diversion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These three headings are best bang for buck

Score

- Show specific criteria/calculation breakdown in future communications
- Simple numerics not expository enough
- Just because it is easy doesn't mean it is a priority re: feasibility measure
- Question value in applying quantitative numbers to qualitative measures
- Value in aggregating scores into one single number versus breakdown between criteria?

Cost Considerations

- Seems premature, these should be aligned with numerical targets
- Relate costs to actual reduction targets
- All costs seem unrealistically low, arbitrary

Continue and Enhance Policy Development (Reduce and Reuse) and Increase MF Diversion (Recycle) may be in conflict depending on how licensing process is handled.

Anke Bergner

Reduction and Reuse

Continue and Enhance Education Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show current \$ spent on education • Allocate more \$ for startup of new education programs, then level it out • Change the scoring to high (16)
Encourage Waste Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change text to make it clear the \$50,000 annual grant applies to all materials
Support Reuse Activities in the Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue funding to non-profits • Free Store – the strategy calls to investigate free stores. It would cost \$ to establish a free store and monitor activities.
Support Local Governments in Working Towards Zero Waste and a Circular Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buy back – should apply to more places • Establishing markets is important • Explore more options for reuse of recyclable materials e.g. glass as fill
Continue and Enhance Policy Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensing – is there group support from SWAC to license? • What should we recommend?

Recycling

Increase Multi-Family Diversion Increase ICI Diversion Increase Residential Diversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding: for first year the funding should be higher – it takes more effort and is more intensive to create new programs
Encourage Proper Public Space Waste Management Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$20,000 is not enough • There may be opportunities to ask for funding from municipalities

Wendy Dunn

Reduction and Reuse

- Provide background for costs (context) for all strategies

Continue and Enhance Education Programs	<p>Additional opportunities to connect and engage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge network • PBS • Food Network • YouTube
Support Reduction of Avoidable Food Waste	<p>Additional opportunities to connect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food safe/Health Inspections • Green Table Network

Recycling

Increase CR&D Material Diversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great potential • Huge priority • Should score high for social
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