



Josephine County
Solid Waste Agency

**JOSEPHINE COUNTY / CITY OF GRANTS PASS
SOLID WASTE AGENCY
MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2020**

Meeting convened at 3:02 p.m.

Agency Board Members Present:

Rob Brandes - Chair
Rick Riker
Lora Glover
Kyrria Sevco
Connie Roach
Justin Fimbres

Agency Board Members Absent:

Steve Bethke
Travis Robbins

Others:

Trent Carpenter, Southern Oregon Sanitation
Chris Wilson, Republic Services
Dave Marland, Master Recycler
Lane Lange, Budget Committee
Thomas Peterson, Solid Waste Specialist for the County
Shawn Edmonds, Republic Services
Julie Jackson, Republic Services
Nick Fahey, Southern Oregon Sanitation
Mike Webber, Josephine County Public Health

Staff: Jason Canady, Operations Officer
Dianne Phelan, Minute Recorder

Rob Brandes called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. There was a quorum and the meeting proceeded.

1. Public Comment (1:31 – 1:50)

No comments from the public.

2. Introductions (0:17 – 1:30)

Rob Brandes asked the members and guests to introduce themselves.

3. Approval of minutes from November 19, 2019 meeting. (1:51 – 2:23)

Lora Glover made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from November 19, 2019. Rick Riker seconded the motion. Motion approved 6-0.

4. Action Items

a. Funding Request from Josephine County Public Health (2:24 – 17:40)

Mike Webber, County Public Health Director stated that they have implemented the new Josephine County Solid Waste program requested last year and it has been phenomenal. He said Thomas Peterson is one of the people heading up the program. Thomas goes out in the field and works directly with the contractors and property owners to ensure that the properties get cleaned up. Mike asked if there were questions for him or Thomas. Rick Riker asked if they were able to use any of this money for seed money to get other funding for the projects. Mike said no, a portion of the funding does go to help fund the grant writer. Kyrrha Sevco asked about the increase in this year's request compared to last years. Mike stated that they are spending a lot of money to clean up the properties with the first cleanup being held in April 2019. Lora asked Thomas to tell the committee about some of the successes they have achieved this first year. Thomas stated that they have done 12 clean-ups with just over 2700 cubic yards of garbage, 60+ cars, and around 600 tires. They were able to do six drug shutdowns in the county. Mike said a lot of the success of this program isn't the direct clean-ups, it's the relationship with the community. They are receiving reports of problem properties from the community and have been responsive thus, community confidence has grown. Mike said they had around 780 open complaints that hadn't been touched in over a decade. They 600 to go. Mark Stevenson, Director of Community Development who oversees Planning and Code Enforcement, is requiring that every one of the previous complaints are reviewed. Mike said they have received 68 complaints in the last month and someone has gone out to every single one of those properties and engage with the property owner. Code Enforcement, Legal, and IT are part of the team as well. Mike commented that most properties that get complaints are resolved by the property owners. Lora stated that it would be great to get some of those statistics and even some photos because if we need to justify this in the future, it would show the positive impact as well as being a good selling point for the division. She suggested having this up on the County's website. Thomas stated that he has some before and after pictures that he can use. There was

discussion on using volunteers on these projects. There is an issue with liability and safety concerns. Thomas stated that most of the dump sites are on BLM land and we can't touch those. He is keeping a tally and at the end of the year he would like to show the data to BLM and ask for some help. He said they did get some support from the Railroad in Wolf Creek in the form of a Trespass letter so they can get people off the right of way. Thomas said they applied for a grant for remote cleanups from the DEQ that he didn't get. He is hoping next year when he can demonstrate program success along with data that he has better success. Jason stated that he was concerned that they don't rely on this grant in perpetuity. There are larger environmental issues that the group must address, such as the Merlin Landfill or Kerby. That is what the original intent of these funds. Jason stated that it might be wise to find an additional source of revenue. Lora motioned to approve the request from Josephine County for \$98,000.00 for the Solid Waste Program. Rob seconded the motion. Motion approved 6-0.

b. SOS MRF Signage (17:41 – 24:00)

Jason stated that Nick Fahey reached out to him inquiring whether or not the agency would be interested in having their logo on the MRF facility. Jason asked the committee for comments. Nick handed out a rough draft of the logo design. He is open to suggestions. Trent stated that to the DEQ the MRF is a whole different kind of operation, so they are changing the name to SOPAC since it is a processing and aggregation center. He said the logo would be on the building. They will check with City Planning on their sign code before proceeding.

c. Application for SWA Budget Committee opening (24:01 – 25:33)

Rob stated that the committee received one application for the two Budget Committee openings. The applicant is Tom Bradbeer. Jason stated that he would be a good asset to the Agency Budget Committee. Discussion followed. Connie motioned to accept Tom Bradbeer as a Budget Committee Member. Rick seconded the motion. Motion approved 6-0. Jason said we will re-advertise for the second position.

5. Matters from Agency Board and Staff

a. Managing Agency Items (25:34 – 34:13)

SOS MRF equipment update – Jason asked for an update on the project. Trent said all the equipment is in and they are running test loads to make sure everything is functioning properly. They are expecting to be complete with testing by the end of the month. They are waiting for good weather to do the paving. Lora suggested having Trent reach out to the City's Information Coordinator and putting an article in GP Now. Trent stated that with this new facility, they will now be able to handle all Southern Oregon's recycling. Jason suggested holding a tour in March. Trent

mentioned that they have a meeting room at the facility. He asked Jason to send him a couple of dates for the tour.

b. Agency Board Items (34:13- 34:22)

- None.

6. Agenda building for February 18, 2020 (34:23 – 37:10)

- a. Household Hazardous Waste Event. Jason said we are ready to close out the final report and get everything back to the Board. Rob talked about the email from the Paint Care folks asking for efficiencies in the area. They are focusing on how regularly we have pickups and the availability of drop sites. We have three sites and they tend to fill up quickly. Those sites are Miller, Glidden, and Sherwin Williams. Rob will send a reply. Trent said the date for this fall's HHW event will be September 18th & 19th at the Josephine County Fair Grounds.
- b. SWA Budget Meeting Schedule. Jason stated that it's budget time. We will have our first hearing in March and have the budget adopted by May.
- c. Trent mentioned possible rate increases for Josephine County, City of Grants Pass, and City of Cave Junction.
- d. Trent also mentioned having a discussion on CPI language.
- e. Trent suggested discussing transfer stations and the minimums, stating that they have not raised the rates at the transfer stations in 20 years.
- f. Kyrrha finalized all the changes in the Republic Services and Southern Oregon Sanitation agreements.

7. Adjournment (37:10 – 42:29)

Meeting adjourned 3:44 p.m.

Full meeting recording available at:

<https://www.grantspassoregon.gov/DocumentCenter/View/18858/Audio-File-SWA-Meeting---10152019>

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