

**Deschutes County Department of Solid Waste
Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)
November 15, 2022
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**



**SOLID
WASTE**

	Committee Members:				
*	Paul Bertagna City of Sisters		Jared Black Citizen at Large		Bill Duerden City of Redmond
	Luke Dynes Citizen at Large	*	Keith Kessarlis Citizen at Large		Cassie Lacy City of Bend
	Jake Obrist City of La Pine	*	Chris Ogren Citizen at Large	✓	Mike Riley The Environmental Center
✓	Ron Shearer Republic Services	✓	Erwin Swetnam Cascade Disposal	✓	Robin Vora Citizen at Large
	Consultant(s):				
✓C	Dwight Miller Parametrix, Inc.	✓C	Ryan Rudnick Parametrix, Inc.	C	Susanna Julber Barney & Worth, Inc.
	Staff:				
✓S	Tim Brownell Solid Waste Incoming Director	✓S	Chad Centola Solid Waste Director	*S	Sue Monette SW Management Analyst
✓S	Kristie Bollinger County Property Manager	*S	Shad Campbell IT Applications Manager	S	Peter Gutowsky Community Development Director
S	Nick Lelack County Administrator	S	Lee Randall Facilities Director	*S	Kimberly Riley Legal Counsel Assistant
S	Joe Sadony IT Director				
	Elected Official(s):				
✓E	Tony DeBone County Commissioner				
	Guest(s):	✓G	2	*G	4
✓	<i>Present at meeting</i>	*	<i>Videoconference</i>	C	<i>Consultant</i>
E	<i>Elected Official</i>	G	<i>Guest</i>	S	<i>Staff</i>

Decisions/Actions Taken by the Committee in Blue
Items Requiring Follow-up in Red

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chad Centola, Deschutes County Solid Waste Director.

1. Review/Approve Minutes: Chad Centola

Chad Centola asked for comments on the minutes from the September 20, 2022 meeting. A quorum was not present at the beginning of the meeting and a second motion was made at the end of the meeting once a quorum was in

attendance. [Action: Mike Riley made the motion and Robin Vora seconded to approve the minutes from the prior meeting. The committee unanimously approved the minutes as written.](#)

2. Public Comment: Chad Centola

No public comment was provided.

3. Analysis of Potential Recycling Stream Options: Chad Centola and Tim Brownell

Chad Centola gave an update on solid waste technology and diversion planning. The Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) provided direction to periodically review alternative technologies, and the County conducted a review earlier in 2022. Available technologies are still not viable due to cost or lack of maturity, or the fact that Deschutes County does not generate enough waste for them to be economically viable.

Robin Vora asked about food waste composting. Cascade Disposal and Republic Services both clarified they offer the service; however, participation has been limited. Robin inquired about a site way out near Hampton, and it not being convenient for the public to use for yard debris and other materials. Chad clarified that the services and facilities at Knott Landfill will continue for public use, including the fire free program.

Tim Brownell discussed plastic recovery: the State passed the Plastics Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act, and state will have a role in what type of plastics will be recyclable. Most control of recycling/ packaging/ stewardship at the state/ national level rather than local government.

Demand for compost has been slow, especially with the commercial sector. As such, there is an issue with Deschutes Recycling (the operator of the Knott compost facility) having a backlog of material at the site. The County is working with Republic Services and local partners to help with oversupply and demand issues. The agricultural market may be viable, but there are issues with how delivery occurs. Ryan Rudnick asked about other materials- glass, cardboard, etc. Tim Brownell noted the market is pretty depressed, it is a commodity and can swing quite a bit and is subject to variability quite often.

4. Broad Area Screening Update (Presentation): Dwight Miller

Dwight Miller summarized the siting process to date. The team has developed siting criteria, evaluated the exclusionary criteria, developed areas of interest, and applied the criteria to develop candidate sites for the application of Broad Area Screening – which is now 31 sites. The next step is anticipated to pare the list down to 8-12 sites for Focused Area Screening.

Dwight discussed the maps developed to date, including the Exclusionary Areas, Areas of Interest, and then presented the Broad Screen Sites map with 31 identified sites. Sites will be narrowed to 8-12 for the December SWAC meeting. Many of the 31 sites will fall off after additional criteria are applied. Particularly in south County, high groundwater will be evident once the team evaluates well logs and other factors, which sometimes does not show on available GIS layers.

Paul Bertagna asked about the potential sites near Sisters. Southwest of the Northwest Transfer Station, near Cloverdale, is a privately-owned area with a collection of 3-4 private holdings. Dwight emphasized we don't want to identify parcel level right now, keep it broader because many will fall from consideration.

Kristie Bollinger asked about BLM communications. Chad verified that most Zone 3 (disposal) parcels were too small and not configured appropriately for use, or they were within our exclusionary zones. The team had looked at land for exchange, sale, and disposition from the BLM, but were not successful.

Robin asked about potentially keeping a farther distance from cities because of future Urban Growth Boundary Expansions. Dwight explained that distance from urban centers is considered in the evaluation criteria scoring. Robin brought up potential wildlife impacts. Most of the sites are within mule deer habitat. He recommended talking to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) about which areas are more important than others for mule deer. He noted that a landfill near existing or potential sage-grouse habitat will attract far ranging avian predators of sage-grouse and so impact sage-grouse core habitat that may be several miles from a landfill. He commented that this will be an issue with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFW) and ODFW, especially the easterly sites near Hampton. He said the Millican area is presently degraded sage-grouse habitat that could be restored. He recommended staying away from Hwy 97 due to ice, etc. Sites way east may be too far out too for transportation.

Dwight clarified that mule deer and wildlife is a scoring criterion. Linda Swearingen recommended evaluating each site for mitigation and developing portions of the site.

Keith Kessarais asked about distance to population and distance from waste site: are the sites out near Hampton still realistic? Chad clarified that transportation distance is still a criteria, and these floated up at this level of screening. At the next step, these may fall off the list.

Dwight clarified that when we get down to Focused Area Screening, we'll be doing more cost analysis and operating costs on the specific sites. Ultimately part of the scoring for those final 3-5 sites.

Chad reminded the Committee that one of our intents here is to show the community a careful and comprehensive screening process to get down to the finalist sites.

Timm Schimke noted that we had 3 landowners approach the Department of Solid Waste to ask about their site being considered. He recommended that we have a process to reach out to them and explain why they dropped off.

In December we'll be releasing a list of parcels, so we'll be reaching out to owners prior to the December meeting.

Cost is outside of the criteria but will be part of the final decision. Also, some of the sites may be quite large and details about where on the site the facility would be developed will be considered.

Ryan Rudnick explained the individual site scoring sheet and process, which involves analyzing each site against the siting criteria and how each of them are weighted within the 3 criteria categories – Site Characteristics/ Engineering, Natural Environments, and Land Use.

Robin raised concern about the categories and weighting criteria. There may be sites that don't work, but may still score okay. Chad agreed, some of the south county sites may have groundwater challenges and east sites may just be too far, or have limitations we know won't work. Those factors will come up in the focused screening step. Dwight explained that through this process you still have the sites that make the most sense.

Dwight reminded the group that at the exclusionary zone level, many sites that have natural resource benefits fell out of consideration.

5. Communications Update: Dwight Miller

A presentation slide highlighted the communications update.

- Developing Project Story Map

- Will communicate with neighbors of sites remaining after broad-site screening-prior to December SWAC meeting
- BOCC update on project-likely early 2023
- Continuing to identify outreach opportunities to share Solid Waste Department information
- Open House in April 2023, following March SWAC meeting when finalist sites are shared

Mike Riley mentioned we should get a meeting scheduled with the Central Oregon Conservation Network (COCN) to show them the 12-15 sites.

Guest Linda Swearingen asked if we want to think about eminent domain. Will the County be doing that? Commissioner Tony DeBone explained that this would be a historic benefit to the County and hadn't thought about condemning property/ eminent domain. We're trying to work with the sites out there with property owners that are interested. Timm Schimke noted that we probably have enough attractive sites without having to do condemnation.

6. Next Steps: Dwight Miller

The team will prepare for the SWAC meeting in December – focused area screening with 8-12 sites.

7. Adjourn: Chad Centola

Next Committee Meeting: SWAC Advisory Group meetings will be held the 3rd Tuesday of each month virtually or at the Deschutes County Road Department (61150 SE 27th St., Bend, OR 97702) from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. The next Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting is **December 20, 2022 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.**

Meeting Adjourned: 10:24 a.m.