

Deschutes County Department of Solid Waste
Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)
January 17, 2023
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	Stephanie Marshall Legal Counsel Assistant	*S	Lee Randall Facilities Director
S	Kimberly Riley Legal Counsel Assistant	S	Joe Sadony IT Director		
	Elected Official(s):				
*E	Patti Adair County Commissioner	*E	Ed Finch City of Redmond Mayor		
	Guest(s):	✓G	135	*G	60
✓	<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 9:00 a.m. by Chad Centola, Deschutes County Solid Waste Director.

- 1. Introductions/Welcome:** Chad Centola
Chad Centola welcomed the group and reviewed the list of Committee members in attendance.
- 2. Review/Approve Minutes:** Chad Centola

Chad Centola asked for comments on the minutes from the December 20, 2022 meeting. Robin Vora submitted written comments to reflect, "He wonders about the State-owned lands and BLM owned parcels being controversial and asked if we could take the sites near Hampton out of consideration now." This is a change from Milican to Hampton.

Action: Robin Vora made the motion and Erwin Swetnam seconded to approve the minutes from the prior meeting with the inclusion of Robin Vora's comment. The committee unanimously approved the minutes as amended.

Tim Brownell provided some opening comments welcoming and thanking the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) members for their time and efforts in the process, to the public who were in attendance, and those that provided comments.

Some background information was provided on the prior SWAC efforts used to examine the solid waste management system with the development of the Solid Waste Management Plan. Among the variety of recommendations that were approved, in addition to substantial increases in waste reduction and recycling/recovery, was the recommendation to site a new landfill that could meet the needs of the County for at least the next 100 years.

Tim outlined the charge of the SWAC is to conduct a process to review and determine the technically viable sites within the County that could meet that need using the guidelines. The sites under current consideration initially meet the qualifying technical considerations in the broad screening process and will now go through a finer process to see if those initial findings and/or assumptions are in fact correct. Parcel owners of any remaining sites not owned by the County are being contacted to determine their interest or willingness to continue to participate in the process.

The concerns with the facility being located near where residents live are understandable and understood. Proximity is a public policy issue that this committee and process can hear and document, but is an issue that will need to be addressed in a different part of the process under permitting, or addressed by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to give different direction to this committee in regards to public policy pertaining to proximity to households, groundwater wells, recreations areas wildlife habitat or other areas of impact that they have policy oversight of.

This is a committee process that is not governed in the same manner as a formal land-use and permitting process. Within the next two months, this committee will be providing recommendations to the BOCC on how to potentially move forward with a few selective sites. Those sites will be investigated further to determine which one site is best suited to meet the needs of the County for the next 100 years. At that time, the formal public process will begin in regards to permitting and land-use. We anticipate that we are still approximately 15-18 months away from that part of the process.

Tim mentioned having between 30-60 minutes for members of the public to provide comments. Based on the number of people in attendance, both in person and online, it was noted they may not be able to provide the opportunity for everyone to speak. Chad and Tim would have that afternoon or could schedule something thereafter in case someone did not get the opportunity to speak in the meeting. It was suggested written comments be submitted. Comments can be emailed to managethefuture@deshutescounty.gov. All written comments are provided to the SWAC and County Commissioners. Any verbal comments received will be part of the recorded record of these meetings, but they will not be transcribed and submitted in writing to those mentioned before.

Tim closed by thanking everyone for their time today.

Chad Centola addressed a recurring comment coming in regarding Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Advisory Circular 150/5200-34-A. Back in December 2021, the FAA was consulted regarding that advisory, specifically around the Bend and Redmond airports. The FAA advised neither airport qualified under that advisory and were not subject to the AIR 21 six-mile radius siting exclusion. The FAA was recently contacted again to see if that position has changed and are awaiting a response.

Based on the number of people that requested to provide public comment, Chad calculated that each person would have about 3 minutes to speak during the Public Comments portion of the meeting.

3. Focused Site Screening Update: Ryan Rudnick

Ryan Rudnick provided a focused site screening update. Parametrix is taking a second look at the scoring for the 13 sites. Largely what is occurring over the last month is receiving and reviewing all the public input and concerns – addressing and researching those concerns. In addition, having conversations with other agencies such as BLM, Redmond airport, and property owners to determine acquisition potential of identified sites.

4. Efforts on possible acquisition of BLM land: Chad Centola

Chad Centola presented an overview of the BLM land acquisition process. In 2018/2019, during the development of the Solid Waste Management Plan, his predecessor and the County Administrator met with the BLM on the possibility of acquiring land the BLM has identified for disposal (term BLM uses for passing land on to other agency ownership). There were no viable sites so the process stopped at that point.

In the past few months, Chad has been looking at land and been in discussions with BLM as well as Commissioner Chang. The sites BLM has identified as available for disposal or conveyance fell out of consideration due to fatal flaws or size. Commissioner Phil Chang will be meeting with Senator Wyden in February to discuss other parcels BLM might have available.

The conveyance process takes 6 to 10 or more years to get accomplished and will not work within our timeline. We are hoping Commissioner Chang will be successful in getting the process to move a little more quickly as well as identifying additional parcels the BLM might allow the County to acquire.

A question was asked about one of the existing 13 sites being BLM. One of the sites includes a portion of BLM to make the shape more desirable, but the acreage is still acceptable without the BLM acquisition.

5. Comments received- overview and distribution: Ryan Rudnick

Ryan Rudnick displayed a Word Cloud summary of all the public comments submitted through 1/9/23. The visual demonstrates the recurrence of themes by the scale of the words. A document was also uploaded to the County website that summarizes the comments received, sites related to, and concerns in a tabular form and includes all of the individual submittals. He proceeded to review the Word Cloud summary for individual sites that have received the majority of the public comments and concerns.

6. Next Steps: Ryan Rudnick

Ryan Rudnick highlighted the next steps outlined in the presentation slide.

- Focused screening of 12 candidate SWMF sites
 - Gather additional data and score according to focused siting criteria
 - Operations & Cost evaluation
- March 2023: 3-5 sites identified for which more extensive evaluation and analysis will be conducted over the following year
- Spring 2024: SWAC recommends preferred SWMF site for BOCC consideration

- Community outreach (near-term)
 - SWAC Meeting February 21 – focused screening updates and public comments
 - SWAC Meeting March 21 – focused screening results
 - Open House on April 6

Chad Centola mentioned that public comments will be taken to the Board of County Commissioners in the next couple of weeks.

Ryan commented that a Story Map is slated for publication in the next few weeks with a link included on the County website. It will provide visuals of the sites, process, as well as frequently asked questions.

7. **Public Comment:** Chad Centola

Public comments are available in the meeting recording. Following is a list of individuals that provided verbal comments.

- Liz Dixon
- Lisa Machnik
- Daniel Baca
- Bret Matteis
- Tom Diamond
- James Bouziane
- Dr. Keith Harless
- Matthew Hyman
- Amanda Gylling
- Lee Goodrich
- Scott Goodrich
- Steve Payer
- Steve Wright
- Rick Christian
- Steve Greatwood
- Shuey
- Bob Schuur
- Dr. Richard Bochner
- David Cheney
- Laurel Lallman
- Craig Miller
- Dale Peterson

Robin Vora asked if there was anyone else interested in talking about other sites that hadn't already been discussed, such as in Redmond. A guest asked if the tribal Indians have been notified and if we have received a response from them. Chad Centola responded we have reached out to all the tribal representatives and not received responses.

Robin asked if we have received comments for Redmond in which Chad replied no comments have been received. Chad mentioned having met with the airport and the need to follow up with them on issues and questions. Mike Riley recalled comments at the last SWAC meeting around the Redmond site being adjacent to the urban reserve for Redmond. Chad clarified this was an internal discussion and an official comment has not been received.

Robin suggested having a sheet explaining why the ~453 acres site south of town was not considered. For residential distance, he recommends having maps that identify each site with circles going out ¼, ½, ¾ and 1 mile showing the

residences for use as an analytical tool. Include Knott Landfill for comparison and document the problems Knott Landfill has related to distance. Relating to ground water concerns, without further studies, he wondered if there is a way to prepare a technical summary with the existing information available. Mike summarized the water concerns addressed today relate to how the use of water at the landfill impacts surrounding wells. Robin expressed a desire for a bus tour of the sites.

Action: Chad and the consultants will prepare a recap of the screening sites.

A question was asked about the timeframe in the BLM process. Chad highlighted Commissioner Chang will be meeting with Senator Wyden in February to discuss the conveyance issue as the process takes 6 to 10 or more years. The guest wondered if we could extend the siting process beyond 7 years to accommodate the process. Chad responded an interim solution for our waste would be required, such as transporting out of County. Another guest asked if the Committee is looking at an interim plan, in which Chad replied we are not at this point but could as we continue down the path.

The public provided additional commentary.

8. Adjourn: Chad Centola

Next Committee Meeting: SWAC Advisory Group meetings will be held the 3rd Tuesday of each month virtually or at the Deschutes Services Building (1300 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR 97703) from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. The next Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting is **February 21, 2023 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.**

Meeting Adjourned: 11:22 a.m.