

Deschutes County Department of Solid Waste
Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)
February 21, 2023
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.



	Committee Members:				
*	Paul Bertagna		Jared Black		Luke Dynes
*	Jackson Dumanch, Alternate City of Sisters		Citizen at Large		Citizen at Large
	Ed Fitch	*	Keith Kessarlis	✓ *	Cassie Lacy
	John Roberts, Alternate City of Redmond		Citizen at Large		Robyn Jones, Alternate City of Bend
	Jake Obrist	✓	Chris Ogren	✓	Mike Riley
	City of La Pine		Citizen at Large		The Environmental Center
*	Erica Lindberg	✓	Erwin Swetnam	✓	Robin Vora
	Ron Shearer, Alternate Republic Services		Roman Guffy, Alternate Cascade Disposal		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				
	Guest(s):	✓G	18	*G	22
✓	<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. 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 January 17, 2023 meeting. [Action: Chris Ogren made the motion and Cassie Lacy seconded to approve the minutes from the prior meeting. The committee unanimously approved the minutes as written.](#)

3. Public Comment: Chad Centola

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

- Matthew Hyman
- Andrew Asaan
- Steve Wright
- Daniel Baca
- James Bouziane
- Frankie Watson
- Dennis Lallman
- Steve Payer
- Mike Miller

4. Potential Additional Sites: Chad Centola

Chad Centola gave an update on the discussions surrounding adding additional sites for consideration. County Commissioner Chang recently met with congressional representatives in Washington DC to discuss the possibility of the County acquiring BLM land through a streamlined process. If available, private properties adjacent to the BLM sites may be easier to acquire, which could allow for the more protracted BLM acquisition process to continue.

Robin Vora asked about looking at potential properties in Crook County, and whether the additional BLM properties have wells or other impediments. Chad Centola said that may be an issue, the BLM sites will warrant consideration and evaluation.

Mike Riley raised concerns about the ¼ mile distance from residences (per county code), which seems too close in proximity. Mike Riley asked that the committee consider a recommendation to the Commissioners to expand the ¼ mile buffer distance at some point, maybe even a mile.

Robin Vora asked about drawing maps around the remaining 3 sites with concentric polygons identifying residences. Chad Centola answered and said that Parametrix will be completing that task.

Action: Parametrix will prepare a recap of the screening sites.

Cassie Lacy asked about the process to add Mike Riley's suggestion. Can SWAC make a recommendation now, or go to the BOCC with a final site recommendation? Chad Centola indicated that a recommendation could be made to the County Commissioners to adopt a mile setback, rather than the ¼ mile setback established by County Code. Mike Riley suggested that when making site recommendations, the SWAC could present rationale for a greater distance being given consideration.

Cassie Lacy added that density of residences should also be considered.

An audience member asked about the Crook County's landfill. Chad Centola said they'd talked to Crook County about a regional facility, but they weren't interested, but may offer a short-term temporary solution for Deschutes County.

A question was asked about health risks to property owners adjacent to landfills and changing the code to require a waiver for adjacent property owners. County legal Counsel explained the process and procedure to go through to change County Code.

Robin Vora asked about the Rose Pit. Chad Centola clarified that the site does not meet minimum size requirements, has a Bonneville Power Administration power line traversing the center of the parcel, is too close to private wells and the Code requirement for a ¼ mile setback for landfills from public roads substantially reduces the functional area of the property.

Mike Riley asked if extending the life of Knott Landfill is an option. Chad Centola clarified that the County made a decision to limit the height of Knott Landfill to what was then the maximum building height in the City of Bend. Additionally, that height preserves neighboring property owners' views of the Cascade Mountains. The possibility of a vertical expansion may have to be considered if the siting process is stalled.

Chris Ogren asked about Crook County's potential to take some of Deschutes's waste for a limited time. Timm Schimke, former Deschutes County Solid Waste Director, explained that the discussion was with regards to possibly diverting waste from Redmond for a period of time.

Timm Schimke talked about the importance and value of a large buffer. Even with a landfill, there may be opportunities to increase recreational opportunities within the buffer. It could be parking to support recreation, trailheads, landing spot for recreation, etc.

Dwight Miller with Parametrix reminded the Committee about the criteria regarding distance to residences does address proximity to some extent through the scoring gradation.

5. Focused Site Screening Update: Chad Centola and Ryan Rudnick

Chad Centola and project engineer Ryan Rudnick showed the list of remaining sites, and explained opportunities and challenges with each of the remaining seven sites. There are two sites owned by Division of State Lands which are likely to drop off because of long-term grazing leases, and two owned by GI Ranch that may drop off because the property owner is likely not interested. The remaining sites- Golden Basin, Roth properties, and the Moon Pit will likely be the sites remaining to conduct focused screening.

Robin Vora brought up impacts to nearby wilderness, and to the Badlands and Dry Creek Canyon trailheads. Mitigation, such as berming, noise barriers, litter control and fencing will would be important. He said the Golden Basin and Millican sites would impact sage-grouse because they would be attractants to avian predators of sage-grouse.

6. Communications Update: Susanna Julber

Project team member Susanna Julber provided an update on communications. The Department of Solid Waste has communicated with over 400 interested parties via email, and new information on sites from public input and stakeholder engagement has been helpful in paring down the list of sites. The County is engaging ODFW and USFW in more detailed conversations.

Cassie Lacy raised the importance of keeping the number of potential sites still under consideration clear.

The Committee discussed timing for recommending a finalist site, and when the best time for a public open house would be. The Committee discussed possibly delaying the Open House, when more detailed site evaluation information would be available. The project team will consider timing and report back to the SWAC at the next meeting.

7. Next Steps: Chad Centola

Solid Waste will look into arranging site visits in the coming weeks.

Results of focused screening will be compiled and presented to the SWAC at the March meeting.

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 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 **March 21, 2023 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.**

Meeting Adjourned: 11:26 a.m.