

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



	Committee Members:				
*	Paul Bertagna Jackson Dumanch, Alternate City of Sisters	*	Jared Black Citizen at Large	✓	Luke Dynes Citizen at Large
	Ed Fitch John Roberts, Alternate City of Redmond	✓	Keith Kessariss Citizen at Large	✓ *	Cassie Lacy Robyn Jones, Alternate City of Bend
✓	Erica Lindberg Ron Shearer, Alternate Republic Services	✓	Chris Ogren Citizen at Large		Mike Riley The Environmental Center
✓	Erwin Swetnam Roman Guffy, Alternate Cascade Disposal	✓	Robin Vora Citizen at Large		
	Consultant(s):				
✓C	Dwight Miller Parametrix, Inc.	✓C	Ryan Rudnick Parametrix, Inc.	✓C	Susanna Julber Conсор
	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				
	Elected Official(s):				
E					
	Guest(s):	✓G	25	*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 9:13 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 February 2023 meetings. Robin Vora submitted comments to have the February 21st item 5 Focused Site Screening Update reflect, “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.”

Action: Chris Ogren made the motion and Erwin Swetnam seconded to approve the February 7th and February 21st minutes with the inclusion of Robin Vora’s comment. The committee unanimously approved the minutes as amended.

3. Rose Pit Site Discussion: Chad Centola

Chad Centola showed the map and discussed the challenges with the Rose Pit site as a potentially viable site for the new Solid Waste Management Facility. The site is encumbered with a Bonneville Power Administration Transmission line, a Zoning-required ¼ mile setback from public roads which bound 3 sides of the property, and domestic water wells. All the encumbrances on the property renders it too small and not a viable site. Robin Vora inquired about using the existing Knott Landfill in combination of the Rose Pit. Chad Centola explained that even with combining the two sites, it would still be less than 200 acres and would impact private properties adjacent to the site. Additionally, the DEQ would view it as a new facility requiring a new permit.

4. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Site Acquisition Update: Chad Centola

Chad Centola provided an update of the BLM Process, and recent conversations with the BLM to add sites on Hwy. 97 near the existing solar farm, Hwy. 20 off Stookey Flats Road, and a potential site off Powell Butte Highway. As the BLM requested that focusing on a single site would be the preferred approach, the discussion focused on the Hwy. 97 site. That site is the most attractive of the three, and local BLM were supportive of exploring the site as a potential Solid Waste Management Facility option.

On the Hwy. 97 site, the County owns property adjacent, which is partly encumbered by the 5-mile FAA restriction. The proposed site includes BLM Zone 1 and 3 tenure parcels. BLM estimates it would be 6-10 years to acquire the property through the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, and there is the potential for a legislative process that may expedite the acquisition of the parcels. Chad Centola explained that all Oregon senators and house members would need to support the acquisition, and then the Senate and House would need to approve it. It may be a quicker process- perhaps one year, but there are many unknowns. The County will be pursuing this, and in the meantime will continue with the other sites we are considering.

Cassie Lacy asked if detailed evaluation of the potential BLM site could begin, or if we need to wait till it is determined to be a more viable option. Chad Centola answered that the Parametrix team will proceed with the analysis that has been done to date for broad and focused screening, but any on-site investigations would have to wait. Chad Centola hopes within a year time that they would have a firm understanding of the viability of the site, and in the meantime, the County needs to keep moving forward on the other sites. The BLM site is roughly 1-1.5 miles southwest of Pronghorn Resort. With the Recycling Modernization Act, the County is looking at material recovery operations including construction debris and comingle recyclables sorting and putting facilities like this in a central location like this has a lot of advantages, and supporting facilities would work within the 5-mile FAA exclusion buffer.

Chad Centola explained that the Stookey Flats/Hwy 20 site is Zone 1, so likely is not viable. Powell Butte Hwy is Zone 1 too, but it is close to Brasada Ranch and access is not as good as the Hwy 97 site. Additionally, the BLM advised

the County to focus on 1 site. Robin Vora recommended preparing a short write up on the 3 sites and how we narrowed to one BLM site, which the County will do.

Action: Chad Centola will prepare a summary write up of the BLM site selection process.

A guest provided comment on the rail option and the BLM site off of Hwy 20 may be suitable for rail transport. Timm Schimke, former Solid Waste Director, discussed past conversation with the railroad. Rail haul has appeal, but practical limitations too.

5. Focused Area Screening Results: Dwight Miller and Ryan Rudnick

Dwight Miller updated the group about the Focused Screening and went over the overview map with sites removed and updated. He explained that we are down to 5 sites essentially now: 2 Roth Sites, Moon Pit, and the 2 DSL Sites, which are encumbered by leased grazing rights and wildlife conservation agreements.

Ryan Rudnick explained characteristics of the Moon Pit Site.

- Existing surface mine site
- Onsite industrial wells
- Paved Rd from highway 20
- Deep groundwater ~1000' BGS
- Owner willing to lease land for SWMF operations
- 0 residences within 1 mile
- 1 residence within 2 miles
- Potential for landfill cells to be excavated by gravel mining operations

There are potential zoning issues that may be challenging. Not a fatal flaw at the moment, but would need to discuss further with Community Development and Hooker Creek.

Ryan touched on the considerations for the Roth West Site.

- Parcel area: 1,783 acres
- Owner is interested in selling
- Within Millican Valley / Plateau
- Within Low Density Sage Grouse Habitat Area
- Variety of recreational uses in broad vicinity
- 3 residences within 1 mile
- 26 residences within 2 miles
- Highly visible from Hwy 20 and Pine Mountain access road
- 28 miles from waste centroid

The Roth East Site considerations include:

- Parcel area: 1,783 acres
- Owner is interested in selling
- Within Millican Valley / Plateau
- Within Low Density Sage Grouse Habitat Area
- Variety of recreational uses in broad vicinity
- 3 residences within 1 mile
- 26 residences within 2 miles
- Highly visible from Hwy 20 and Pine Mountain access road
- 28 miles from waste centroid

Chris Ogren asked about the public opposition to the Roth sites. Chad Centola confirmed that yes, we've received comments in opposition to both sites. Steven Payne, representing the Roths, clarified the locations of wells on and near the Roth properties.

The considerations for the DSL South Site were reviewed.

- Acquisition Potential is challenging due to ownership by Division of State Lands (DSL)
- Property encumbered by existing grazing land leases
- Property area is 625 acres
- Access easement required for truck access from Hwy 20
- 0 residences within 1 mile
- 1 residence within 2 miles
- No known existing wells or water rights onsite
- Powerline along Highway 20
- 52-56 miles from waste centroid

DSL North Site factors include:

- Acquisition Potential is challenging due to ownership by Division of State Lands (DSL)
- Property encumbered by existing grazing land leases
- Property area is 625 acres
- Access easement required for truck access from Hwy 20
- 0 residences within 1 mile
- 1 residence within 2 miles
- No known existing wells or water rights onsite
- Powerline along Highway 20
- 52-56 miles from waste centroid

Ryan Rudnick explained that if the Committee is favorable with moving forward with a DSL site, it might be beneficial to have a broader discussion with DSL about a number of parcels.

Keith Kessarlis asked about the process length with DSL and the BLM. Chad Centola explained that working with DSL would likely be a shorter timeline, but still potentially complicated.

Ryan Rudnick provided Focused Site Scoring Results on the different sites. The DSL North Site is best in natural environment; Roth East is best for land use. Dwight Miller explained that scoring is a tool for us to compare different sites, but it is one tool and lens to present our findings and compare sites. Robin Vora expressed his concern about the scoring and it being useful, and thinks the scoring with so many factors may mask the major advantages and disadvantages of each site.

Five major cost factors were identified, which influence the costs to develop and operate a solid waste management facility. Ryan Rudnick explained that the costs include excavation costs, haul costs, road infrastructure, power infrastructure, water infrastructure, but does not include the land acquisition costs. Excavation is the number one cost of a landfill. Liners, etc. are the same for each site so they didn't consider it.

Timm Schimke mentioned the importance of the soils for operations and maintenance, which will be done at a later analysis. Excavation captures some of that. Geophysics studies in the next phase will evaluate soil coverage potential and supply in more detailed.

Chad Centola mentioned we are considering doing some of the analysis of the BLM site in the more focused screening.

Ryan Rudnick presented the Residential Proximity Analysis. It is well understood that a new solid waste management facility could negatively impact nearby residences. Unsurprisingly, residents and property owners near candidate sites have expressed opposition to the prospect of a new SWMF site near their homes. Concerns of nearby residents are generally that a new SWMF facility could have several adverse impacts within the vicinity, including:

- Haul truck traffic
- Noise
- Dust
- Air pollution
- Odors
- Litter
- Invasive species
- Groundwater contamination
- Scenic impacts
- Decreased property values

Ryan Rudnick went over the residential analysis for each of the remaining sites.

Robin Vora desired to add to the list of concerns by residents including comments on Pine Mountain Observatory, wildlife, and hang gliding, as nearby residents have listed those concerns. Chad acknowledged that residents do provide comments on impacts beyond those that affect a residence directly, but the slide in question presents those impacts submitted that directly affect residences.

6. Communications Update: Susanna Julber

Susanna Julber gave an update on communications and outreach. The Story Map is now live, and the County will send out a link to the interested parties list. Outreach is continuing as needed, and will be increased in the next phase of the project.

7. Public Comment: Chad Centola

Following is a list of individuals that provided verbal comments.

- Steve Wright
- Harrison Ruffin
- Steve Payer
- Jon Ashworth
- Patti Mayfield
- Frankie Watson
- Mike Manning

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 **April 18, 2023 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.**

Meeting Adjourned: 11:05 a.m.