

SAN JUAN COUNTY
SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
October 16, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Freeauf, Calvin Den Hartog, Michael Kaill, Edith deChadenedes, Francie Hansen, George Post, John Day, Tom Munsey

STAFF PRESENT: Ed Hale, Helen Venada, Mark Tompkins, Matt Zybas, Joy Lord

COUNCIL MEMBER: Kevin Ranker

CONSULTANTS: Gary Harshman of Environments (project manager), Todd Peterson of Norton-Arnold & Company (public involvement), Kathy Robertson of Pickett's Engineering (engineering services), Don Kehrer of Donovan Kehrer & Associates (planning services)

CITIZENS: Brian Endres, George Steed, Joel Clark, Jack & Marilyn Manon, Bob & Deanna Magley, Ron Shreve, Court Bell, Jean Shreve, Juniper Maas, Jim Cox, Lainey Volk, Dick Shorett, Bill Van Skyhawk, Thalia Shorett, Claudia Mills, Travis Smith, Janice Peterson, Mary WillAllen, Mitzi Johnson, Sean Moscer

MEDIA: Sharon Kivisto San Juan Islander, Jack Cory Island Guardian

Chairperson Mike Kaill called the meeting to order at 11:02 am at the Community Meeting Room of the Mullis Street Fire Station. A quorum was established. Mike asked all that were present to be courteous and nice. Minutes for the August 21st meeting were approved with no corrections.

REPORTS/UPDATES

FINANCIAL REPORT: The financial report was handed out to members at the meeting for their review along with charts showing solid waste generated by month, solid waste tipping revenues by month, and solid waste generated cumulative total.

UPDATES: Mike Kaill opened the meeting by expressing the committee's desire to have a facility that may not have all the services that are desired available right away, but that they want to make sure the site that is chosen can eventually accommodate all desired services.

Todd Peterson thanked everyone for attending and explained the process that has taken place so far in coming up with a proposed resolution to be made by the SWAC to the County Council. He stated that the purpose of this meeting is to ratify a recommendation about what level of solid waste services, this group that represents the community, will recommend to the County Council. He continued to explain that at this meeting they would not be dealing with "where the services will be provided, in terms of picking a site". That will be determined later. He stated the format for the meeting will be the

SWAC reviewing the proposed resolution, voting on it, then there would be some technical information about the site and if there are public comments they will be taken at the end.

Todd spoke about one of the responsibilities the community has is to have a facility that is environmentally safe and protects the public health. The beginning of the meeting would be dealing with a letter that San Juan County Solid Waste had received from the County Health and Community Service Department. Mark Tompkins, Manager of Environmental Health was introduced to give a review of the letter he wrote in September. The letter addressed the removal of the cover over the San Juan Island Transfer Station's tipping floor last November and continued operation on a temporary emergency basis while they revised the operation and maintenance plan for the facility. The letter said they had the operation maintenance plan but no long term solution was identified and no time line had been established. Public Works responded that they wanted to use a public process with the SWAC to assist the community in identifying the long term solution. Environmental Health went back to the Department of Ecology (DOE) who advised them that Public Works needs to submit for a variance to continue running the station without a cover over the tipping floor. If the variance is approved they have an additional year, until October 1, 2007 to operate the facility as is. Mark wanted the SWAC to know that DOE wants to know what the long term solution and time line are and Mark has explained the SWAC was working through that.

At this time Todd went through the findings by the SWAC which are attached to these minutes as part of the report to the County Council There was discussion on certain specifics and a few words changed. The findings were ratified.

[view at: <http://www.sanjuanco.com/transferstation/docs/transfersitedocs/swacreportoct162006.pdf>]

The committee then moved on to the conclusions. Discussion once again about some of the wording, a few changes were made. It was questioned whether the fourth paragraph in the conclusions was redundant. It was decided the paragraph was important and it was left in. George Post made a motion to agree that these are the conclusions, seconded by Mike Kaill, there was unanimous approval.

At this point the committee addressed the draft of the proposed recommendation. The proposal was projected on the wall so that everyone could see it and changes were made as they were discussed and agreed upon. A motion was made by George Post to accept identifying the rank order of importance for solid waste services, seconded by Edith deChadenedes, this motion was unanimously approved. George Post made a motion to ratify the recommendation as amended by discussion of the SWAC on October 16, 2006, John Day seconded, motion passed unanimously.

The committee and the public had been asking for some technical information on what a potential site could look like based on a need for CDL recycling, green waste recycling, reuse of building materials, and a composting facility. Kathy Robertson prepared those

requirements and presented them. A generic layout of facility coverage and a layout of facility coverage on the Town property were displayed. Kathy explained that facilities like green waste and composting require hard surfaces and wastewater storage tanks, plus

onsite treatment or piped/trucked off site to a wastewater treatment plant. The SWAC had several questions about green waste, food waste and CDL. There was a realization that green waste and composting are expensive processes and not easily recovered especially in a small community.

The floor was opened for public comment. Claudia Mills asked where the builders exchange fit into the plan and asked for confirmation that there is one on San Juan Island. Juniper Maas mentioned that these services are being provided now by people here so the emphasis of our effort should not be to duplicate the service that is already being provided. Mr. Penwell who owns Consignment Treasures said he doesn't see it as competition. It was also brought up that a lot of CDL cannot be reused for construction due to codes and grading. Discussion continued about the abundance of CDL and how to incorporate reuse for these items.

Sean Mercer suggested considering what is appropriate planning from the bottom up rather than saying here is the ideal site. Does the community want to stay at the old site possibly meaning that the list of things the community would like to do in terms of services, might not be fully doable or might not be doable at all there, or does the community want to look at a new site with all of the benefits and drawbacks, if that meant establishing a whole new area. He wanted to know what kind of outreach is going on to find out what the community wants.

Another comment addressed using incentives to motivate the behavior the community is looking for or to even out the use and mitigate the traffic.

Todd brought the meeting to a close explaining the next step. The recommendation will go to the County Council and then the SWAC will receive a response from the Council. The second step will be where the services will be offered. He emphasized that no individual group can make this decision alone, he encouraged everyone to continue to be involved.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.