



DAN JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BUILDING
150 BEAVERCREEK ROAD | OREGON CITY, OR 97045

AGENDA

SOLID WASTE COMMISSION MEETING

Date: Thursday, May 30, 2024

**Time: 4 pm
Room 301**

**Department of Transportation and Development
Development Services Building
150 Beaver Creek Rd
Oregon City OR 97045**

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Approve October 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes**
- 3. Annual Review of Solid Waste Collection system**
- 4. Public Comment**
- 5. Updates on Recycle+**
- 6. Updates on bulky waste programs**
- 7. General updates**

**Commissioners unable to attend, please contact:
Rick Winterhalter at (503) 742-4466 or rickw@clackamas.us**

MINUTES

SOLID WASTE COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, May 30, 2024

4:00 pm

Room 301

Department of Transportation and Development

Development Services Building

150 Beaver Creek Rd.

Oregon City, OR 97045

This meeting was recorded and can be found here:

<https://www.clackamas.us/recycling/solid-waste-commission>

Numbers in parenthesis, e.g. (0:03:06), are recording timestamps

Members Present-Quorum Established:

Chad Oyler (Zoom for first 30 minutes), William Potter, Carlton Paulmier, Will Mathias, Cheryl Bell, and Julie Hamilton

Staff (DTD Sustainability & Solid Waste): Rick Winterhalter, Tenille Beseda Fillwock, Sophie Richards, and Kate Taylor

Guests: Beth Vargas Duncan, Ellen Rogalin, Dan Blue, Dave Huber, Kris Wright, Josh Brown

Introductions (0:00:16) - Commissioners, staff, and guests introduce themselves

Annual Review of Solid Waste Collection System (00:01:52)

Rick Winterhalter gave an overview of the annual fee review process for setting fees for collection services, including review of 2023 financials and 2024 known increases (e.g., labor, tip fee, trucks, recycling processing costs, etc.).

Commissioners asked questions and discussion ensued

Question from Commissioner Potter: Can you clarify how the County franchise fee is assessed and how it is that they don't change?

Response from Rick Winterhalter: They will change relative to the increase that we're proposing. Franchise fee is based on collection revenues, so the regular monthly is at 5%. This is a stable percentage over time as a fixed percentage. So, the increase on the total bill at 5% keeps it relatively flat.

Question from Commissioner Potter: On the drop boxes, are those franchised by districts? Is it the same companies doing the pickups, do drop boxes in the same areas?

Response from Rick Winterhalter: Drop boxes are attached to the associated franchisee. Each collector provides the services in their area for cart, container and drop box. One exception is Bliss Sanitary as they contract with Waste Connections.

Questions from Chair Oyler: Why is there a change of \$3-4 million in the forecast revenue? Also, why did disposal cost go up?

Response from Rick Winterhalter: Will look into it and follow up with a response.

Staff Follow-up Response Post-Meeting: The composite from this year did not include drop box like the previous year. The summary being viewed for this review was just commercial and residential, and drop box was viewed separately. The previous year included all three in one composite. This accounts for the difference. In terms of rising disposal costs, Metro's disposal rate went up 11% (a significant increase historically) in 2023, so that accounts for the difference there.

Questions from Chair Oyler: Were depreciation costs represented as truck expenses? Also, were approximate dates used for when the trucks would be put into service?

Response from Rick Winterhalter: Yes, we did a survey of collectors and came up with a composite for a six-month period. Some trucks arrived in February and March and some are expected in quarter four or later. It is an estimate.

Question from Chair Oyler: Metro increased their rates in 2023 by what percentage? Are there any other indications that we'll see these double-digit increases year over year?

Response from Rick Winterhalter: Labor increases and getting to a living wage and cost of service have contributed. Increases should level out in the future, but we can't say for sure.

Response from Cheryl Bell: The Metro tip fee increased for 2023 by 11% and in 2024 it increased by 11.9%.

Public Comment (00:17:42)

Beth Vargas Duncan of Clackamas County Refuse and Recycling Association (CCRRA) provided public testimony relating to the annual rate review (see attachment).

Continued deliberation on Annual Review of Solid Waste Collection System

Motion to adopt Option 2: Commissioner Potter

Motion seconded by: Chair Oyler

Vote: 5-0-1 (Cheryl Bell abstained)

Motion: Passed

Updates on Recycle+ (00:23:51)

Kate Taylor provided a Recycle+ program summary.

Commissioners asked questions and conversation ensued.

Commissioner Potter asked about County advertisement of the program and asked if these numbers included the cities.

Chair Oyler asked if there was an option to survey the rural and mountain areas to see what the interest would be.

The numbers include most cities, but not all cities have opted for Recycle+. Current County advertisement is only via the website since the program is not available county-wide. Staff is concerned about route efficiencies and keeping the program to the urban core.

Chair Oyler hands over meeting facilitation to Vice Chair Potter and shortly leaves meeting.

Approve Past Meeting Minutes (0:33:16)

October 12, 2023 Minutes: Commissioner Potter proposed a correction to the motion on the last page of the October 12 meeting minutes, as only four commissioners were present, not six.

No Motion or vote after brief discussion of correction.

Updates on bulky waste programs (00:34:15)

Rick Winterhalter provided background information on state funding used for the bulky waste project, and Sophie Richards presented a summary. The PowerPoint and project report are available here: <https://www.clackamas.us/recycling/solid-waste-commission>.

Commissioners asked questions and conversation ensued.

Vice Chair Potter asked about sites, supervision, reuse, recycling, and household hazardous waste.

Commissioner Paulmier inquired about illegal dumping on the properties.

Staff worked to keep sites out of public view to prevent illegal dumping, and many maintenance folks worked to monitor the material when possible. Loose item collection seemed to be more streamlined in some ways than drop box and also allowed for more gleaning and reuse. Staff collected e-cycles and white goods outside of the drop box and some folks placed items for reuse outside of the boxes. Some household hazardous waste was found, and one property used the opportunity to collect paint separately. A property that was already challenged by illegal dumping saw an increase in activity and chose to stop participating after giving it a try.

General Updates (01:02:18)

None

Adjournment (01:02:39)

Motion to adjourn by: Commissioner Bell

Motion seconded by: Commissioner Hamilton

Vote: 5-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Clackamas County Refuse & Recycling Association

*Clackamas County Solid Waste Commission
Solid Waste and Recycling Rates
May 30, 2024*

Introduction - Good afternoon Members of the Commission,

I am Beth Vargas Duncan, Regional Director for Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association. In that capacity I represent the Clackamas County Refuse and Recycling Association (CCRRA) whose members provide solid waste and recycling collection services for Clackamas County. Every Clackamas County hauler providing garbage and recycling collection service is a member of CCRRA. Several of the CCRRA members are family companies, which is a point of pride in our industry.

CCRRA members are committed to their service to the people of Clackamas County and to meeting rigorous standards for health and safety. This commitment has been seen and felt during COVID, ice storms, and wildfires.

We have also been committed to our partnership with the county and this commission. Together we have built an efficient and progressive franchise waste collection program that assures that residents in the county have access to desired services no matter where they live. CCRRA's work reflects shared values with the communities we serve including equity and environmental protections and providing quality service to all residents at a reasonable cost. This brings me to the topic for today.

Rate Review – As you know CCRRA members are highly regulated by the county and each year we engage in a robust rate review process, which we support and is important for the integrity of the franchise system. And so, the people of Clackamas County know they are getting a service at a rate that is fair. Through this process:

- CCRRA, the county's garbage and recycling service haulers worked cooperatively with the county providing highly detailed financial information.
- The county's rate consultant reviewed the financial information and rates to determine cost of service and projecting known and measurable costs for the coming year. The haulers and county staff collectively discussed the calculations and projections ensuring accuracy for both the haulers and the ratepayers.
- CCRRA believes the rate review and setting process is fair with the right balance of independent review and transparency to assure reasonable rates for the haulers for their service and to the Clackamas County customers they serve.

We support the rate adjustments as presented by staff that allow for known increased costs.

Conclusion

Regardless of the challenges confronting us, whether it is COVID-19 or smoke-filled fires, over the decades CCRRA members have consistently worked in collaboration with the county and stakeholders to efficiently and effectively address challenges with sustainable results.

We ask that the Solid Waste Commission recommend the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners adopt the rates as presented by Clackamas County staff. We look forward to partnering further in the future and CCRRA appreciates the opportunity to serve Clackamas County. I am available to answer any questions.

Members of the Clackamas County Refuse and Recycling Association:

- Arrow Sanitary Service/Waste Connections
- B&B Leasing Company
- Bliss Sanitary Service
- Clackamas Garbage Company
- Dan Walker Disposal Service
- Hoodview Disposal and Recycling/Waste Connections
- Recology Clackamas
- Republic Services and
- WM