

TETON COUNTY INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE AND RECYLING (ISWR) ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes

July 6, 2017

Members Present: Don Baker, Phil Cameron, Lorie Cahn (phone), Andi Psmithe, Jess Wireman

Others Present: Carlin Girard, Teton Conservation District (TCD); John Harkness, Teton Village Water and Sewer District (TVSWD) board member; Dave Arentz, operator with TVWSD, Ahren Schulteis, operator at the Aspens/Pines Water and Sewer district; Ted VanHolland, Teton County Engineering; Sandy Shuptrine, Teton County resident and TCD board member; Tim O'Donoghue, Riverwind Foundation; Kelly French, Jackson Curbside Recycling; Heather Overholser, ISWR Superintendent; Mari Allan Hanna, ISWR Waste Diversion and Outreach Coordinator; Caroline Sheahan, ISWR Financial Accountant; Teton County Commissioner Paul Vogelheim; Kent Jaspersen, ISWR Operations Manager; Billy Kirk, Teton County Public Information Officer

3:09pm: Meeting called to order by Phil Cameron at ISWR.

Motion to approve June Minutes, Moved: Jess, Second: Phil, All in favor, motion carried.

Special Report from Board Chair, Phil Cameron:

- Moment of silence to honor Bob Arndt. He was killed in a car accident on Friday, June 30. Phil submitted a letter to the editor in the JH News and Guide regarding Bob's work with ISWR. It's early in this process. The loss is still washing over all of us. Melanie Arndt is still in the hospital. ISWR will send a note from board members in the near future and stay in touch regarding Melanie's needs and future opportunities to help. Phil will contact Commissioner Vogelheim about official recognition for Bob by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC).
- Moment of silence and reflections.
- Tim O'Donoghue – Someone should organize a place in town for memorial pictures of community members like Bob, Shelly Simonton and Andy Tyson.

Presentation from Board Chair, Phil Cameron: Recycling Sorting Methods: Source Separated, Multi and Single Stream

- "Don't cross the streams!" -Ghostbusters
- Source separated is the method used for recyclables in Teton County.
- Alternatives include partially co-mingled, or dual-stream; fully combined, or single stream; and no sort, where recyclables are combined with municipal solid waste and sorted at a community material recovery facility (MRF).
- See slideshow at <http://www.tetonwyo.org/recycl/topics/advisory-board/252870/>
- Don – What does single stream claim as a diversion rate?

- Heather – Participation is higher with single stream, but contamination can be as high as 30-35% in single stream, whereas Teton County’s source separated material has a 1% contamination rate. The numbers and reporting vary by community.
- Tim – What conditions have to be in place to reach 60% diversion by 2030?
- Heather – Food waste and Construction and Demolition (C+D) are targeted in the early phases of the Road to Zero Waste. Recycling is highly visible and raises individual waste diversion awareness but, by weight, it does not account for a large percentage of Teton County’s diversion rate.
- Tim – Teton County needs more communication and a multiplier for our education efforts. We need to communicate these targets and conditions much more!
- Heather – ISWR has 25 years of experience in education and outreach and that’s how we are able to maintain a contamination rate of 1%. ISWR is looking to continue this commitment to outreach and education as we introduce and expand additional programs, like food waste composting.

Public Comment: Biosolids

- Ted – Attends the Friends of Fish Creek Stakeholders meetings. A common topic is the impact of wastewater treatment and disposal on Fish Creek. How to treat biosolids? Composting is considered the ultimate solution, but land is scarce. Ted suggests a joint discussion/possible collaboration between ISWR compost planning and organizations including Teton Village Water and Sewer District (TVSWD), Teton Conservation District (TCD), and the Aspens Water and Sewer District.
- Carlin – TCD favors compost over the use of synthetic fertilizers and recommends biosolid composting as a preferred treatment. TCD is offering its resources in support of further consideration.
- Don – What is the composition of biosolids?
- Ahren - Microorganisms, Nitrogen, Phosphorous, and water. Biosolids are a good compost starter and can take the place of green waste.
- TVWSD and the Aspens spend tens of thousands per year to haul biosolids (260 tons per year at 20% moisture content) to landfill. These materials are partially de-watered, which adds additional cost.
- Phil and Heather – ISWR will compile a summary of previous research and get back together with Fish Creek stakeholders.
- Heather – This has been on ISWR radar. ISWR is still several years out from an operational municipal compost system. Glad to have additional stakeholders involved.
- Phil – Update tentatively planned for August or September board meeting.

Paul Vogelheim

- Thank you, Phil and Heather, for your leadership during the difficult time of Bob’s passing.
- The Teton County budget was just approved. Teton County is unique compared to much of the rest of the state that is struggling with the loss of property tax and sales tax short falls.

- Teton County is trying to supplement State cuts.
- Hopefully local organizations can assist in filling the gaps.
- Notable road improvements and Land Development Regulations (LDR's) are the other current BCC agenda items.
- Commissioner Vogelheim will deliver a request for recognition for Bob Arndt to the BCC.
- Heather – Thank you to commissioners for the adjustment to the compensation scale. With recent difficulty in attracting job applicants and keeping jobs filled, this will help.
- Commissioner Vogelheim – The adjustment was based on a compensation study commissioned several years ago. The study was proactive, so that when the need arose, the steps were in place to quickly implement.
- Phil – In the ISWR RRR committee meeting prior to today's board meeting, Mari Allan discussed the great work underway through ISWR partnerships to magnify the reach of ISWR spending.

Special Presentation: RRR Business Leaders – Tim O'Donoghue

- See slideshow at <http://www.tetonwyo.org/recycl/topics/advisory-board/252870/>
- The Hotshots Program has just completed a year of promotion and recruitment for ISWR RRR Business Leaders (RRRBL).
- The program resulted in 99+ meetings with local businesses and organizations; a doubling of the number of business leaders, from 80 to over 150; and the creation of 6 green collar jobs.
- The upcoming Riverwind Foundation project, titled the BEST Program (Business Emerald Sustainability Tier), will build upon the Hotshots Program, to offer:
 - An upper level certification for RRRBL.
 - Top 10% of RRRBL (approx. 20 members)
 - Assistance for 20 lodging properties with applications to TripAdvisor for Green Leaders recognition.
 - Strengthening of the RRRBL and Road to Zero Waste strategies and outreach.
 - A library of best practices, case studies, research and impact data from BEST that will be accessible to everyone.
 - Fee is \$150/year per membership.
- The BEST program is part of JH and Yellowstone Sustainable Destinations Program which includes JH Sustainability Code of Conduct, JH Sustainability Report Card, JH Destination Management Plan and Sustainable Destination Certification (by end of 2018).

Finance Committee Report, Caroline Sheahan:

- Fiscal Year 2017 ended last week.
- See financial data in staff report.

Report from ISWR Superintendent- Heather Overholser:

Trash Transfer Station (TTS)

- Safety is a priority at TTS with all of the projects currently in operation. Thank you, Kent, for coordinating all contractors.

- Montana Civil has the site prepared for the interim transfer station. Completion date for the new building is scheduled for the end of October 2017.
- ISWR met with Opie from Yellow Iron today about the transition into the new building.
 - The move into the interim transfer building is set for Nov 1, 2017.
 - Yellow Iron will present cost proposal for new equipment.
 - This equipment will have long term use, not just interim.
 - The existing grizzly will be replaced by a new piece of equipment.
- Construction of the permanent transfer station will be bid out in October 2017.
 - This schedule will allow for completion of the bid process in advance of the holidays and for the new contractor to begin as soon as possible in order to complete the project within one season.

Landfill Closure

- Pushed out one year, until the end of 2019.
- Waiting on dead animal report from Univ of Wyoming students.
- Ted – Will Montana Civil finish excavation on time?
- Heather – Anticipating completion by the end of this season, barring weather, or other delay.
- Phil – Maybe a board visit in Sept, Oct.
- Heather – Also trying to schedule a tour of the Bonneville County solid waste and recycling facilities for ISWR board members who have not been.

Eclipse

- Planning underway. Expected traffic grid-lock is discouraging haulers from being on the roads after 9am on the day of the event and possibly throughout the week. Night shifts may be put into place, as well as weekend hours.

Hiring

- 4 vacant positions at ISWR
- 1 new recycling operator started 10 days ago, and another starts on Monday (Admin Assistant Carrie Bell).
- Close to hiring another recycling operator.
- Additional interviews scheduled for tomorrow, 7/7.
- No senior operator applications. May promote from within in the fall.
- Don – What is the average tenure for ISWR employees?
- Kent – Several crew members have 10+ years. Shortages like this are uncommon, a recent issue.
- Jess – Many local businesses are experiencing similar shortages and turnover.

Outreach and Education Committee Report – Mari Allan:

- See Staff Report – Outreach and Education section, <http://www.tetonwyo.org/recycl/topics/advisory-board/252870/>
- Recent grant funding received:

- Teton Conservation District \$17,000 for E-waste and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)
- Vail Epic Promise \$1,500 for HHW
- JH Community Foundation \$4,240 for Zero Waste Model Construction Site
- Brinson Foundation \$30,000 for HHW and community education

Motion to Adjourn, Jess Moved: Don; Second: Jess. Meeting adjourned 4:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mari Allan Hanna
ISWR Waste Diversion and Outreach Coordinator

Approved on _____

Attest:

Jess Wireman

Phil Cameron, Board Chair