

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO  
REGIONAL SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2015  
BOARD CHAMBERS**

**Present:**

Alec McPherson	Chair, RDN Director
Jim Kipp	RDN Director, Deputy Chair
Larissa Coser	Community Representative
Craig Evans	Member at Large
John Finnie	Member at Large
Michele Green	Member at Large
Jan Hastings	Non Profit Representative
Gerald Johnson	Member at Large
Jim McTaggart-Cowan	Member at Large
Derek Haarsma	Business Representative
Michael Tripp	Business Representative
Wally Wells	Business Representative
Al Cameron	Town of Qualicum Beach
Fred Spears	District of Lantzville

**Also in Attendance:**

Larry Gardner	Manager of Solid Waste, RDN
Rebecca Graves	Recording Secretary, RDN
Sharon Horsburgh	Senior Solid Waste Planner, RDN
Meghan Larson	Special Projects Assistant, RDN
Dennis Trudeau	GM, Transportation & Solid Waste Services, RDN
Julien Fell	RDN Director
Bob Rogers	RDN Director
Maureen Young	RDN Director
Dave Ross	Public Attendee

**Regrets:**

Ed Walsh	Waste Management Industry
Stewart Young Jr.	Business Representative
Ellen Ross	Member at Large
Amanda Ticknor	Member at Large
Frank Van Eynde	Member at Large
Chief & Council	Nanoose First Nation
Chief & Council	Snuneymuxw First Nation
Glenn Gibson	Island Heath
Charlotte Davis	City of Nanaimo
Al Leuschen	Ministry of Environment
Karen Muttersbach	Environment Canada
Michael Recalma	Qualicum First Nation

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM.

**DELEGATES**

## MINUTES

MOVED G. Johnson, SECONDED J. McTaggart-Cowan, that the minutes from the meeting of the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee regular meeting held May 28, 2015, be adopted.

CARRIED

## BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

J. Hastings commented that under the 'Reduce Options' exercise the group would like to see something done in regards to packaging. In the SWMP guidelines, it reads that "in addition RDN activities will be complimented by Federal and Provincial reduction initiatives in packaging" and questioned if we can ask for a report on what those initiatives might be?

L. Gardner replied that the SWMP guidelines were written in 1994 before the Extended Producer Responsibility program was introduced. The program at that time saw the introduction of the deposit container refund system. A report will be provided to the Committee on what currently exists with the EPR programs in BC.

J. McTaggart-Cowan mentioned in 1988 a federal initiative on packaging was created and suggested that the provincial government to do something about packaging to put pressure back on the industry.

G. Johnson suggested that local government through the RSWAC could create a list of local issues and invite industry to a meeting where the problems/issues could be presented and industry could be asked to follow up with solutions.

J. Hastings commented on the ability of the Committee to add agenda items.

## COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## REPORTS

### **Konrad Fichtner, Morrison Hershfield. - New and Emerging Technologies.**

K. Fichtner provided a presentation on new and emerging technologies for recovering energy. Two types of technologies to recover energy from waste are biological systems and thermal systems. Biological systems include anaerobic digestion and landfill gas recovery. Thermal Systems include mass burn combustion, incineration gasification, and pyrolysis.

G. Johnson asked what techniques are used to stabilize fly ash?

K. Fichtner replied that a chemical process can be used that will bind the metals and the most common is using Portland cement.

J. Hastings enquired that in order to operate efficiently you need recyclables and if you took contaminated recyclables out, would that change?

K. Fichtner commented that there is still enough heating value in the residual waste stream from products that can't be recycled. It is conceivable that if enough of the materials were taken out then there wouldn't be enough left over.

L. Coser questioned how the fly ash was managed and if all landfills accept the ash?

K. Fichtner replied that in Canada the ash is landfilled, used for road base and daily landfill cover.

C. Evans enquired about the working relationship between Metro Vancouver and Morrison Hershfield in regards to Metro's waste to energy proposal?

K. Fichtner answered that Morrison Hershfield have provided studies for Metro Vancouver in the past but at this point there is no working relationship.

C. Evans questioned the scientific study that was done for the Durham W-E project and the potential impacts on the drinking water and the agricultural land within 10 kms?

K. Fichtner commented that the study was conducted by another firm and he could follow-up and provide that health assessment for review.

G. Johnson asked what the life expectancy would be of a brand new thermal plant?

K. Fichtner remarked that it could be 25-50 years and that first generation equipment the average being 20-25 years with constant upgrading and good maintenance.

G. Johnson commented that he would like to see an analysis on the value of energy compared to what could be saved in energy if recycled.

J. Finnie remarked that any of the mentioned technologies including new emerging technologies will have residuals that will need some form of disposal capacity and that cost needs to be factored in.

#### **Group Exercise.**

L. Gardner introduced the table top group exercise:

- What are the RDN's current options for residual management?
- What are the preferred options for the RDN to investigate for managing residuals?
- What benefits do you see in working with other regional districts for residual waste management?

Some of the points relayed back by the Committee included:

- optimize the landfill life and waste export
- consideration of emerging technologies
- restricting out of region waste
- investigate break the bag options
- investigate waste to energy further
- zero waste plan
- organic diversion and recycling programs
- partnerships with co-generation wood waste

- continue to look at new technologies and approaches to manufacturing that is acceptable to the whole community
- EPR programs need to approach design of packaging
- Collaborating with other regions on Vancouver Island to export off island

**ADDENDUM**

**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Next RSWAC meeting will be July 9, 2015.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED G. Johnson, SECONDED J. McTaggart-Cowan, that this meeting be adjourned.

TIME: 7:30 PM

---

CHAIRPERSON