

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
REGIONAL SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2016
BOARD CHAMBERS**

Present:

Alec McPherson	Chair, RDN Director
Bill McKay	Deputy Chair, RDN Director
Jan Hastings	Non Profit Representative
Dean Jones	Waste Management Industry
Derek Haarsma	Business Representative
Michael Tripp	Business Representative
Craig Evans	Member at Large
Ben Geselbracht	Member at Large
Gerald Johnson	Member at Large
Jim McTaggart-Cowan	Member at Large
Ellen Ross	Member at Large
Amanda Ticknor	Member at Large
Cam Purdon	Town of Qualicum Beach

Also in Attendance:

Director Young	Electoral Area 'C'
Larry Gardner	Manager of Solid Waste, RDN
Rebecca Graves	Recording Secretary, RDN
Sharon Horsburgh	Senior Solid Waste Planner, RDN
Meghan Larson	Special Projects Coordinator, RDN
Randy Alexander	General Manager, RCU, RDN

Regrets:

Stewart Young Jr.	Business Representative
Charlotte Davis	City of Nanaimo
Geoff Goodall	City of Nanaimo
Chief & Council	Nanoose First Nation
Chief & Council	Snuneymuxw First Nation
Michael Recalma	Qualicum First Nation
Glenn Gibson	Island Heath
Al Leuschen	Ministry of Environment
Karen Muttersbach	Environment Canada
Fred Spears	District of Lantzville
John Finnie	Member at Large
Michele Green	Member at Large
Wally Wells	Business Representative

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM and respectfully acknowledged the Coast Salish First Nations on whose traditional territory the meeting took place.

DELEGATES

MINUTES

MOVED J. McTaggart-Cowan, SECONDED G. Johnson, that the minutes from the meeting of the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee regular meeting held April 14, 2016, be adopted. CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

ICI Waste Diversion Challenges – Mike Tripp (Progressive Waste Solutions) & Derek Haarsma (Haarsma Waste Innovations Inc.

MOVED G. Johnson, SECONDED J. McTaggart-Cowan, that the ICI Waste Diversion Challenges communications/correspondence be received. CARRIED

J. Finnie, re comments regarding Zero Waste and HHW diversion.

W. Wells, re proposed Zero Waste Definition.

MOVED J. McTaggart-Cowan, SECONDED G. Johnson, that communications/correspondence received from J. Finnie and W. Wells be received. CARRIED

REPORTS

Update on the Stage 2 Process. (R. Alexander – presentation)

R. Alexander gave a brief presentation on the Stage 2 process. Next steps will be:

- distribution of summary binder
- recommendation workshop
- draft recommendations
- submit recommendations to Board Select
- draft stage 2 report
- stage 3 consultation
- SWMP submission.

J. McTaggart-Cowan expressed concern about the lack of time to review the background information before the workshop. R. Alexander committed to providing the summary binder one week earlier.

J. Hastings remarked that there have been presentations and information but not the opportunity for dialogue.

E. Ross commented that she is comfortable with the process and moving ahead to a workshop.

Future Residual Disposal. (L. Gardner – presentation)

L. Gardner gave a presentation on Future Residual Disposal and what is included in the current SWMP presented options to manage future requirements.

G. Johnson questioned if any studies have been done on economies of scale with respect to working with other communities?

L. Gardner replied that since plan implementation ongoing research has been conducted on various new & emerging technologies in conjunction with the Capital Regional District, and the Cowichan Valley Regional District to evaluate Capital and operating costs of future disposal options.

A. McPherson noted if exporting into the US occurs there needs to be a backup landfill option locally.

J. Hastings commented on keeping residuals close and visible in order to study and allow industry an opportunity to innovate and reduce waste. The landfill should become a research base.

G. Johnson questioned what are the air quality standards for particulates matter?

L. Gardner replied the Ministry of Environment regulates air quality and there are varying discharge standards for industry.

B. McKay remarked that there are European and Federal standards and that the Province of BC asked an engineering company to provide standards for emissions to regulate future waste to energy facilities. Were these standards received or adopted?

L. Gardner was not aware of any new standards being developed but remarked the Province will establish new standards, adopt, regulate and adjust where necessary.

B. McKay noted that during the waste to energy discussions, people on central Vancouver Island did not want to import other people's problem but the local population was prepared to come up with regional solutions.

Review of Additional Regulatory Authorities. (L. Gardner – presentation)

L. Gardner reviewed the topic of Additional Regulatory Authorities. A SWMP may provide regional districts additional powers to manage municipal solid waste and the MOE must approve the additional powers in the SWMP as well as the bylaw. The legislation provides the ability for regional districts to regulate. Examples of the tools include:

- Mandatory waste collection service
- Waste source regulation
- Flow management
- Waste Hauler Franchise
- Waste Hauler as Agents

G. Johnson asked if you can have both agent and a franchise option in the SWMP?

L. Gardner replied that we can and that in order for the Minister to give local government additional powers the more specific we are by Stage 3 then there is higher level of assurance that the Province will grant the RDN additional regulatory authorities.

M. Tripp commented on MMBC and the intention was to reduce packaging and the amount of recyclable materials in the waste stream but to date there appears to be no improvement.

G. Johnson questioned if we could consider user-pay and give the incentive to recycle?

M. Larson replied that within the RDN it is a mandatory utility fee for curbside residential pickup with strict limits.

J. McTaggart-Cowan asked what could be done to encourage additional recycling in the IC&I and Multi-family sector and maintain the opportunity for the waste haulers to compete?

L. Gardner replied that this can be done with waste source regulation and economic incentives. It would require people to divert more but there would be a higher cost to regulate.

S. Horsburgh commented the existing regulatory framework that includes landfill bans has supported the recycling industry and encouraged the current level of private sector infrastructure. Further regulation that creates an economic incentive would help strengthen the private sector waste diversion activities.

M. Tripp noted with a financial incentive under a levy he would turn the cost back to the customer and receive further diversion.

D. Jones mentioned if franchising goes into the SWMP it would kill private investment.

D. Haarsma commented if a regulation was imposed on multi-family buildings and recycling was regulated, enforcement would be easy for the hauler and it would prevent recyclables being landfilled.

J. McTaggart-Cowan questioned if there was an up to date report on the waste volumes generated from the IC&I and multi-family sector as well as material disposed of outside of the RDN?

L. Gardner replied that the 2012 report has reporting numbers on WSML materials and hasn't changed much.

Zero Waste Definitions and RDN Guiding Principles. (S. Horsburgh – distribution)

S. Horsburgh gave an overview on ZWIA and the definition of zero waste.

J. Hastings commented that the current Stage One Strategic Plan reads that the RDN doesn't consider waste to energy, in ZWIA definitions no incineration is part of the hierarchy and would like clarification if it is in the strategic plan to explore emerging technologies.

S. Horsburgh commented that while preferences around Zero Waste are not to bury or burn waste, waste to energy is just one of a variety of new and emerging technology treatments to assist regional districts manage future waste disposal options.

Alec McPherson commented that gasification has been discussed at AVICC meetings and there was indication the committee is open to technological change.

G. Johnson commented that he is endorsing the ZWIA definition as long as there is a statement based on the most current independent peer reviewed science.

MOVED J. McTaggart-Cowan, SECONDED J. Hastings, that the ZWIA definition of Zero Waste and the ZWIA Hierarchy of Best Uses guide the consideration of proposals for the next Solid Waste Management Plan. CARRIED

MOVED J. McTaggart-Cowan, SECONDED G. Johnson, that increasing IC&I diversion will be a cornerstone of the next Solid Waste Management Plan. CARRIED

ADDENDUM

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED J. McTaggart-Cowan, SECONDED E. Ross, that this meeting be adjourned.

Time: 7:40 pm.



CHAIRPERSON