

## February 23, 2023, BCTT Workgroup DRAFT Meeting Minutes #8

### 1. Agenda

Topic	Lead	Start	Duration	Materials
Welcome Review Agenda Approve Draft M7 Minutes Updated Workplan	Facilitator	3:00	15 mins	<a href="#">Working M8 Agenda</a> <a href="#">Draft M7 Minutes</a> <a href="#">Updated Workplan</a>
Comment Period	Public & Workgroup	3:15	15 mins	<a href="#">Comments</a> (Updated 2/XX/23) Link Expires 3/20/23 Password: Benton1!
Introduce Key Findings and Key Recommendations (FRs) Crosswalk Document Review Tonight's Feedback Plan	Facilitator	3:30	15 mins	Draft FRs Crosswalk Document
Member FRs Feedback Session 1	Facilitator	3:45	60 mins	Draft FRs
Dinner with SUB Connection Opportunity	All	4:45	30 mins	
Member FRs Feedback Session 2 Stretch Break Member FRs Feedback Session 3	Facilitator	5:15	60 mins 5 mins 60 mins	Draft FRs
Next Steps: 1) Next Steps 2) Last Meeting: 3/16/23, 2 to 7:30 PM	Facilitator	7:20	10 mins	Updated Workplan
Adjourn	All	7:30		

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**2. Attendance**

<b>Organization Interest Group</b>	<b>WORKGROUP Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Polling</b>	<b>Ex Officio</b>	<b>Charge</b>	<b>Present</b>
SWAC/DSAC	Chuck Gilbert		X		All	X
SWAC/DSAC	Marge Popp		X		All	X
Planning Commission	Elizabeth Irish		X		All	X
Republic: National	Russ Knocke	Ginger Rough	X		All but C	X (both)
Republic: Local	Shawn Edmonds	<del>Julie Jackson</del>	X		All but C	X
Public	John Deuel		X		All	X
Public	Kathryn Duvall		X		All	X
Public	Christopher McMorran		X		All	X
Public	Ryan McAlister		X		All	
Public	Mary Parmigiani		X		All	X
Public	Ed Pitera		X		All	X
Public	Louisa Shelby		X		All	X
Public	Catherine Biscoe		X		All	X
DEQ	Audrey O'Brien		X		All but D	X
Marion County	Brian May	<del>Andrew Johnson</del>		X	Only C	X
Linn County	Shane Sanderson			X	Only C	
Benton County	Daniel Redick			X	All	X
Benton County	Sean McGuire	<del>Jen Brown</del>		X	All	X

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### Benton County Staff:

Benton County	Darren Nichols	X
Benton County	Greg Verret	X
Benton County	Inga Williams	X
Benton County	Linda Ray	
Benton County	Maren Schermer	X

### Facilitation Staff:

ICM Resolutions	Sam Imperati	X
ICM Resolutions	Amelia Webb	X

## 2. Minutes

Topic	
Welcome Review Agenda Approve Draft M7 Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated Workplan</li> </ul>	Sam has everyone introduce themselves and then he walks through the <a href="#">Agenda</a> .
Comment Period	<p><i>[NOTE: The below text is an attempt to paraphrase the statements made by members of the public. As such, it may not capture everything said or the nuances of the statements made. If provided by the commenter, the full statement made can be found in <a href="#">Appendix A</a> of this document. If a written copy of a statement was not provided, a transcribed copy of the statement is provided in <a href="#">Appendix B</a>. The full meeting recording is also available on the project website, linked <a href="#">here</a>. Thank you.]</i></p> <p><b>Bill Gellatly</b> – (resident and mechanical engineer): Encouraged the group to consider key questions about the landfill, such as has there been a supplier analysis done if this site was a brand-new start-up, and has Republic been asked about long-term technology plans and getting recycling back to the people making the materials? (Bill Gellatly provided a copy of his statement, so please see <a href="#">Appendix A</a> for the full comment.)</p> <p><b>Paul Nietfeld</b> – (resident and subcommittee member): He resigns from the sub due to how his wife, Nancy, was dismissed. He offered criticism of the facilitator, including statements about his unprofessional behavior and overall engagement. He notes that Nancy brought a lot of experience to the workgroup, and yet she was dismissed because of her hard work. (For the full statement, please see <a href="#">Appendix B</a> and the meeting recording provided on the project website.)</p>

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**Chris Workmen** – (Philomath city manager): He notes the Republic has an exclusive contract with the city of Philomath, and that they do great work. He encourages the County to continue to see Republic as a partner to continue working with for community development. He also notes some concerns about timing and the report coming out. It would be problematic if the County waits to decide on the expansion until all the research and discussion is done. All development has adverse impacts, but you try to mitigate them. It is harder to do this than just saying no, but it would help a lot of people. . (For the full statement, please see [Appendix B](#) and the meeting recording provided on the project website.)

**Joel Geier** – (resident and former BCTT member): He is sorry to see Paul going and would like to thank him for his role and hard work. He has a few questions for Darren: What did he mean when he said “many important things are happening behind the scenes” at the Board of Commissioners meeting, and when is this BCTT finally going to finish? . (For the full statement, please see [Appendix B](#) and the meeting recording provided on the project website.)

**Debbie Palmer** – (resident and public participant): There are so many things wrong she doesn’t know where to start. She says that, at some point, the polling members will be asked to poll on the whole document, and that there will be pressure for consensus. She feels the process has been disingenuous due to the 1-2-3 polling. While she doesn't know if the group will poll on sections of the final report or just the whole thing, she emphasizes that, if you don’t understand something, you are well within your rights to poll a 3. . (For the full statement, please see [Appendix B](#) and the meeting recording provided on the project website.)

**Linda J. Brewer** – (certified soil scientist, works in waste management, served 10 years on SWAC, resident): She makes several points, including that functioning solid waste management is essential for a County to function, SWMS needed for a county to function, Republic has been a reliable partner to the County, and climates like ours requires special needs that Republic has provided. She also notes that the BCTT moniker was a mistake because it gives a humorous and unprofessional impression. . (For the full statement, please see [Appendix B](#) and the meeting recording provided on the project website.)

**Bernie Cummings** – (resident): He appreciates that everyone, to some extent, is coming together. The County and Republic seem to be coming to the table, and he hopes more people can come to the table to help move forward. After all, the County will not stop making trash anytime soon. . (For the full statement, please see [Appendix B](#) and the meeting recording provided on the project website.)

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<p>Introduce Key Findings and Key Recommendations (FRs) Crosswalk Document Review Tonight's Feedback Plan</p>	<p>The <b>M7 Minutes</b> are approved without comments. Sam gives a walk-through of the Key <b>Findings and Recommendations (FRs) and Crosswalk Documents</b> and explains what the subcommittees have been doing.</p>
<p>Member FRs Feedback Session 1</p>	<p><b>Cross Walk Recommendations (CWR)</b>  <b>CRW #1</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some SWAC stuff also matches up</li> </ul> <b>CWR #2</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sam adds additional context for why this is a recommendation.</li> <li>- Louisa notes she should like to change some of legal's wording.</li> <li>- There was also some discussion clarifying if was this a recommendation or just what the law is.</li> </ul> <b>CWR #3</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The timeline was different. We need to change the language, so it matches the LLU-6 one. It should be 24 hours after its opening.</li> <li>- Also, it applies to any service, not just SMMP stuff</li> </ul> <b>CWR #5</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discussion of the public relations part can be addressed Monday or Tuesday.</li> </ul> <b>CWR #6</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wanting to be more proactive and transparent and engaging to the public.</li> </ul> <b>CWR #7</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sam adds context to clarify and there are no suggestions for improvement.</li> </ul> <b>CWR #8</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Daniel notes it is a broad recommendation encompassing all of the SMMP work.</li> </ul> <p>Sam adds clarification that the crosswalk doc doesn't go into the report, it is a tool document to help the group make progress right now.</p> <b>CWR #10</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sam adds clarification about DEQ and County permits as explored in the assessment that he did. Ginny and Audrey also help clarify.</li> </ul> </p>
<p>Dinner with SUB Connection Opportunity</p>	
<p>Member FRs Feedback Session 2</p>	<p><b>Key Findings &amp; Recommendations:</b></p>

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<p>Stretch Break Member FRs Feedback Session 3</p>	<p>The workgroup reads the findings for a section, putting up their nametags to indicate when they are finished. The group then discusses the findings and repeats this process for the recommendations. This process was repeated for each section subcommittee's material in the order they appear in the report. However, there was only time to get to the legal subcommittee.</p> <p><b>SMMP:</b> The group take a few moments to read the findings for SMMP and then talks about them together. This is repeated for the recommendations. The emphasis in the SMMP conversation is that we really don't want the document to just be aspirational - there should be something about the implementation and/or application of the research into international settings.</p> <p><b>Legal:</b> Finding #7 is clarified by Sam. Around finding #13, Sam explains that it came up in the SWAC DSAC meeting that some of legal's finding seem to limit what SWAC can and cannot do.</p>
<p>Next Steps: 3) Next Steps <b>Last Meeting: 3/16/23, 2 to 7:30 PM</b></p>	<p>Sam uses the last few minutes to walk through the calendar and next steps and add clarification for how 1-2-3 polling functions. He also notes that workgroup each member gets to make their own personal statement that goes into the final report.</p> <p>There is an issue with one of the new BCTT calendar date being the same day as a sustainability event, so County will have to look at a new date.</p>
<p>Adjourn</p>	

### 4. Polling Issues

None

### 5. ZOOM MEETING RECORDS:

[Recording Link](#)

Passcode: VA0Z\$nZ!

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### 7. Appendix A:

Good morning. My name is Bill Gellatly, a Corvallis resident, a mechanical engineer retired from the high-tech world - with a management degree from Marylhurst University.

My purpose today is to encourage you to consider three questions regarding the Coffin Butte Landfill. Following reporting in the G-T, speaking with two members of the BCTT committees, and then with a retired soils scientist familiar with the local geology, I feel there are three areas I believe could benefit with at least a better public understanding.

With a new Conditional Use Permit being anticipated in the next year or so, I ask you to consider these three questions. Each is followed with a couple of sub-points.

- First, has there been a supplier analysis, asking questions with the freshness you would employ if this site were a new startup operation?
  - Has the supplier been evaluated for competitiveness with, for example Waste Management?
  - How does the supplier stack up with other suppliers in quality, technology, or environmental compliance issues?
- Second, have you asked Republic to provide any technology roadmaps that would address long-term problems of water treatment or ways to drive recycling issues back to their source?
  - In particular, how do these suppliers plan to reach the achievements seen in the leading European countries?
  - What are the actions that Republic might employ to push back on food industry packaging?
- Third, is there an active or evolving plan to assure that the substantial franchise fee increases will assure continuous improvement of operations at Coffin Butte?
  - For example, might some of the franchise fee increases be tied to the Republic meeting improved rates of recycled plastic materials back into the supply stream?
  - Might there be incentives based on their ability to influence the food packaging industry?

Thank you.

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### 8. Appendix B:

**NOTE:** These below transcriptions were created with Zoom software. Given this, there may be some errors. Please see the meeting recording, which is available on the project website, linked [here](#), for recordings for the statements. Thank you.

#### **Paul Nietfeld:**

My name is Paul. It's most, you know, on the A one committee. This group, my remarks today are directed with mr di, Mr. Nichols and commissioners. I hereby resign from my volunteer position on the A one subcommittee. The dismissal of my wife, Nancy Wood, come from the work group, was conducted in a manner that constituted a public humiliation, clearly meant as a warning to anyone who might consider critiquing the process and methodology of the facilitator. Many of the concerns she identified in the initial phase of the effort have been validated. The time and effort wasted due to the early conflicting and uncertain direction, the scope of work facing this team and the need for subcommittees to perform the detailed work required have all been realized. As was initially encouraged by the facilitator, Nancy honestly pointed out significant early process and procedural issues. The most pointed of these critiques were sent directly to the facilitator, not to a larger group.

And as honest corrective feedback, the fact that the facilitator responded defensively and aggressively to this feedback is damning. In my experience in corporate negotiations, it's widely understood that the inter intermediary and such negotiations should be mature and levelheaded, not overly sensitive to perceived challenges to their authority, and in particular, not defensive and response to valid critical feedback. Nancy brought significant land use and community government experience to the work group, and it is at this juncture when the work group will need to evaluate the work of the subcommittees and craft the final report to our commissioners, that her experience and knowledge and insight would be most helpful. The fact that my wife was dismissed for her serious and honest efforts to, to improve the work group process is a loss for the work group and is a shame on the facilitator and our accounting government. Finally, to all those of you serving on this work group on the subcommittees as a landfill neighbor, I want to express my appreciation for your efforts to evaluate and address this challenge facing our county and our community. Thank you.

#### **Chris Workmen:**

Yes, sir. I'll Chris Workman, city manager from the city of Fouth. It's nice to sit on this side of the desk every once in a while. I don't get it out, do that very often, um, but just, I'll just take a few moments. Appreciate all the work that you're doing. I want you to know that it's important work and let you know that there are a lot of people that even though they're not here fill in this room. Uh, we're reading the newspaper articles, we're checking the website, we're looking at updates, and we're very anxious, um, to see the report come out and to see the findings and appreciate, again, all the work that's going into, um, making those findings and those recommendations. So it's important. Um, the only thing I wanted to add really, is just the perspective from the city's standpoint. Uh, services has a franchise with the city of Portsmouth, and they're an exclusive franchise.

They're our only garbage hauler waste, um, hauler inh and have been a good partner to the city. And so, you know, in, in looking at the efforts that they're trying to make to, um, make

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improvements to Coffin Butte, to expand Coffin Butte and to continue to manage that facility in a responsible way, um, the, from, from my perspective, the encouragement would just be for the county to continue to work with, um, Republic Services that you have, uh, to continue to see them as a partner in the plan going forward for waste management. Um, the, the city, um, again, has good relationship there and I think that relationship can continue to go forward for years to come and having Republic Services be a partner at the table and just appreciate, uh, this group allowing them to have a seat of this table and, and be involved in the conversations.

Um, I also just have a little bit of concern about the timing. This, this, the plan itself, uh, for the waste materials, the report's gonna come out and there's gonna be a lot of aspects to it, a lot of facets to, there's gonna be a lot of work that's gonna be done still. And I think it would be to the county and specifically to the city's demise, if we waited for that plan to completely enroll and completely get rolled out and to be completed before we were, to make any decisions on the expansion of Es. And so if that application is submitted, the encouragement would be for, again, Ben County to continue to work with and partner with three public services to find ways to mitigate the disadvantages and the challenges that come with any type of development, right? Regardless of the development, whether it be housing, commercial, industrial activity, or in this case a landfill, there's gonna be adverse impacts.

And one of the most difficult things is to try to find a way to mitigate those adverse impacts, but try to get you a yes right? When you've got a development that's gonna benefit a, a large number of people in this case. Um, you really want to try to find ways to mitigate, um, the negatives. And that can be tricky, um, and much harder than just saying, no, we just don't like it. Right? And again, that's, that's not necessarily been the case that's happened here. I just wanna put the caution out there. I think that there is a path forward I public services. So we appreciate the work they've done here and, uh, I'll look forward to seeing forward. Thank you.

### **Joel Geier:**

Yeah. Hi, my name's um, Joel Geier. I was, I'm a landfill neighbor and formerly upholding member of this group. I think most of you know me. Um, I didn't know about Paul's plan to leave this group. I'm very sorry to see him leaving this group, and I would like to thank him for his real, very sincere efforts to try to make something good come out of this. Um, but I had a couple of questions, and these are mainly for the development director Darren Nichols, who I see as in the room in relation to comments that he made to the Board of Commissioners on Tuesday. First question is, what did Director Nichols mean when he said that many important discussions are taking place behind the scenes? I'm concerned because so much of the charge of this work group has been delegated to subcommittees on most of these subcommittees.

Republic Services has a very strong presence, including public relations professionals and corporate attorneys, while community members are just volunteers just trying to do their best. So what kinds of discussions are taking place behind the scenes rather than in public to try to bring these groups to consensus? And what happened to the one table rule that we were told about at the beginning of this process? Second question. After initially being scheduled to wrap up December 15th with a celebration, the schedule was extended out to mid-March. Now it seems to be shifted again out to late April based on what we heard from the, um, the meeting on Tuesday. Then is this work group finally going to wrap up so that our regular disposal site advisory committee can return to its state mandated function and the community volunteers who here, who've been working so hard can get back to their normal lives? Thank you.

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### **Debbie Palmer:**

Okay. All right. Uh, hi. My name is Debbie Palmer. I have been an observer of this work group process from the beginning, and there have been so many things that are not right about this process. I don't even know where to begin, so I'm just gonna have to choose. Here we go. There will be a time soon when you polling members of the work group will all be asked to poll for consensus on the master document. Sam will have somehow put together containing literally hundreds of pages of information from five subcommittees. This is a document that is supposed to be a guide to the county and to the commissioners. I have a question for each of you. Have you read the entirety of do you understand everything in this master document? There will be much pressure on you all to reach consensus, which under different circumstances would be a laudable goal.

However, in the case of this particular work group, I feel the process is disingenuous. Let me explain. Sam has many times rambled at length and will likely do so again about voting, or excuse me, polling using a one, two, or three indicator with one being agree, two being don't really agree but will tolerate. And three being do not agree with the contents of the master document. The imbalance lies in that answers of both. One and two will ultimately be regarded by the commissioners as the group has come to consensus and they will delve no deeper. I do know, I do not know whether Sam will pull you guys on parts and pieces of the master document or only on the master document as a whole. But either way, if you do not understand the contents of the parts or the hole that you are being asked to pull on, you are fully within your rights to pull at a three. There will likely be a lot of peer pressure to pull one or two. However, this ultimately is your only mechanism for communicating that this has been a flawed, chaotic process. There is a lot on the line here, and if you find consensus on a suboptimal document, the only one who will benefit is your facilitator, Sam Irate. But it will be the county that has lost out. Thank you.

### **Linda J. Brewer:**

Ah, well, I'm coming. Thank you. Thank you very much. Good afternoon. My name is Linda J. Brewer. I am a Soil Science Society of America certified professional soil scientist with 22 years experience in organic waste management, science, education, and outreach. I served more than 10 years as a member of the Benton County Solid Waste Advisory Council. I have been a resident of Benton County for more than 35 years. I wish to make five points this afternoon. First, that a functioning waste management system is essential to maintaining civil order in Benton County or anywhere where humans aggregate. Number two, valley landfills, allied waste and Republic Services have been reliable working partners in waste management with Benton County government. Number three, responsible landfill management in a climate such as ours requires knowledgeable experienced management, which valley landfills, allied waste and Republic Services have demonstrated over the years I have lived here.

Number four, Benton County citizens enjoy a preferential rate on trash services. The change to alternate landfilling scenarios would vastly increase our trash rates. These would be disfavored by service users and voters alike. Point number five, I consider the Benton County talks trash moniker adopted for this group. A grave strategic error on the part of the county commissioners. It suggests a certain lightheartedness and humor about an issue of paramount concern to all residents of Benton County. On a personal note, I view the actions of this group as

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destructive rather than constructive. The name talks trash denies the gravity of the group's proposals. I thank you.

### **Bernie Cummings:**

Sorry. Thank you. I was having technical issues. Uh, my name's Bernie Cummings. Uh, I just wanted to say, you know, I, uh, appreciate that everybody's finally coming together in this process to some extent. Uh, that, you know, it feels like different groups are coming to the table at the very least, that the county and Republic services seem to be coming to the table. Uh, and I hope that moving forward we'll be able to get more people coming to the table altogether so we can try and find a, a solution. Uh, I don't know, uh, what that solution may be in the future. I do think that, you know, we're not gonna stop having trash anytime soon, but, uh, hopefully we can reach a consensus as we move forward in this process. Uh, that's all I had to say. Thanks.