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MEETING MINUTES
Disposal Site Advisory Committee (DSAC)
December 11, 2024

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENDING

Ken Eklund, *Chair*
Rachel Purcell
Chuck Gilbert
Brent Pawlowski
David Hackleman (called in)
Bret Davis, *Republic Services Representative*
Charlene Carroll
Jennifer Field
Jeffrey Morrell

STAFF

Bailey Payne, *Solid Waste Program
Coordinator*

**GUESTS - The online meeting software was not working so the meeting was not recorded.
Members of the public that wanted to attend were not able to do so.**

**Guests that provided oral comment to the DSAC*

ABSENT: David Livesay (excused)

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order

Technical Difficulties

- The Chair noted that there were technical difficulties preventing online attendance.

Disclaimer on Public Comments

- The Chair reminded attendees that DSAC is not involved in the decision-making process regarding the proposed landfill expansion and directed public comments to be made to the Planning Commission or County Board of Commissioners.

Agenda Item #2: Public Comment

The technical issues in streaming the meeting prevented the public from providing feedback at the meeting. There were no members from the public in attendance. Unfortunately, the meeting was not recorded.

Agenda Item #3: Approval of meeting minutes from 10/9/24

- The minutes from October 9th were reviewed. Concerns were raised regarding member identification in past minutes. A motion was made by a member (Jeff M.) to accept the minutes from October 9th, with a second from another member (Chuck G.). Motion passed unanimously.

- 44 • Suggestion to add speaker names in minutes. Add follow-up task section (action items).
45 Reviewing action items when meeting minutes are approved.

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47 **Agenda Item #4: Approval of meeting minutes from 2022-2023**

- 48 • The Chair indicated a need for review and approval of minutes from meetings held on October 25,
49 2023 and earlier.
- 50 • Jeff M. suggested adding line items to future meeting minutes to make edits easier to find.
- 51 • A suggestion was made for members who attended those meetings to collaborate on revisions
52 before presenting them for approval.
- 53 • Discussion ensued regarding establishing a timeline for reviewing previous meeting videos
54 alongside their corresponding minutes, emphasizing accuracy in representation.
- 55 • Members discussed the importance of accurate minute-taking due to legal implications, citing that
56 approved minutes hold precedence over video recordings.
- 57 • There was consensus on needing clear guidelines moving forward with minute approvals and
58 video retention policies within legal parameters established by county regulations.
- 59 • Discussion about amending the 10/23/23 meeting minutes took place, with emphasis on additional
60 amendments proposed by Chair Eklund who will not be present at the next meeting.
- 61 • Jeff M. made a motion to have the County staff include transcripts of all past meeting minutes
62 that have not yet been approved. Chuck G. seconded. All approved, except Bret Davis, who
63 abstained.
- 64 • Some members expressed discomfort with voting on meeting minute approval for meetings in
65 which they did not attend.
- 66 • A member highlighted concerns regarding the legal implications related to parts of transcripts not
67 being captured during a Zoom meeting due to it being paused on 10/23/23.
- 68 • A hybrid approach was suggested to combine both transcript material and additional notes for
69 clarity, ensuring that everyone's input is documented appropriately.
- 70 • Jeff. M. made a motion to add Ken's "preamble" to the meeting minutes on 10/23/23 for final
71 review at the next meeting. Chuck seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

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73 **Agenda Item #5: Fire Safety Report Update**

74 Discussion included clarifications needed concerning state aid requests related to fire marshal
75 operations and coordination with regional authorities. The committee accepted the report (with final
76 edits) and thanked David H. for his work on the document. Staff will forward the finalized version to
77 the county commissioners who will forward it to the Board of Commissioners. Jeff M. made the
78 motion and Charlie C. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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80 **Agenda Item #6: Break**

81 A 5-minute break was observed.

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83 **Agenda Item #7: Elections of Chair and Vice-chair**

- 84 • The meeting began with discussions around appointing a new chair and vice chair for the
85 upcoming year.
- 86 • It was noted by Ken Eklund that he would not be continuing as chair, expressing a desire to
87 remain on the committee instead.
- 88 • Jeff M. nominated Rachel Purcell as the new chair. Ken E. seconded. Rachel was voted in as
89 as chair in 2025; all attendees voted in favor.
- 90 • David Hackleman was nominated as interim vice chair (Jeff M., seconded by Chuck G.),
91 which also received unanimous support.

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93 **Agenda Item #8: Carbon Mapper Update**

94 An update was provided by Ken Eklund discussing the emergence of Carbon Mapper technology
95 aimed at detecting methane emissions from landfills. The significance of recent findings from Coffin
96 Butte Landfill showing a methane plume approximately a mile long with an estimated leak rate of 1.4
97 metric tons per hour highlighted potential environmental concerns.

- 98 • **Methane Detection:** The technology used by Carbon Mapper was discussed, highlighting its
99 ability to identify methane plumes and quantify emissions from landfills, specifically Coffin
100 Butte landfill.
- 101 • **Emission Data Presentation:**
 - 102 ▪ Data showed a significant range of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions based on
103 estimates from Carbon Mapper, with a low point at approximately one million metric tons
104 CO₂e and a high point near two million metric tons CO₂e.
 - 105 ▪ Discussions highlighted the importance of understanding how much methane is being
106 captured versus emitted to gauge efficiency in response strategies.

107 Questions arose regarding comparisons between what is detected through Carbon Mapper technology
108 versus what existing operators are capturing and managing.

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110 **Agenda Item #9: Republic Services' application to expand the Coffin Butte Landfill**

- 111 • Republic Services submitted an application to expand the landfill which was initially deemed
112 incomplete but has since been resubmitted for review by the county's planning department.
- 113 • There was dialogue regarding whether DSAC should advise or engage with public concerns
114 around this expansion as it relates to community impact.
- 115 • Feedback indicated that community members are more concerned about immediate issues
116 such as operational inefficiencies (long lines) at the landfill than broader environmental
117 concerns, despite awareness of methane emissions related to climate change. Suggestions
118 were made about improving operational efficiency at Republic's facilities, including better
119 customer service initiatives and technological upgrades for monitoring wait times. Examples
120 of things that Republic Services is (or plans to) do include: Increasing pay for scale house
121 attendees to reduce turnover and build capacity, they've installed Starlink so that they don't
122 have technological related slow downs, redirecting Republic trucks to cut down on wait times
123 and they are open to the idea (David H.) of installing cameras to help people avoid busy times.

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125 **Agenda Item #10: Request Agenda Items**

- 126 • An idea was put forth about adding an agenda item at each meeting dedicated to reviewing
127 outstanding tasks or action items discussed previously, ensuring accountability and follow-
128 through between meetings.

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Discussion about Committee Dynamics

There were concerns raised about adversarial dynamics within the committee compared to past experiences. Members emphasized the importance of collaborative approaches moving forward.

Future Meeting Scheduling

- There were discussions regarding scheduling future meetings with suggestions made for holding the next meeting in January.
- It was noted that while Oregon law requires a minimum of four meetings per year for DSAC, additional meetings can be scheduled based on committee needs.
- Consider adding items concerning public outreach strategies and education surrounding landfill operations in next meetings’ agenda discussions.

Adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 11, 2025, Kalapuya Building (4500 SW Research Way, Corvallis)

Action Items:	Lead	Status
Continue monitoring developments regarding Republic's application status; keep this item ongoing in future agendas.	Rachel P. / Bailey P.	Agenda?
Request data from PNGC on how much landfill gas is collected versus fugitive. – Bailey reached out for this information on November 6, 2024 and has not yet been provided this data.	Bailey P. / Republic Services	Not available
An idea was put forth about adding an agenda item at each meeting dedicated to reviewing outstanding tasks or action items discussed previously, ensuring accountability and follow-through between meetings.	Rachel P. / Bailey P.	Agenda
Jeff M. suggested adding line items to future meeting minutes to make edits easier to find.	Bailey P.	Done
Jeff M. made a motion to have the County staff include transcripts of all past meeting minutes that have not yet been approved.	Bailey P.	In progress (IT)
Staff will forward the finalized version of the fire safety report to the county commissioners who will forward it to the Board of Commissioners.	Bailey P.	In progress

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