

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Notes of the advisory committee from the meeting held on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 in the Enterprise Centre committee room, 301 St. Ann's Road, Campbell River, B.C, commencing at 10:02 a.m.

**IN
ATTENDANCE**

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|----------------|---|---------------------------|
| Voting: 1/1 | Amber Zirnhelt, Manager of Sustainability | City of Campbell River |
| | Anja Nurvo, Chief Administrative Officer | Village of Cumberland |
| | Mike Atchison, Public Works Foreman | Village of Sayward |
| | Dave Ross, North Island Manager | Enterra (IPI) |
| | Glenn Westerdorp, Superintendent, Public Works | Town of Comox |
| | Greg Feser, Asst. Superintendent, Public Works | Village of Tahsis |
| | Kevin Lagan, Director of Operations | City of Courtenay |
| | Larry Plourde, Chief Administrative Officer | Village of Gold River |
| | Ian Smith, General Manager of Community Services | CVRD |
| | Nigel Poulton, Public Works Superintendent | Village of Zeballos |
| | Neil Sadavskas, Operations Manager | Waste Services (CA) Inc. |
| | Ziggy Stewart, Councillor | City of Campbell River |
| Non-Voting: | Allan Leuschen, Senior Environmental Protection Officer | Ministry of Environment |
| | Stephanie Kennedy, Recording Secretary | CVRD |
| | Maura Walker, Environmental Consultant | Maura Walker & Associates |
| Visitors: | Debra Oakman, Chief Administrative Officer | CVRD |
| | Jon Isfeld, Supervisor, CV Waste Management Centre | CVRD |
| | Geoff Garbutt, Executive Manager of Strategic & Long Range Planning | CVRD |
| REGRETS | Charlotte Grant, Student | Highland Eco Team |
| | Elydah Joyce, Student | Highland Eco Team |
| | Stani Veselinovic | Hornby Island Recycling |
| | Manno Theos, Councillor | City of Courtenay |

The meeting was facilitated by Maura Walker.

Introductions and review of agenda

The meeting opened with a roundtable introductions. The committee was asked if they had any items to add to the agenda, and Maura Walker added "Guiding Principles" to the end of the agenda.

Maura Walker, reviewed the planning process with the committee and advised that a draft plan should be ready within the next few months. Once drafted, the next step in the process being public consultation before the final draft is submitted to the Ministry.

Survey Results

M. Walker reviewed the results of the public survey that was conducted in February. A summary report of the survey results was provided to committee members. Highlights of the survey responses were included in her presentation and are included in the attachment (the presentation slides).

Correspondence from Strathcona Regional District

M. Walker reviewed the attached correspondence from Brian Reardon, chief administrative officer for the Strathcona Regional District, regarding the solid waste services and how these services are financed. Larry Plourde, chief administrative officer for the Village of Gold River gave a brief history on the regionalization of solid waste services from the creation of the original plan in 1994. M. Walker advised she would follow up with SRD regarding their letter.

Kevin Lagan, director of operations for the City of Courtenay requested a breakdown of existing services and how these items are financed.

Zero Waste Shortlist

M. Walker reviewed the Zero Waste Shortlist memo with the committee and requested that any changes or additions to the list be brought forward at this meeting. Edits to the shortlist were made during the course of the discussions

D. Oakman inquired if the recommendations in the memo would be vetted by individual councils before going to the public and M. Walker stated that the members of this advisory committee are responsible for taking the information back to their municipality for feedback and that once the plan is drafted, presentations will be made to the Councils.

I. Smith inquired if the financial impacts of the programs listed in the Shortlist would be identified and M. Walker advised that the draft plan would include the financial implications.

The committee discussed a regional curbside service to provide economies of scale for all residents and it was decided by the committee that the regional district would not manage the service, but could provide a facilitation and co-ordination service for the procurement of curbside collection services.

A. Leuschen from the Ministry of Environment suggested that anything noted in the plan regarding service establishment would not *require* a bylaw or public consultation after the fact as all this information would be taken to the public prior to the plan being approved by the ministry. M. Walker advised that during the public consultation, costs associated with any potential services should be defined, so that the public can have respond to the proposed planning knowing all of its implications.

G. Garbutt advised the committee that the CVRD is banning the open burning of land clearing waste.

CVRD residual waste management overview

M. Walker presented information regarding the existing system to manage residual waste. Key features and landfill criteria were presented to the committee and A. Leuschen noted that the BC landfill criteria are from 1993 with no update planned. A. Leuschen noted that closure plans and permanent closures are still outstanding for the Cortes and Sayward landfills. A. Leuschen also advised the committee that none of the active landfills in the area meet the ministry requirements and if expansion is necessary, the BC Landfill Criteria must be met to be granted approval.

Jon Isfield, supervisor of the Comox Valley Waste Management Centre (CVWMC), reviewed some of the statistics and highlights of each landfill and stated that the Comox Valley landfill may have a life expectancy of approximately 10 years. A. Leuschen noted that the Ministry would probably not approve the continuation of the CVWMC landfill operation for the next 10 years if it does not meet the landfill criteria. J. Isfield advised that the preferred option would be working towards a lined landfill.

A. Nurvo, chief administrative officer for the Village of Cumberland noted that the Village is supportive of looking for alternatives to expansion of the current landfill at CVWMC.

J. Isfield reported that the landfill in Campbell River may have 1-2 years left in its lifespan and that identifying new landfill capacity is a critical task.

CVRD residual waste management options

M. Walker presented options for local and regional residual waste management facilities. Those options are provided in the attached presentation.

For Tahsis and Zeballos, the committee discussed the options of upgrading the landfills or replacing the landfills with transfer stations. The committee also discussed the option of using the Tahsis and Zeballos landfills, as “inert waste” landfills to reduce the quantity of waste transport. A. Leuschen felt that this could be a reasonable option.

M. Walker then presented some additional options for consideration, including waste to energy and waste export. D. Oakman stated that we should not be considering waste export as an option.

M. Walker added that a letter dated April 20, 2010 to the Greater Board of the CVRD and SRD requested the consideration of the following recommendation:

- “that staff provide a report on the potential of processing solid waste at the Campbell River pulp mill; and that this report be considered in conjunction with the ongoing solid waste master plan review process.”

She said that as a result of this motion, any potential option available through Catalyst’s Elk Falls pulp mill will be explored before the next meeting of the advisory committee.

The committee discussed the Elk Falls pulp mill as a potential option to handle MSW that is currently received at CRWMC. A. Leuschen noted that the industrial landfill site at the mill would meet Ministry criteria for MSW. He also suggested that the pulp mill may be able to use wood chips from MSW as a fuel source and that this is done in other Vancouver Island regional districts.

The carbon emissions associated with the options were discussed and it was generally agreed that understanding the carbon emissions and the cost of carbon offsets associated with some of the options was an important part determining which of the options is preferable.

Next steps

Next steps will include the preparation of a draft zero waste plan and residual waste options memo. There will be other components of the solid waste management plan that will need to be discussed in the coming meetings, including private disposal facilities, illegal dumping, and bear-human conflict management.

Solid Waste Advisory Management Plan Committee – Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date for the solid waste advisory management plan committee is to be Tuesday, June 1, 2010 at the Enterprise Centre, 301 St. Ann’s Road, Campbell River, BC commencing at 10:00 a.m. (Note: This meeting was later postponed and rescheduled for June 22nd in Courtenay.)

Termination

The meeting terminated at 2:12 p.m.

Recorded by:

S. Kennedy

Stephanie Kennedy
Legislative Services Assistant

Certified correct:

I. Smith

Ian Smith
General Manager of Community Services
Branch