



JEFFERSON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

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MINUTES for WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 2010

- A. Opening Business**
- B. Discussion: GMA Periodic Assessment – Solid Waste Management**
- C. Adjournment**

A. Opening Business:

The meeting was called to order at the WSU Learning Center at 6:30 p.m., Vice Chair Bill Miller presiding. Chair Peter Downey took the gavel at 6:36 p.m.

Planning Commission (PC) members present were:

DISTRICT 1		DISTRICT 2		DISTRICT 3	
✓	Ashley Bullitt	✓	Henry Werch	AE	Tom Giske
✓	Andrew Reding	✓	Patricia Farmer	✓	Tom Brotherton
✓	Bill Miller	✓*	Peter Downey	✓	Richard Hull

Tom Giske was absent and excused by the acting chair. A quorum was present upon completion of Roll Call. *Peter Downey arrived at 6:33 p.m.

Department of Community Development (DCD) staff present: Michelle McConnell, Associate Planner.

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Approval of Past Minutes:

- The minutes for May 5, 2010 were approved as presented by unanimous vote (7-0-0).
- The minutes for May 19, 2010 were approved as presented by unanimous vote (8-0-0).
- The minutes for June 2, 2010 were approved with changes by a majority vote (7-0-1). Minor edits included adding the word ‘not’ to the top of Page 5, and changing “June 21” to read “June 16” at the top of Page 6.

Staff Updates:

Michelle McConnell

1. Urban Growth Area (UGA) & Hadlock Wastewater Treatment Facility – DCD staff, Joel Peterson, will be hosting an informational booth at the Hadlock Days Festival this weekend and is seeking Planning Commission volunteers to help.
2. Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update Status – Still under state review; State held public comment period and has provided the comment received to the County. County now in process of preparing feedback to Ecology about issues raised by public comments; Ecology will consider public comments and County feedback during their review and preparation of a decision on the Locally Approved SMP. Ecology decision to approve/approve with required changes/deny is pending. Local adoption by ordinance to follow Ecology approval. No indication of Ecology concerns at this time.
3. Watershed Stewardship Resource Center – EPA grant paperwork was just received; Total project cost is over \$800,000, federal award is for about \$566,000; Many partner organizations are anticipated to be involved; Project will be

- managed by DCD with Michelle McConnell as Project Manager; Grant is a three-year project; Citizen concern based on misunderstanding that project is more bureaucracy and an added phase to the permitting process. Project plan is to provide optional information, permit application assistance, workshops & trainings about low impact development techniques, demonstration sites, evaluate existing processes/policies for possible improvements, and to consider possible prescriptive additions to the code to streamline landowner use of alternative approaches to meeting regulatory requirements.
4. Brinnon Master Planned Resort (MPR) – DCD staff David Wayne Johnson still anticipating having a draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for public review sometime this fall; timing depends on project consultant pace and product.
 5. Revised PC Work Plan – GMA Periodic Assessment is a constant; Annual Cycle for Comprehensive Plan Amendments has only one proposal by Miles Sand and Gravel; DCD staff Michelle Farfan anticipates having Staff Report for public review starting in early August; Brinnon MPR and FEMA/ESA are placeholders on the schedule, depending on when review documents become available. Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA)/Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance is required by October 1, but action required is only to choose an option: 1) adopt the model ordinance in entirety; 2) use the checklist to review/revised local policies and codes as needed; or 3) review every project case-by-case for compliance. Issue arises from US Fish & Wildlife challenge to FEMA that current flood provisions are not adequate to protect endangered species. Final documents pending from FEMA for model ordinance and checklist. Jefferson County may well choose option #2 because new critical area regulations and pending shoreline regulations will likely help meet many requirements. Staff proposes canceling July 21 meeting; Bob Hamlin is tentatively scheduled for August 4.

Commissioner Werch asked for clarification on the Board of County Commissioners' request for additional consultation on the Sexually Oriented Business (SOB) ordinance. Planner McConnell explained that the Board wants to better understand if/how the County would handle the licensing aspect of SOBs. The Sheriff's Department may be the best to handle such a role. No outside consultant is involved, just staff.

Committee Reports:

- Commissioner Miller urged members to assist with the UGA/Sewer booth at Hadlock Days.

B. Discussion: GMA Periodic Assessment –

Planner McConnell introduced Al Cairns (Solid Waste Coordinator) and Jack Reid (Solid Waste Manager) from Department of Public Works. Al and Jack spoke briefly about their individual roles and gave the group some background information on the Solid Waste Management Plan. Questions and group discussion was interspersed and followed the presentation, including the following points:

- The Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) is a document used daily for long range planning and serves as a sounding board for any program changes
- Shifting regulations and shifting commodities markets demand flexibility
- Commodities markets = India and China almost exclusively
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) with diverse representation; long-standing volunteers; extremely functional group who really helps a lot
- SWAC and consultant used consensus-based collaboration to develop SWMP
- Small County staff, skeleton crew, at County landfill/transfer station
- Dept. Public Works does not hire staff on grant funding; based on principle; use of consultants
- Recycling & Commodities – Skookum currently under contract for recycling service; 1) market the materials; 2) contract base is a subsidy; materials management is key
- Regional opportunities w/ Mason and Clallam Counties are being explored
- RFP now out for local recycling contract – bids due August 23
- Co-mingled approach reduces cost; then sort at the receiving facility (i.e. Tacoma)
- Expect to get at least one bid to include proposal for co-mingled approach
- Recycling is major toll to single bottom line;
- For example: the last household hazardous waste collection event on the West End cost ~\$3,500, but only one person attended so now a cooperative agreement lets West End residents use Clallam County’s events/facilities
- Recent Gardiner collection event saw 30+ Clallam County residents and cost will be recouped
- Benchmarking system (i.e. Pierce, King, Snohomish, Thurston County, etc) is more risky; County subsidy required when market levels drop below projected revenues, rather than profit-sharing when levels exceeded.
- Recent market drop shows how bad it can get; Jefferson County avoids benchmarking approach.

(7:15 pm)

- Consider distance to service and population density; logistics are difficult; remote collection events are costly and hard to predict when they’re needed
- Consider materials specificity and efficiency
- Political and physical barriers
- Comprehensive Plan predicts increased population, but data shows decrease
- Demographics are changing and there is a cultural shift – overall less waste to landfill
- Capital Facilities improvements; things look pretty good for now (~10yrs)
- Ecology requires 5-year updates for the SWMP; includes streamlined process in current provisions to ease future revision efforts
- US Navy – creosote log removal project; not hazardous waste; Hauler contracted didn’t have proper certification; County recovered the money; Navy didn’t understand the regulations, hauler should have known better
- Working with Team Jefferson on economic development opportunities
- Yard Waste – new tipping fees – shifting use patterns

- I.E. 6,000 tons missing waste; backyard composting workshops, no increased outdoor burning; private entrepreneur utilizing waste
 - I.E. Port Townsend Brewing Co – 70 tons spent grain goes to local hogs, reused within 12 miles of ‘waste’ location
 - Private efforts now included in community equation by Ecology
 - 2009 recycle rate = Ranges 54% (County) to 46% (Ecology); very close to 50% target; especially good for a rural county
 - Waste-to-Energy industry? Only one facility approved by EPA, currently shut down;
 - The declined economy has not resulted in increased illegal dumping to date
 - Over 45 tires removed from 2-mile stretch of beach in two years
 - County Public Health handles enforcement & could be involved; WSU Beach Watchers volunteers could be involved w/ clean-up (Board of County Commissioner’s Community Fund could reimburse disposal tipping fee)
 - Suggested upstream best management practices for 2014 Comprehensive Plan Update?
 - I.E. Customers want to recycle #3-7 plastics; no legitimate market; other jurisdictions send overseas where relaxed labor & environmental regulations allow disposal; customers still want product; pursuing possible local project for local manufacture in standard re-usable containers – create a closed loop.
 - Plastics labeling is unregulated, voluntary and inconsistent
 - I.E. not all #1 plastics qualify; brittle means no
 - Local collection company is supposed to educate customers
 - Skookum sorting => non-qualifying materials are landfilled
- (7:40 pm)
- Tetra-packs (aka brick packs) are evil! Combination of wax, cardboard, plastic and foil... new market emerging, but located in China, so shipping cost eliminates profit options
 - Community education – school focus last 2 years
 - 24 Community Gardens and 2 School Gardens with Local 20/20’s Food Resilience Program (garden & composting)
 - Grant Street and Quilcene Schools
 - 100% food waste containment on campus
 - Grade 1-6 curriculum integrated math, science, social skills at Quilcene
 - 150 kids going through the garden
 - Both doubled in size
 - City Composting at County Landfill via Interlocal Agreement
 - Tipping fee hasn’t increased for 17 years with no inflation adjustment; as service to customers;
 - County tipping fee helps cover Dept. Public Health:
 - Abatement Program(\$19,500)
 - Junk vehicle removal program
 - Education efforts (\$37,000)
 - Green Business and EnviroStars Programs (\$3,500)

- Capital Facilities planning (\$251,000)
- Real cost hidden from public – public needs to know true cost of services
- Food waste composting
 - Very expensive to start-up; tipping fee would be ~\$180/ton
 - 4 – 5 acres of cement for containment
 - Consider embodied and operating energy
 - Cedar Grove’s ‘state of the art’ facility near Everett shut down for operations trouble; claims of value seem misleading; ‘green washing’ marketing
 - Risks with acres of rotting food waste as compared to individual or neighborhood worm bins
- Local approach is to target local, decentralized solutions with entrepreneurial opportunities
- Jefferson County needs to pay attention to scale
- Waste currently trucked to Arlington and/or Roosevelt, OR and Klickitat Co. (WA)
- Consider Ecology’s ‘Beyond Waste’ Plan versus the current funding model
- Facility cost is fixed vs. tonnage
- ‘Cradle to grave’ manufacturer planning/responsibilities; especially for hazardous waste
- Build a durable future
- In the City - Pharmaceuticals → sewer → biosolids → garden compost
- Ban on plastic bags? Shift individual and community behavior patterns with incentives and metrics to evaluate
- Why spend resources to train the kids who leave the community not incoming seniors/retirees

(8:12 pm)

- Pay portion of ‘external’ costs
- Educate re: lifetime cost at the point of purchase
- Consider environmental and social costs too

Observer Comment: None

8:20 pm - Break

Next Meeting- August 4:

1. Cancel July 21 meeting
2. 2010 Comp Plan Amendment Cycle
3. Bob Hamlin, Emergency Management

C. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. by unanimous vote.

Approval of Minutes:

These minutes were approved this 4th day of August, 2010.

Willie Miller For
Peter Downey, Chair


Michelle McConnell, LRP Lead