



Josephine County
Solid Waste Agency

**JOSEPHINE COUNTY / CITY OF GRANTS PASS
 SOLID WASTE AGENCY
 MEETING MINUTES
 June 15, 2021**

Meeting convened at 3:07 p.m.

Agency Board Members Present:

Rob Brandes - Chair
 Rick Riker – Vice Chair
 Brad Clark
 Kyrrha Sevco
 Justin Fimbres
 Eric Larson for Steve Bethke

Agency Board Members Absent:

Connie Roach

Others:

Trent Carpenter, Southern Oregon Sanitation
 Chris Wilson, Republic Services
 Julie Jackson, Republic Services
 Cathy Brown, DEQ
 Michele Templer

Staff: Jason Canady, Operations Officer
 Dianne Phelan, Minute Recorder - Absent

1. Introductions (00:00 – 00:43)

a. Chair Brandes opened the meeting at 3:07 and took roll.

2. Public Comment (00:44 – 14:08)

a. Michele Templer asked about the option to have trash picked up twice monthly. She said she spoke with Republic Services who referred her to the City of Grants Pass. She talked to Jason Canady who said we do that in the county where people are far enough apart making it easy to keep track but, in the City, residences are closer together making it more of a challenge. Michele suggested to spray paint the lids of the bins to identify which one was a twice monthly pick up. She feels this is an inexpensive fix, which will in turn reduce the amount of trash in the landfills. She said this would be more efficient since now people put their bins out whether they are full or not. This will also give

City residences the same choice that people in the County have. Michele said there is a fair amount of interest from her neighbors. She suggested sending out a survey to City residents and offered to draft the survey and tabulate the results. Chair Brandes suggested hearing from Republic Services and Southern Oregon Sanitation. Julie from Republic Services said this service is offered by Southern Oregon Sanitation, but not Republic Services. However, it would be an easy fix. She said they would put a different color cart lid on as opposed to painting the lids. From an efficiency standpoint it doesn't change things for them, since they drive past the location anyway, but there could be some waste reduction value. Chair Brandes asked what the percentage of people is who are using this service in the areas they do offer twice a month pick up. Julie said in Corvallis it is between 5% and 10%. She said they do offer on call service here which is financially better for the customer. Vice Chair Riker asked if using the on-call method resulted in more rotting garbage. Julie said they only allow on-call in the 32-gallon cart, so it really isn't a problem. She said they could work with the City and County to get that on the rate sheet. Chris from Southern Oregon Sanitation said they have a system in place now that allows the yellow lidded 35-gallon containers to be emptied when they are placed out at the curb. Drivers take a picture of it and customers are billed accordingly. Customers don't have to call in anymore. He feels this system would work for the bi-monthly pick-up as well. Chair Brandes asked if it would be harder to implement if they were all on-call. Trent said they currently have this program for both 35 and 65-gallon containers. They call this service 'Every other week'. Some months customers will get three pickups because they have specific weeks where customers must put their cart out. The rate is a little more than half. Call in service is an option, but those customers do not get a recycle cart. Currently, 8% to 10% of their customers are using the 'Every other week' service. Jason asked for this to come to the Agency for a formal approval. It was decided to add it in to the contract.

3. Approval of Solid Waste Agency Meeting minutes from May 18, 2021 meeting. (14:09 – 14:57)

Member Sevco made a motion to approve the Solid Waste Agency meeting minutes from May 18, 2021. Vice Chair Riker seconded the motion. There were no objections. Member Clark abstained. Motion approved 5 -0.

4. Action Items (14:58– 17:58)

a. Funding Request – Josephine County Environmental Health

Member Fimbres stated that they were not able to give a presentation this month, but they would be ready next month. Jason stated that the board can approve the Funding Renewal Request or hold it until the next meeting. Jason said this is the funding request that the agency has approved year after year, at \$98,000.00 per year. The agency decided to wait until next month to hear

more information. Jason said we will pair this short form with the previous long form for the board so they can see the full request.

5. Matters from Agency Board and Staff

a. Agency Board Items (17:59 – 18:21)

- None

b. Managing Agency Items (18:22 – 32:47)

- Grants Pass/Josephine County 2020 Opportunity to Recycle Summary
Jason said the Opportunity to Recycle reports were accepted. The only request was to update our recycling pages on our website, which we did. Cathy mentioned that she talked with Dianne about the link for recycling that went to an old SOS document from 2018. She said pretty much every city has outdated links on their websites, and this is a common occurrence. Cathy commented on the Material Recovery numbers, saying that the 2019 numbers for Josephine County waste went up in general. The recovering number, meaning how much was disposed of verses recycled or composted, was still under the concurrence. She suspects that when we get the 2020 numbers, it will go down because we are recycling again. Vice Chair Riker asked why food waste went up and yard debris went down substantially in the 2019 Recovery Material Chart for Josephine County. Trent said some of this material doesn't flow through the haulers. He said Southern Oregon Compost notified them that their yard debris program just went up 300%. Since this is their only outlet for yard debris the rates will have to change. Chair Brandes asked if it is a statewide trend for the recovery rates to go down, noting that Josephine County's numbers have gone down by about 50% in the last six years or so. Cathy stated that the numbers are getting more refined with new materials that were not there 20 or 30 years ago, such as plastic. The private collector has a lot of input on this which is why it takes more than a year to get the report out. She said the trend is that overall, the recovery rates did go down. This has a lot to do with economics and what consumers are buying, what we can recycle, and how much garbage we are producing. We are going to need waste prevention if we are going to meet our overall goals when it comes to material recovery.
- 2019 DEQ Material Recovery and Waste Generation Summary
Jason stated that this summary shows how much trash was collected in 2019.
- Paint Care Discussion- Cave Junction held their paint care event on May 1st. Jason had a couple of questions for Cathy that he will email to her. He doesn't believe Paint Care is reaching out to the cities and coordination other events in the area. Cathy suggested including Blake Bennett at DEQ, coordinator for the Paint Care and the e-waste program in the email.

6. Agenda building for June 15, 2021 (32:48 – 43:47)

- a. SOP for Waste Haulers
- b. Rate Increase on green waste
- c. Funding Request – Josephine County presentation from Tom Peterson

- d. CPI Language for City of Cave Junction
- e. Funding Request - City of Grants Pass Code Enforcement presentation

7. Adjournment (43:47 – 43:58)

Meeting adjourned 3:51 p.m.

Full meeting recording available at:

<https://www.grantspassoregon.gov/DocumentCenter/View/22261/Solid-Waste-Agency-Meeting-Audio-for-042021->

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