

City of Florence
Environmental Management Advisory Committee
December 22, 2011 ~ Regular Session 2:00 pm

The proceedings of the City of Florence Environmental Management Advisory Committee were recorded on tape and are on file at Florence City Hall.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Forsythe called the meeting of the Environmental Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) to order at 2:07 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson (CP) Robert Forsythe, Committee Member (CM) Robin Sullivan, (CM) Janice Willoughby, and (CM) Sandra Davidson

Absent: Vice-Chairperson (VC) Sharon McLeod and (CM) Bonnie MacDuffee who were both excused.

Others present: Senior Planner (SP) Wendy Farley, David Twombly of Central Coast Disposal (CDD), Dan Webb of County Transfer and Recycling (CTR). SP Farley introduced Barbara Miller who would be taking minutes of the meetings.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CM Sullivan moved to approve the Agenda as presented. CM Davidson seconded the motion. By voice all ayes, motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

CM Willoughby moved for approval of the minutes of 10/20/2011 and 11/17/2011. CM Davidson seconded with the following correction to the minutes of Oct 20th, on item number ten. "Staff asked that painting and sorting be done after hours *off site*." By voice all ayes, motion carried unanimously.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

*This is an opportunity for members of the audience to bring to the EMAC's, any items **NOT** otherwise listed on the Agenda. Comments will be limited to with a maximum time of 10 minutes for all.*

There were no public comments.

OLD BUSINESS

6. Rate Review & Independent Consultant – Update on Study Approach

SP Farley-Campbell reported that she had received and had been reviewing the numerous emails related to the rate study. Since the last EMAC meeting, Chris Bell from Bell and Associates, had contacted staff with a number of policy related questions that he wanted to

ask of city council. A council agenda item with a list of his questions had been prepared for the December 19th council meeting, but at the last minute was taken off the agenda so council could ask questions of staff.

After Mr. Bell met with staff he received most of the answers that he needed and staff directed him to finish his evaluation. She went on to say that a worksession would be held on the rate study with the city council at the end of January, and EMAC was certainly invited to attend. She was under the impression that Mr. Bell had almost all the information he needed from both haulers. CTR Joe Wonderlick was getting some revised information related to the operations and she thought it had to do with the addition of the 48 gallon service added in 2010, which was not included in the spreadsheet; therefore, there was not a way to include that in the report. Mr. Bell is reworking the model to provide the opportunity to report those level of services accurately so all the numbers could be reconciled.

SP Farley-Campbell said that because of the addition of a worksession on the front end; there should not be any change to the bid amount in the RFP; it's more of a rework within the same budget. Both haulers thought the rate study was going just fine and were optimistic.

SP Farley-Campbell wanted the haulers to be aware that one of the considerations was to go to a flat rate rather than a min/max. CCD Twombly said it was his understanding that it would be a flat rate controlled more by the consumer price index (CPI) and then the rates could be revisited to make sure it was working and if either of the haulers had concerns they could request another review.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Opportunity for Recycling

SP Farley-Campbell referred to the generic form letter from DEQ dated October 26, 2011 which basically stated the city was in compliance with the program requirements and noted that the state was eager to see Florence make some code amendments and develop educational materials for Multi-family. The issue was whether the city has code that requires these items in the Multi-family recycling; although the city has some code requiring it; we need to have the educational component.

CP Forsythe asked if "multi-family" meant apartment complexes and was told it was defined as 5 units or greater.

Report due January 31st

SP Farley-Campbell asked the haulers to begin to assemble their information for the report that was due January 31st. She said the types of information included: presentations that were made; how many attended; topic of the presentation; any advertisement in the paper or radio; the Green Fair; any and all.

8. Review of EMAC's Goals for 2011

AP Farley-Campbell referred to the list of goals from last year and reminded the committee that they would be starting the process of goal setting next month.

1. Curbside Yard Debris Collection:

CTR Webb noted that PWD Mike Miller mentioned at the last meeting that public works wanted to go forward with the curbside yard debris program regardless of the implementation of the composting. SP Farley-Campbell said because there were numerous cities doing yard debris it would be easy to come up with a rate recommendation.

2. Technical Review of Local Waste Collection Infrastructure:

SP Farley-Campbell said the committee had provided comment to Lane County on this issue and didn't feel that the committee needed to do any additional work on this item.

3. Annual Solid Waste Collection Rate Review

On going

4. Opportunity to Recycle Program Quarterly Work and Annual Reporting

The population is actually decreasing so this was not an issue.

5. Education and Promotion of Greener Florence

This goal is actually a combination of everything the committee is working on.

a. *Business Recognition Program*

Has been expanded this year including additional promotion, although the committee would like to revise the form. Due in March

b. *Continue community recycling events*

Will continue with these events and the committee indicated that they wanted to expand it to include tires.

c. *Promote Plastic Bag Recycling*

The stickers were designed; there are over 100 stickers left. Grocery stores have signs up regarding plastic bag recycling.

d. *Promote commercial and institution waste recovery and recycling*

The business license mailer that the city sends includes information on the business recognition; why they should recycle which would make them eligible for the "Greener Florence" program. Add the mailer to the website.

e. *Address bear/animal problem with garbage*

Goal is to get more educational information from the Forest Service/Fish Wildlife. It appears there are not as many bears this year; consumers are learning when to set out their cans. Committee would like to move forward with more education for the public. For example, keeping the lid closed, don't over stuff the can; don't put it out the night before and additionally adding ammonia in the bottom of the can deters bears as well.

f. *Utilize Master Recycler Program participants*

It was noted that the MRP had their own projects that the participants were working on and if the committee was interested in keeping this on the goals for next year it might be helpful to attend one of the Master Recycler Program meetings and see if there was interest in doing some joint programs; keeping the lines of communication open.

g. *Promote Construction waste recovery and recycling*

Florence is a satellite transfer station so the haulers do not have the same resources for construction recycling as the haulers in Eugene. In Eugene they can recycle concrete, sheetrock, bedsprings and mattresses, to name a few. CDD Twombly added that there are a lot of recycling opportunities provided in Eugene that is not provided at the Florence transfer station. Unfortunately there are a lot of items put into the landfill that could potentially be recycled if that was available in Florence. It was noted that the haulers in Florence are charged approximately 2% more which raises their rates compared to the Eugene haulers.

The Florence haulers are “encouraged” to use Lane County’s land fill, Short Mountain, south of Eugene on I-5. If they choose to take their loads to another land fill outside the county, they are charged an extra fee by the county. The county has numerous smaller landfills that rely on the revenue from Short Mountain to keep these smaller transfer sites open.

CP Forsythe said it was frustrating when a municipality was attempting to comply with state and county requirements and was not given the same opportunities as the larger communities; this was something the public needed to be made aware of. CCD Twombly said he would appreciate a letter to the county saying, “we’re not being equally treated and yet our taxes are the same.” “Florence residents pay the majority of fees, but are not given equal opportunity to recycle.”

CP Forsythe said this is a topic that he would like to put on the goal list this year. The county trucks are using the city streets that we have to maintain and we’re getting very little benefit from those vehicles coming to and from the transfer station.

SP Farley-Campbell reported that VP McLeod had offered to come up with a letter regarding this issue.

9. Membership

Completion of terms for Janice Willoughby and Sharon McLeod

SP Farley-Campbell noted that there were two terms expiring along with a third vacancy. She said that she had not heard from VP McLeod what her intentions were regarding re-applying.

Thank You Gift

CM Willoughby was presented with a token of appreciation and thank you card, from the committee for her time working on the committee. She thanked the committee and said she enjoyed working with everyone; although she didn’t get her plastic bag ban in Florence yet. She said she would be working on getting Styrofoam banned; and that she could attend the meeting in January before leaving town.

10. COMMITTEE AND STAFF DISCUSSION ITEMS

Website

SP Farley-Campbell said she had created a folder on the city’s P drive for the pictures and information submitted for the website. She had received pictures from both CM Davidson and

CP Forsythe for the website. She encouraged committee members and the haulers to submit any information they had. It was the consensus to get something that indicated that the website would be “coming soon, with more information to follow.”

CCD Twombly indicated he would send an electronic version of the information that was in the paper to CP Forsythe who would create a document with pictures, yes and no's of recycling, Styrofoam information for local drop off's, and contact information including the Master Recycling group. CP Forsythe and CM Davidson offered to help SP Farley-Campbell with putting the info together for the website.

County Grant

SP Farley-Campbell suggested that if the haulers wanted to submit something to go ahead and get something put together, and she would contact Sarah Graham at the county regarding the grant. CCD Twombly offered to put something together and bring a proposal back to the committee. The match for the grant could be the operational costs and time of the haulers. SP Farley-Campbell reminded everyone that if a grant was used to purchase something like cans for the haulers, they would always belong to the city of Florence.

Gift from County Transfer

CM Davidson reported that EMAC received a gift from County Transfer of a lighted reader board and she was looking for a place to put it. Recycling information could be put on it and it could be located at: FEC, library and/or Chamber of Commerce.

11. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Environmental Management Advisory Committee, CP Forsythe adjourned the meeting at 3:17 p.m.

CALENDAR

Thursday, January 19, 2012 (regular session)

YARD DEBRIS DROP-OFF SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 17, 2012

APPROVED BY THE EMAC ON THE _____ DAY OF _____, 2012.

Chairperson, Robert Forsythe

Date

ATTEST:

Senior Planner, Wendy Farley

Date